Health Careers Fact Sheet – Veterinary Medicine

A veterinarian is part scientist, part social worker, but all animal lover. Working with a variety of species, veterinarians diagnose, treat, and control diseases in animals and help prevent the transmission of animal diseases to humans. They also treat injured animals and develop programs to prevent disease and injury. Because there are fewer than 30 veterinary schools in the United States, admission is especially competitive. Therefore it is extremely important to demonstrate knowledge of profession, confidence and comfort with a variety of animal species.

Degree
D.V.M.

Program Length
4 years

Professional Schools’ Organization
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC)

Application Service
Veterinary Medical Colleges Application Service (VMCAS)

Academic Admission Requirements
One year each: Biology, Inorganic Chemistry (Chem 1 & 2), Organic Chemistry, Physics, English. Some schools may also require Calculus.

Note: Some schools have very specific requirements often including Microbiology, Statistics, Biochemistry, Animal Science, and Nutrition. Check Veterinary Medical School Requirements carefully.

Admission Exam
Graduate Record Exam (GRE) (most), or Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)

Recommendation Letters
Letters of recommendation should be submitted to the Premedical advising office along with the waiver form. It is encouraged to obtain letters from science faculty, a professional in the field, and employers.