



# Health Careers Fact Sheet

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

---

## 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

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)

### 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

An undergraduate degree. One year each: Biology, Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, English. Some schools may also require a full year of Calculus; it is recommended to discuss your math plans with the premedical advisor.

**Note:** Some schools have very specific requirements often including Microbiology, Statistics, Biochemistry, Animal Science, and Nutrition. For a more comprehensive list of requirements visit the [Veterinary Medical School Requirements](#).

### Admission Exam

[Graduate Record Exam](#) (GRE) for most programs, or [Medical College Admission Test](#) (MCAT)

### Applications

The 2021-2022 VMCAS application cycle will open in January 2021 and close in September. [Transcript requests](#) should be sent to the Registrar's office ASAP.

A limited number of [fee reimbursements](#) are granted to financially disadvantaged applicants on a first-come, first-serve basis.

## PREMEDICAL AND ALLIED HEALTH ADVISING

Wheatley Hall, Fourth Floor, Suite 151  
[www.umb.edu/premed](http://www.umb.edu/premed) | [premedadvising@umb.edu](mailto:premedadvising@umb.edu)