College of Veterinary Medicine

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General Information

The College of Veterinary Medicine was established in 1974 by an act of the Mississippi Legislature. The first class was admitted during the 1977-78 academic year and graduated in May of 1981.

The permanent College facilities, completed in the fall of 1981, include the learning resources center, the animal health center, and the research facility. College programs, faculty, students, and staff are located in these facilities.

The primary objective of the College is to serve the needs of Mississippi. In quest of this objective, the College will provide training in the sciences required for a career in veterinary medicine and veterinary medical technology. The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine curriculum focuses on the skills of the veterinary practitioner who will serve the animal-owning public of Mississippi while the veterinary medical technology curriculum focuses on the skills necessary to facilitate the work of veterinarians.

Students seeking a degree in either veterinary medicine or veterinary technology should acquire a sound foundation in the biological and physical sciences and a general knowledge of the humanities in high school and college. Because of the increasing use of information technology in veterinary medicine, students are strongly encouraged to acquire familiarity with computers. They must have a demonstrated aptitude for scientific study, and, in addition, experience with animals. An awareness of the requirements and characteristics of the practice of veterinary medicine is desirable in reaching a mature decision to pursue a career in either veterinary medicine or veterinary technology.

Early Entry Program for the College of Veterinary Medicine

The Early Entry Program is offered on a competitive basis to high school seniors who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement. Applications are available by October 1st of each year and are due for return by January 15th. Online applications are available at www.cvm.msstate.edu (http://www.cvm.msstate.edu). Questions should be addressed to the Office of Student Admissions, College of Veterinary Medicine at (662) 325-9065 or hadaway@cvm.msstate.edu.

The Program is designed so an individual has the opportunity to obtain both a B.S. degree and a D.V.M. degree in seven to eight years. Those accepted into the Early Entry Program are pre-accepted into the professional program at the College of Veterinary Medicine contingent upon their maintaining predetermined qualifications throughout their college career and providing documentation of no less than 480 hours veterinary experience.

Traditional Entrance Requirements

The GRE® general exam (school code 1326) is required for admission consideration – No minimum score is required. Scores must be in the CVM Office of Student Admissions by October 1 of the application year. A Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL®) score of 213 is required for applicants whose primary language is not English, also due October 1. Three (3) completed LOR (Letter of Recommendation) forms are required with the completed VMCAS application. At least one evaluator must be a veterinarian. To apply, applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 2.80 on a 4.00 scale both cumulative and in the required sciences (including mathematics). Minimum GPAs must be maintained throughout the application process. Prerequisite courses for entrance into the college must include specific courses:

- English composition: 6
- Speech or Technical Writing: 3
- Mathematics (college algebra or higher): 6
- Biological science with lab: 8
- Microbiology with lab: 4
- Inorganic chemistry with lab: 8
- Organic chemistry with lab: 8
- Biochemistry: 3
- Physics (can be Trig-based): 6
- Advanced Upper-level Science electives: 12
- Humanities/fine arts/social and Behavioral sciences: 15
- Total Hours: 79

Science and mathematics courses must be completed or updated within six calendar years prior to the anticipated date of enrollment.

Admission Procedure

Applications are accepted through October 1 each year for the upcoming academic year. Admissions procedures take place in the spring, with new students beginning classes at the beginning of the second summer session. All applicants apply electronically through the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) at www.aavmc.org (http://www.aavmc.org). Applications are available online in June each year.

Further information may be obtained from:

Office of Student Admissions
College of Veterinary Medicine
Mississippi State University
Box 6100, Mississippi State, MS 39762-6100
662-325-9065; msu-cvmadmissions@cvm.msstate.edu

DVM Curriculum

The professional curriculum is divided into two phases - Phase 1 (DVM 1 and DVM 2 years) and Phase 2 (DVM 3 and DVM 4 years).

Phase 1 is conducted in a lecture/lab based format.

DVM 1 Courses

- Freshmen Fall Courses
  - CVM 5011 Professional Development I: 1
  - CVM 5013 Veterinary Neuroscience: 3
  - CVM 5023 Infectious Agents I: 3
  - CVM 5032 Immunology: 2
Clinical and Elective

Phase 2, (DVM3 and DVM4 years) is conducted in a clinical and elective format. Students participate in twelve required clinical rotations of two to six weeks duration each. In these rotations students actively participate in the clinical diagnosis and management of patients admitted to the Animal Health Center.

During the fourth year (DVM4) students have 8 months of elective options. The options include elective clinical rotations, externship experiences, small group or discussion based courses, and special problems (directed individual study) opportunities. In essence, each student, working closely with a faculty advisor, designs a schedule which most uniquely meets the student’s needs and career preferences.

Conducted in an experiential-learning mode, the clinical rotations and many of the electives continue to make the student responsible for his or her own education. The clinical cases or elective courses provide the environment for continued student growth and development. Students must be mature and responsible learners to obtain the maximum benefit from these courses.

DVM3 Courses

Services and Practices
Students must take 30 hours of electives during their senior year. Electives can be selected from the above listed CVM courses or from University courses upon advisor’s approval.

**Veterinary Medical Technology (VMT)**

The Veterinary Medical Technology major (VMT) prepares students for multiple career opportunities. Upon completion of this program, graduates will positively contribute to the veterinary health care team regardless of the area/specialty graduates wish to pursue. Potential work environments for VMT graduates include but are not limited to private veterinary practice, biomedical research, pharmaceutical industry, zoological parks, humane societies, nutrition companies, United States Department of Agriculture, U.S. military and academic institutions. Students interested in the Veterinary Medical Technology Program will have the option of selecting Pre-VMT as their major at the time of their admission to Mississippi State University. Once students are admitted into the third year of the program, they will be classified as VMT majors.

During the first two years of the curriculum, students are enrolled as pre-vet tech students. Students will be enrolled in general education courses. Students will apply during the spring semester of their sophomore year for entry into the junior year of the VMTP if not already accepted under the Pre-Admission policy.

The third year of the curriculum is competitive and enrollment is limited to 30 students. Accepted students will begin classes the fall semester following acceptance. The fourth year mainly consists of clinical experiences and begins the fall semester following successful completion of the third year. Students will be evaluated by exams throughout the curriculum for successful program advancement.

**Preadmission Policy**

Preadmission is offered on a competitive basis to high school seniors and college students who have earned no more than 18 college credits. Applicants must have demonstrated significant academic achievement including an overall GPA of 80 for high school seniors or an overall GPA of 2.8 for college freshmen. There is also an ACT requirement of 21 or an SAT requirement of 1500. Online applications are available at www.cvm.msstate.edu (http://www.cvm.msstate.edu). Questions should be addressed to www.msuvmt@cvm.msstate.edu. Those granted preadmission status into the VMTP are pre-accepted into the junior year of the VMTP contingent upon their maintaining predetermined qualifications during their freshman and sophomore year.

**Regular Admission Policy**

Applications will be accepted January 15 - March 1. Admission procedures include a critique of each applicant’s academic record, an evaluation of each applicant’s references, and a personal interview of selected applicants. Entrance requirements are listed below.

**Entrance Requirements to the Junior Year**

An applicant to the junior year of the VMTP must successfully complete prerequisite courses by the end of the spring semester prior to beginning the junior year. Three (3) letters of recommendation are required. To apply, applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 2.8 on a 4.00 scale with no grade less than “C” in any prerequisite course. The minimum GPA must be maintained throughout the application process.

Prerequisite courses for entrance into the VMTP must include specific courses:

- English Composition 6
- Mathematics (college algebra or higher) 6
- Inorganic Chemistry 7
- Humanities 6
- Social/Behavioral Sciences 6
- Public Speaking 3
- Microbiology with lab 4
- Biological Science with lab 8
- Fine Arts 3
- ADS 1114 Animal Science 4
- VS 1012 Introduction to Veterinary Medicine Careers 2
- CVM 3101 Veterinary Technology Medical Terminology 1

Total Hours 56

Further information may be obtained from:

Veterinary Medical Technology Program
College of Veterinary Medicine
Mississippi State University
PO Box 6100, Mississippi State, MS 39762-6100
662-325-1103; www.msuvmt@cvm.msstate.edu

**Veterinary Medical Technology**

**General Education Requirements**

**English Composition**

- EN 1103 English Composition I 3
- or EN 1163 Accelerated Composition I 3
- EN 1113 English Composition II 3
- or EN 1173 Accelerated Composition II 3

**Mathematics**

- MA 1313 College Algebra 3
- MA 1323 Trigonometry 3
- or ST 2113 Introduction to Statistics 3

**Natural Science**

- BIO 1134 Biology I 4
- BIO 1144 Biology II 4

**Humanities**

See General Education courses 6

**Fine Arts**

See General Education courses 3

**Social/Behavioral Sciences**

See General Education courses 6

**Other courses**

- CH 1043 Survey of Chemistry I 3
- CH 1051 Experimental Chemistry 1
- CH 1053 Survey of Chemistry II 3
- BIO 3304 General Microbiology 4
- CO 1003 Fundamentals of Public Speaking 3
- or CO 1013 Introduction to Communication 3

**Major Core**

- ADS 1114 Animal Science 4
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VS 1012  Introduction to Veterinary Medicine Careers  2
CVM 3112  Animal Handling, Husbandry, and Nutrition  2
CVM 3243  Basics of Practice Procedures and Management  3
CVM 3101  Veterinary Technology Medical Terminology  1
CVM 3014  Applied Anatomy and Physiology for Veterinary Technologists  4
CVM 3013  Small Animal Diseases and Management  3
CVM 3022  Small Animal Technical Skills & Nursing Care  2
CVM 3032  Food Animal Diseases and Management  2
CVM 3031  Food Animal Technical Skills & Nursing Care  1
CVM 3042  Equine Diseases and Management  2
CVM 3041  Equine Technical Skills & Nursing Care  1
CVM 3232  Pharmacology & Toxicology for Veterinary Technologists  2
CVM 3111  Parasitology for Veterinary Technologists  1
CVM 3121  Hematology for Veterinary Technologists  1
CVM 3132  Clinical Pathology Laboratory Techniques  2
CVM 3212  Anesthesiology for Veterinary Technologists  2
CVM 3051  Laboratory Animal Health Management  1
CVM 3061  Laboratory Animal Technical Skills  1
CVM 3201  Dental Principles for Veterinary Technologists  1
CVM 3202  Diagnostic Imaging for Veterinary Technologists  2
CVM 3222  Surgical Skills & Nursing Care for Veterinary Technologists  2
CVM 3221  Surgical Nursing & Anesthetic Management Laboratory  1
CVM 3141  Anatomical Pathology Laboratory Techniques  1
CVM 4103  Large Animal Clinical Experience  3
CVM 4113  Large Animal Clinical Experience II  3
CVM 4223  Small Animal Primary Care Clinical Experience  3
CVM 4333  Emergency/ICU Clinical Experience  3
CVM 4213  Small Animal Surgery & Anesthesia Clinical Experience  3
CVM 4102  Professional Development for Veterinary Technologists  2
CVM 4701  Application & Process for VTNE  1
CVM 4206  Small Animal Clinical Experience  6
CVM 4003  Internship Experience  3
CVM 4601  Animal Emergency & Referral Center Elective  1

Elective Experiences
Choose two of the following:  2

CVM 4101  Veterinary Technology Academic Elective
CVM 4201  Clinical Experience Elective
CVM 4501  Diagnostic Laboratory Experience
CVM 4511  Biomedical Research Experience Elective

Total Hours  120

Graduate Program

The College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) at Mississippi State University (MSU) provides M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Veterinary Medical Sciences (VMS) and a Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology (ENVT). These graduate programs provide advanced educational opportunities for students in a broad range of biomedical and veterinary sciences. A non-thesis Master's option in VMS is also offered with emphasis in food animal production medicine, i.e. dairy, beef, swine, poultry and aquaculture. The goal of the VMS and ENVT programs is to provide training for the next generation of scientists and educators who will be leaders in biomedical and veterinary research and education. Faculty in CVM's Department of Basic Sciences, Department of Clinical Sciences, and Department of Pathobiology & Population Medicine lead each student's graduate education. Involvement in ongoing research projects conducted by the faculty is an important part of each degree program. Students in the VMS program specialize in disciplines such as applied clinical research, biocomputing, epidemiology, health disparities, infectious diseases, and toxicology.

In addition to the traditional M.S. and Ph.D. programs in the College, students may pursue a DVM-PhD or DVM-MS dual degree. These programs allow students to simultaneously pursue the M.S. or Ph.D. degree while working toward completion of the DVM degree. Students wishing to pursue the DVM and a graduate degree simultaneously are carefully screened for admission because of the rigorous requirements and time commitments necessary to work on two degrees simultaneously. Information concerning the DVM dual degree programs can be found at the Combined DVM-Graduate Degree Programs site at http://www.cvm.msstate.edu/academics/dvm_graduate_programs.html .

For additional information about the CVM Graduate Programs, contact the CVM Graduate Studies Coordinator, Box 9825, Mississippi State, MS 39762, telephone (662) 325-1417.