

Veterinary Programs

This is an overview and should in NO WAY substitute for personally reviewing the requirements of each school

Courses At Hunter	Cornell University Ithaca, NY	Tufts University Boston, MA	University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA	Virginia Maryland Regional College, Blacksburg, VA
BIOL 100	X	X	X	X
BIOL 102	X	X	X	X
BIOL 230 (MicroBiology)	X	RECOMMENDED		RECOMMENDED
BIOL 300 (BioChem) ²	X	X		X
BIOL 203 (Genetics)	RECOMMENDED	X	X	RECOMMENDED
BIOL 303 (Cell Bio)	RECOMMENDED	RECOMMENDED		RECOMMENDED
STAT 213	RECOMMENDED	¹	X ²	⁴
MATH 150	RECOMMENDED	¹	X	⁴
CHEM 102	X	X	X	X
CHEM 104	X	X	X	X
CHEM 106	X	X	X	X
CHEM 222	X	X	X	X
CHEM 223	X	X	X	X
CHEM 224	X	X	RECOMMENDED ³	X
CHEM 225	X	X	RECOMMENDED	X
PHY 110	X	X	X	X
PHY 120	X	X	X	X

¹ Tufts University requires two semesters of math. One of the required classes can be a statistics course taken outside of the math department

² University of Pennsylvania requires either BioStats or Statistics taken through the math department. At Hunter BioStats is a graduate level course that requires instructor permission prior to enrollment.

³ Organic Chemistry II (CHEM 224) is a pre-requisite for BIOL 203 at Hunter College.

⁴ Virginia Maryland Regional College requires two semesters of math in Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, or Statistics.

All of the schools mentioned above require scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Cornell also accepts scores from the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) in place of the GRE.

Each school has additional requirements in the social sciences, humanities, math, and writing. This document is only intended to be an overview of the science pre-requisites.

Veterinary programs prefer courses that are taken at 4-year institutions with rigorous science programs. Students who are biology majors or who have taken more upper level science courses are generally the preferred applicants. However, being well rounded in the social sciences and the humanities is also important to veterinary programs. Students might consider biology as a major, with a minor in a social science or humanities area.

There are only 28 veterinary schools in the country and only one of those schools, The College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University, is in NY. Most veterinary schools give priority to state residents, increasing the competitiveness for out of state applicants. For example Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary medicine currently accepts 95 students giving only 15 seats to students outside of Virginia and Maryland.

While many veterinary programs will consider applicants who have completed 90 undergraduate credits, the more coursework completed the stronger the application. Completion of your bachelor's degree is highly recommended. The average GPA for admitted students is between 3.5-3.7 for the 28 veterinary schools.

Experience with animals, particularly in a veterinary capacity, is crucial to your application. Most schools require that students have experience with both large and small animals. Generally speaking, completing at least 600 hours with a veterinarian is recommended. Working with large animals at a zoo, wildlife refuge, or aquarium is also recommended and, again, many schools require experience with large animals. Veterinary schools usually require at least one letter of recommendation from a Veterinarian, which makes this kind of experience even more crucial. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, refer to the individual veterinary schools for their requirements.

Research experience also makes for a good veterinary school applicant. The Psychology and Biology departments at Hunter may be able to provide students with animal research experience.

If you are planning on applying to Veterinary School, you will need to get a committee letter. You should open a file with the Pre-Health Professions Office and start collecting evaluations and recommendations from the appropriate faculty, instructional staff, and supervisors. You can do this by going to: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth/links-resources>. To learn more about committee letters and your Pre-Health file, please see the guides on the Pre-Health Website at www.hunter.cuny.edu/prehealth .

Helpful Websites:

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University allows students to join their e-mail listserv and receive their newsletter. If you are interested in getting the most up-to-date information regarding veterinary medicine and the application process follow this link:

<http://www.vet.cornell.edu/admissions/GetUpdates.cfm>

The American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association

http://www.apvma.us/_/Home.html

American Veterinary Medical Association

<http://www.avma.org/careers/default.asp>

Veterinary Medical College Application Service

Vmcas.org