Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine
Nebraska Cooperative Program

The Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine (ISU) and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UNL) developed a cooperative agreement in veterinary medical education. Under this program, 25 Nebraska resident students who are admitted to ISU will enroll and complete the first two years of the veterinary curriculum at UNL and the last two years at ISU. The 25 Nebraska resident students will pay ISU resident veterinary tuition for all four years of matriculation with the tuition for the first two years paid to UNL and for the last two years to ISU.

Nebraska students who wish to participate in this program must complete the VMCAS application form for Iowa State University

• Apply to Iowa State University through the regular application process. All applications must be received by September 15 (for admission the following fall semester)
• Complete the Nebraska Resident Certification Form. These forms must be received at UNL by Sep 15. Download the Nebraska Resident Certification Form (PDF)

For further information on this cooperative agreement, please contact the University of Nebraska PPVM Program Office at ppvm@unl.edu or (402) 472-7306.

Pre-veterinary Preparation

Students contemplating careers in veterinary medicine should prepare in both high school and college with a solid foundation in the biological and physical sciences. They should have a general knowledge in the arts, social sciences, humanities and communications. Students should also be motivated by a sincere concern for animal and human populations, a desire to serve the public, and a genuine interest in the medical field.

"Pre-veterinary medicine" is not a major but a pre-professional track that can be chosen within a major. Pre-veterinary medical students may pursue any undergraduate major of their choosing. The College of Veterinary Medicine seeks students with diverse backgrounds and encourages them to enroll in a major that meets their interests and goals. Although science majors such as animal science, biology, zoology, animal ecology, biochemistry and microbiology are most common, admitted veterinary medicine students have also had degrees in business, fine arts, music, English, engineering and psychology. The required pre-professional courses can be obtained through the curricula of a variety of fields of study.

Preveterinary students are strongly encouraged to complete a Bachelor's degree before enrolling in the College of Veterinary Medicine, however, a Bachelor's degree is not required for admissions. Applicants must only complete the specified prerequisite courses at a regionally accredited college or university to fulfill the academic requirements.

Applicants for admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine must have attended a regionally accredited college or university. The student must:

• complete all pre-veterinary requirements (40 credits) by the end of the fall semester in the year in which they file an application for admission
• complete a minimum of 60 semester credits by the end of spring term of the year in which the applicant seeks to be admitted to the College of Veterinary Medicine
• complete the courses listed below --these are the minimum required for entry into the College of Veterinary Medicine professional curriculum. Credits earned must be equivalent to ISU Sem-hr.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course and Title</th>
<th>Semester-hrs Required</th>
<th>UNOmaha courses</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English Composition</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>ENGL1150, 1160, 2400, 3980</td>
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<tr>
<td>One year of composition or writing emphasis courses. May include business or technical writing. Bachelor's degree counts for one-half of this requirement.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oral Communication</strong></td>
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<td>SPCH1110 or 2120</td>
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<tr>
<td>May include public speaking, interpersonal communication, group or organizational communication or speaking emphasis courses.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>General Chemistry</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>CHEM1180 &amp; 1184 and CHEM1190 &amp; 1194</td>
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<tr>
<td>One year series for biological science majors with one semester lab</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Organic Chemistry</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>CHEM2250, 2260, and 2274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One year series with one semester lab</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Biochemistry</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CHEM3650 &amp; 3654 or CHEM4650 &amp; 4654, CHEM4660 &amp; 4664</td>
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<tr>
<td>One semester (no lab required)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Physics</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>PHYS1110 &amp; 1154 And PHYS1120 &amp; 1164</td>
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<tr>
<td>First semester of a two-semester series with lab. Must include mechanics, fluids, heat and thermodynamics, vibrations, waves and sound.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>General Biology</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>BIOL1450, BIOL1750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two semester series with lab each semester. A Bachelor’s degree in Biology fulfills this requirement.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Genetics</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BIOL2140</td>
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<tr>
<td>Must include both Mendelian and molecular genetics. (no lab required)Animal breeding or livestock improvement courses will not fulfill this requirement.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mammalian Anatomy and/or Physiology</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BIOL2740 &amp; 2840 OR BIOL4740, BIOL4950</td>
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<tr>
<td>(no lab required)</td>
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All applicants, regardless of major, must complete these courses or their equivalents. All but two of the required science courses must be completed by the end of the fall term in which the applicant applies. Up to two required science courses may be taken the spring term prior to matriculation. Other non-science required courses must be completed by the end of the spring term prior to matriculation.

All required coursework must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.00) or better to fulfill the requirement. A "C-minus" or lower is not acceptable.

Required courses must be taken from an accredited college or university on a graded A-F basis. No required course may be taken under the Pass/Not Pass or Satisfactory/Fail grading systems or similar options.

Advance Placement (AP) and College Level Examination Program (CLEP)
If an applicant wishes to use AP or CLEP credits to fulfill a required course, these credits must be documented by original scores submitted to the College of Veterinary Medicine and must meet Iowa State University's minimum requirement in the appropriate subject area. CLEP credits may be accepted only for arts, humanities and social sciences.

Graduate Record Exam (GRE)
The Graduate Record Exam General Test is required for application to the College of Veterinary Medicine. All 2007 applicants are required to take or retake the GRE which includes the analytical writing assessment by October 13, 2006. GRE testing dates and registration is available at www.gre.org. Official scores must be received by October 31.

Applicants should send their GRE scores directly to the College of Veterinary Medicine. The GRE code for the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University is 6315.

Selection Criteria

GPA (30%)
Includes cumulative undergraduate GPA, required science course GPA, and last 45 undergraduate credit GPA. In calculating GPAs grades achieved in courses that have been repeated will be averaged. Graduate grades are not included in GPA calculations.

GRE (10%)
For the 2011-12 admissions cycle either the old or the new revised GRE will be accepted. Beginning with the 2012-13 admissions cycle (entering Fall 2013) only the new revised GRE will be accepted. There is no limit to the number of times the GRE may be taken and no minimum GRE score is required. The single test which gives the applicant the best score is used.
Coursework Rigor (20%)
These criteria include the total number of credits accumulated/degree achieved, academic efficiency (withdraws/repeats), academic workload (credit hours/term), honors courses/programs and college attended.

Admissions Committee Review (20%)
The Admissions Committee reviews the applicant’s personal statement, recommendations, essays included on the supplemental application, extracurricular/community activities, animal, veterinary and work experience, personal development, diversity, and any special circumstances. Each of these items is considered and contributes to the overall impression of the applicant.

Personal statement
The personal statement is your opportunity to represent yourself to the Admissions Committee. The Committee suggests that you include the following information.

- How did you become interested in a career in veterinary medicine?
- How have you developed an understanding of the veterinary profession? What have you learned about the profession from your experiences?
- What are your career goals?
- What opportunities have you had to develop communication and leadership skills?
- Is there any additional information you would like the Committee to know about you and/or your background?

Recommendations

Three electronic letters of evaluation are required. Up to six electronic letters of evaluation will be accepted. Persons chosen to submit letters of recommendation should know the applicant well and be able to speak to their personal characteristics and attributes. Do not choose an evaluator solely on the basis of their job or position. It is preferred that the evaluators write comments (or a letter) in addition to completing the form letter of recommendation. Suggested evaluators are veterinarians, advisors, professors and employers although others are also acceptable. Evaluations should support the applicant’s experiences and should confirm their commitment, maturity, work ethic and leadership and communication skills with examples. Applicants are strongly encouraged to have a recommendation from at least one veterinarian. Evaluators cannot be related to the applicant by blood or marriage.

The Admissions committee may contact references directly if further information or clarification is needed.

Supplemental application essays

Read the supplemental application essays carefully and make sure you address the questions being asked. Do not repeat what you have said in your personal statement.

Extracurricular/community activities

The Admissions Committee considers the leadership roles, depth of involvement and accomplishments in university clubs, community organizations and varsity athletics.

revised 03/2015
Veterinary experience

Veterinary experience may be voluntary or paid but must be completed under the supervision of a veterinarian or PhD scientists if it is a veterinary research experience.

There is no minimum number of hours of veterinary experience required, however, the diversity, level of responsibility, and duration of the experience is considered. Job shadowing is a good start, however, it is expected that the applicant will also have some “hands on” experiences with specific responsibilities. It is preferred that applicants have experience in more than one area of the profession. This could include experiences with companion animal, equine, production animal, research, or zoological veterinary medicine. The goal of veterinary experience is to give the applicant a good understanding of what is required on a day-to-day basis in the various aspects of the profession.

Animal experience

Related animal experiences are also considered in the Admissions Committee evaluation. This may include working with livestock, breeding or showing various species, working at a zoo, aquarium or pet shop, or volunteering at an animal shelter. This does not include pet ownership, or educational coursework.

Personal development

Personal development includes skills and activities outside of coursework and employment. Examples include study abroad, accomplishments and participation in community service organizations, level of accomplishments in organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Pony Club, achievements in varsity athletics or organized sports clubs, fluency in more than one language, achievement in dance, theater, music, and similar activities.

Diversity

Factors that contribute to an applicant’s diversity and that are considered in the Admissions Committee evaluation include, but are not limited to, life experiences, work experiences, professional goals, geographical background (rural, urban or suburban), cultural background, disadvantaged status and other information presented in the application that may be considered as contributing to diversity. Weight will be given to qualified applicants who possess characteristics that are underrepresented in the profession and who would contribute to the overall diversity of the class.

Special circumstances

Special circumstances include factors which may have adversely affected the applicant’s academic record. These factors and how the applicant overcame them are considered.

All selection criteria and their weight in the evaluation are subject to change without notice upon Admissions Committee review.

Interview (20%)

The behavior-based interview looks at experiences, behaviors, knowledge, skills and abilities and focuses on the following competencies.
**Acts Autonomously and Confidently** - Makes decisions independently when warranted; is capable of working on one’s own when necessary. Takes charge when circumstances warrant and makes difficult decisions. Respects the right and responsibility of others to make decisions that rightfully belong to them.

**Demonstrates Integrity** - Acts in a manner consistent with the principles of the veterinary profession and the courage of one’s convictions. Builds trust with others through daily actions and decisions; increases one’s credibility by treating others with respect. Makes principled decisions.

**Demonstrates Adaptability and Resilience** - Responds to competing demands or abrupt changes with a positive outlook. Stays optimistic and resilient in the face of adversity, change, and ambiguity. Uses a large repertoire of skills, experiences, and behaviors to handle a wide variety of challenges and opportunities.

**Uses Sound Judgment** - Makes decisions on the basis of logic, evidence, and sound professional judgment/experience/accepted practice. Seeks data when needed and investigates issues. Makes timely decisions based on one’s professional judgment, even when faced with ambiguity and imperfect data.

**Thinks Innovatively** - Seeks new ideas and weaves them together to create new approaches to problems/challenges. Mitigates future problems by anticipating trends and consequences, considering alternatives, possibilities and options, and applying systems-level thinking.

Communication skills will also be evaluated.

The three-member interview panel consists of faculty and veterinarians from industry, organizations, government and private practice. The panel will not have seen any of the applicant's materials so the applicant needs to be prepared to introduce themselves and give a brief description of their background. Interviews are scheduled for one hour and allow time for the applicant to ask questions.

During the interview weekends, applicants will have the opportunity to speak with faculty and students, attend information sessions on financial aid and the computer technology used in the curriculum, and tour the College.

The interview is the final step of the competitive process. Offer of an interview in no way implies acceptance to the program.

Last updated by ISU 3/3/2011

Source: [http://vetmed.iastate.edu/academics/prospective-students/admissions/selection-criteria](http://vetmed.iastate.edu/academics/prospective-students/admissions/selection-criteria)  
(accessed on 03/29/2015)
Pre-professional Requirements  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
Kansas State University

Whether the pre-professional education is completed at K-State or at another accredited college or university, the courses listed below must be included as minimum preparation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite Courses</th>
<th>Hrs (sem)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expository Writing I and II</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry I and II</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Organic Chemistry and Laboratory</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Biochemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics I and II</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Biology or Zoology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microbiology (with laboratory)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genetics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social sciences and/or humanities</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>64</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All required science courses (chemistry, physics, biology, and genetics) must have been taken within six years of the date of enrollment in the professional program.

All pre-professional requirements must be graded.

Course substitutions must be petitioned in writing to the Admissions Committee through the Office of the Associate Dean for Admissions.

source: [http://www.vet.k-state.edu/admissions/requirements/](http://www.vet.k-state.edu/admissions/requirements/)  (accessed on 03/31/2015)

Pre-Vet advisors:
Arts and Sciences Advising Center
402-554-2458