

VETERINARIAN

Veterinarians care for the health of animals and work to improve public health. They diagnose, treat, and research medical conditions and diseases of pets, livestock, and numerous other animals. They often work in a variety of environments and have the option to specialize in the treatment of a particular type of animal.

CAREER DESCRIPTION*

- » National average salary: \$99,250
- » Projected national career growth: 17%
- » Many work in private clinics and pet hospitals
- » Examine, diagnose, and treat sick animals of all variations

TYPICAL EDUCATION**

- » Years of school (including undergraduate): 7-8
- » Approximate cost: \$46,576
- » Average entering GPA: 3.5
- » Bachelor's Degree encouraged
- » Most require GRE (some accept MCAT in place of GRE)

NEARBY SCHOOLS

- » University of Nebraska at Lincoln
- » Iowa State University
- » Kansas State University
- » Colorado State University
- » Northeast Community College (Veterinary Technology)
- » Iowa Western Community College (Veterinary Technology)

COMPETITIVE STUDENTS ALWAYS...

- » Shadow professionals in the field
- » Maintain a competitive academic record
- » Obtain experience under the supervision of a veterinarian
- » Volunteer or work directly with animals

WHAT PRACTICING PROFESSIONALS SAY



I hope to make people realize how totally helpless animals are, how dependent they are on us. They are an obligation put on us, a responsibility we have no right to neglect, nor to violate by cruelty.

-Dr. James Herriot, DVM



Because of our training in the College of Veterinary Medicine, we understand how to handle sick animals, timid animals, aggressive animals, and this is the kind of experience needed.

-Dr. Lisa Williams, DVM

WORDS FROM SUCCESSFUL VET STUDENTS



Gaining hands-on experience as a vet tech, and volunteering at zoos and animal shelters really helped prepare me for the rigorous, yet rewarding curriculum of veterinary school.

-Jennifer Neumann
4th year vet student- Ohio State University

*Data and information from Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Data and information from University of Nebraska Lincoln

Last Update: 10.2021

Click the links for requirements from the schools listed below:

University of Nebraska at Lincoln	Iowa State University	Kansas State University
Colorado State University	Northeast Community College	Iowa Western Community College

Prerequisites vary by program. Students are responsible for ensuring all entrance requirements are met.

UNL/ISU Prerequisites – 55 credit hours minimum

S = Spring, F = Fall, M = Summer

Biological Sciences (minimum credits: 18 - 22)			
Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
BIOL 1450 – Biology I	5	S, F, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 1750 – Biology II	5	S, F, M	BIOL 1450
BIOL 2140 – Genetics	4	S, F, M	BIOL 1450, 1750 & CHEM 1180
AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:			
BIOL 4780 – Vertebrate Zoology	4	F	BIOL 1750
BIOL 4790 – Mammalogy	4	S	BIOL 1750
-OR BOTH-			
BIOL 2740 – Human Anatomy and Physiology I*	4	F, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 2840 – Human Anatomy and Physiology II*	4	S, M	BIOL 2740

*Both semesters of Anatomy and Physiology must be taken if Vertebrate Zoology or Mammalogy aren't taken.

Chemistry (minimum credits: 15 - 20)			
CHEM 1180 & 1184 – General Chemistry I & Lab	4	S, F, M	MATH 1320 or CHEM 1140/1144
CHEM 1190 & 1194 – General Chemistry II & Lab	4	S, F, M	MATH 1320 and CHEM 1180/1184
CHEM 2250 – Organic Chemistry I	3	S, F, M	CHEM 1190/1194
CHEM 2260 & 2274 – Organic Chemistry II & Lab*	5	S, F	CHEM 2250
AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:			
-CHEM 2650 & 3654 – Fundamentals of Biochemistry	4	S, F	CHEM 2260/2274 or
OR			
-CHEM 4610 – Biochemistry of Metabolism	4	S	CHEM 2260/2274
OR			
-BIOL 4650 & 4654 – Biochemistry I & Lab	4	F	CHEM 2260/2274 and BIOL 3020

Physics (minimum credits: 10)			
PHYS 1110 & 1154 – General Physics I & Lab	5	F, S, M	MATH 1310 or 1220

English Composition (minimum credits: 3)			
ENGL 1150 or 1154 – English Composition I	3	F, S, M	AP score of 3 or by EPPE exam
ENGL 1160 or 1164 – English Composition II	3	F, S, M	ENGL 1150/1154 or AP score 4 or by EPPE

Speech (minimum credits: 3)		
CMST 1110 – Public Speaking Fundamentals	3	None

Humanities & Social Sciences (minimum credits: 6)
Ethics, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Art, Literature, History, Cultural Studies, Gender Studies, etc.

Electives (minimum credits: 8)
Electives of student's choice.

*Not required for ISU/UNL, but is a common prerequisite for other veterinary medicine programs.