

PRE-VETERINARY TIMELINE

Early Preparation (usually 2 years)

- Take prerequisite courses, beginning with introductory biology and chemistry
- Establish effective study skills and a strong GPA
- Evaluate your interests and career choice
- Find healthy ways to relax and reduce stress
- Read “Applying to Veterinary School” on the prehealth website t <http://www.colorado.edu/aac/prehealth.html>
- Sign up for “Healthlist”, the Prehealth email list at <http://www.colorado.edu/aac/prehealth.html>
- Get to know professors, as you will need letters of recommendation in the future
- Check in with the PreProfessional Office about once a semester, starting in your second semester
- Work or volunteer in a veterinary clinic, scientific research laboratory, or in a position that requires animal care
- Start a log of veterinary-related activities
- Consider joining the Pre-Vet Club: see www.colorado.edu/studentgroups/prevetclub for more information
- Read extensively in science and non-science areas
- Begin to research veterinary schools and consider how their various prerequisites fit into your academic course schedule: see The Veterinary Medical School Admission Requirements from Purdue University Press, at <http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/>

Final Preparation and Application Year

- Finish as many of the prerequisite courses as possible
- Determine who you will ask for letters of recommendation
- Ask for letters of recommendation, remember that you must have them by October 1 of year 4
- Study for the GRE
- Register and take GRE

- Work on your personal essay
- Continue veterinary-related activities. Try to gain experience with both large and small animals

Summer of Application Year

- Starting in June, fill out the VMCAS application
- Check websites of schools that do not use VMCAS to download their applications
- Take GRE before September, if you have not already done so
- Continue veterinary-related activities
- Finalize the schools to which you plan to apply
- Submit the VMCAS application
- Order transcripts from the Registrar and send them directly to the schools to which you are applying – do NOT wait until the end of the fall semester.

Post-Submission and Interview Year

- Submit VMCAS application, if you have not already done so
- If you have not already done so, order transcripts from the Registrar and send them directly to the schools to which you are applying – do NOT wait until the end of the fall semester. Most veterinary schools need your transcripts by October 1 at the latest.
- Finish supplemental applications ASAP. Be sure to note individual school deadlines.
- At the end of fall classes, request your transcript for the fall term and send these transcripts to the schools
- In January, fill out financial aid forms
- Begin interviewing. Interviews most often take place early in the spring semester. Note that not all vet schools interview applicants.