

Pre-Veterinary Medicine



The Program at UW-Platteville

The pre-veterinary medicine program consists of a selected group of courses covering a wide range of subject matter. The intent of the program is to provide a basic body of knowledge that will prepare the student to move efficiently into and through the professional curriculum of a veterinary college. It is, as the name implies, a pre-professional program.

The pre-veterinary student is also encouraged to develop an understanding of animal production and management as well as a knowledge of and experience in the profession of veterinary medicine. These experiences will be gained independently or in appropriate classes.

Faculty and Facilities

A veterinarian is part of the School of Agriculture faculty. This veterinarian is the pre-veterinary students' advisor. This uniqueness provides additional strength to the program.

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville provides the student with modern facilities to support the program. These range from well-equipped chemistry, physics, biology and animal science laboratories to the modern 430-acre university farm with dairy, swine and beef units to complement classroom instruction.

Suggested Course of Study

The course of study in pre-veterinary medicine is a pre-professional program, not a major. Listed are the requirements for UW-Platteville's pre-veterinary program. The requirements are about the same for entrance into most veterinary schools. Information about requirements for any veterinary school can be considered.

Applicants for admission to veterinary school should present not less than 60 semester credits of required and elective courses from an accredited college or university. University credits in the required courses are not accepted if they have been earned under a pass/fail or other ungraded basis. The pre-professional course work must include a minimum of the following:

- 1) English Composition or Journalism, 6 semester credits
Must include completion of a satisfactory score on a college English placement exam or an introductory English composition course plus one of the following:
 - a) an English composition or Journalism course which the performance evaluation is based on writing skills or
 - b) evidence that writing skills were included in the grading of a specific college level course.
- 2) Statistics, (an introductory course) 3 semester credits
- 3) General Biology or Zoology, (an introductory course, must include laboratory-one semester) 4-5 semester credits.
- 4) Genetics or Animal Breeding, (must include principles of heredity and their application) 3 semester credits
- 5) Chemistry, 14 semester credits
 - a) General and Qualitative, (must include laboratory-two semesters) 8 semester credits
 - b) Organic, 3 semester credits
 - c) Biochemistry, (must have organic prerequisite) 3 semester credits
- 6) General Physics, (two semesters) 6 semester credits
- 7) Social Sciences or Humanities, 6 semester credits
- 8) Elective credits to meet required total of 60 semester credits

Each applicant must also show evidence of experience in the responsibility for the actual care of animals; this should include experience with as many species of animals as possible. The applicant must also show knowledge of and experience with the profession of veterinary medicine.

High School Preparation

In preparing to enter the pre-veterinary program, the high school student needs to acquire a strong science background. Courses in chemistry, biology, agricultural sciences, physics and mathematics are highly desirable. In addition, a good background in oral and written communication skills and interpersonal relationships is also helpful.

Outstanding Career Opportunities

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville has an outstanding record of placing qualified students in colleges of veterinary medicine.

The opportunities in veterinary medicine are many and varied. After completion of the degree, the graduate may enter private practice (large, small or mixed animal), various government regulatory areas, research (university or private), private industry or teaching. Both rural and urban students find gratifying careers in veterinary medicine.

Internships

Pre-veterinary students are strongly encouraged to build a portfolio that contains field experience with veterinarians. This is often accomplished through the internship program at UW-Platteville and allows students to earn college credit at the same time. High school students should try to get some exposure to veterinary medicine prior to college.

Extracurricular Activities

The Pre-Veterinary Club is an organization for students who are interested in veterinary medicine, animal health and related fields. The purpose of the club is to expose students to all aspects of veterinary medicine, including large and small animal practice; research; extension; teaching; and work with exotic animals and wildlife. Colleague and community involvement is encouraged and practiced.

Nontraditional and Transfer Students

Nontraditional and transfer students fit into the pre-veterinary program with relative ease. Students are individually advised with regard to courses and credits. Because of the flexibility of the program, credit transfer is handled as a normal procedure.

For More Information

For more information write to the Pre-Veterinary Adviser, School of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville, Wisconsin 53818-3099, or call 608.342.1393.

Visit <http://www.uwplatt.edu/soa>.

For general information on the university and its programs, consult the website at www.uwplatt.edu or contact UWP Prospective Student Services, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville, WI 53818-3099, or call toll-free 1.877.897.5288 or locally 608.342.1127.

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