

# **Veterinary School Application**

## **Animal Science Advising Center**

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## What is VMCAS?

- Centralized Application process for applications for most of the US veterinary medical colleges
- Application requires GRE score and transcripts
- VMCAS Applications due **September 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 Midnight**
- VMCAS STRONGLY recommends you submit your application and have all transcripts and references received by **September 2, 2018**

Questions? Visit <http://www.aavmc.org/vmcas/vmcas.htm>



<b>VMCAS 2018 Fees</b>			
<b># of Designations</b>	<b>2018 Fee</b>	<b># of Designations</b>	<b>2018 Fee</b>
1	\$ 205	21	\$ 2,210
2	\$ 310	22	\$ 2,310
3	\$ 410	23	\$ 2,410
4	\$ 510	24	\$ 2,510
5	\$ 610	25	\$ 2,610
6	\$ 710	26	\$ 2,710
7	\$ 810	27	\$ 2,810
8	\$ 910	28	\$ 2,910
9	\$ 1,010	29	\$ 3,010
10	\$ 1,110	30	\$ 3,110
11	\$ 1,210	31	\$ 3,210
12	\$ 1,310	32	\$ 3,310
13	\$ 1,410	33	\$ 3,410
14	\$ 1,510	34	\$ 3,510
15	\$ 1,610	35	\$ 3,610
16	\$ 1,710	36	\$ 3,710
17	\$ 1,810	37	\$ 3,810
18	\$ 1,910	38	\$ 3,910
19	\$ 2,010	39	\$ 4,010
20	\$ 2,110		

## Choosing Target School (s)

- **Cost?**
- **Location?**
- **Ranking**
- **Specialized units/programs**
- **Available seats**
- **Acceptance rate for UCD students**
- **How many schools?**



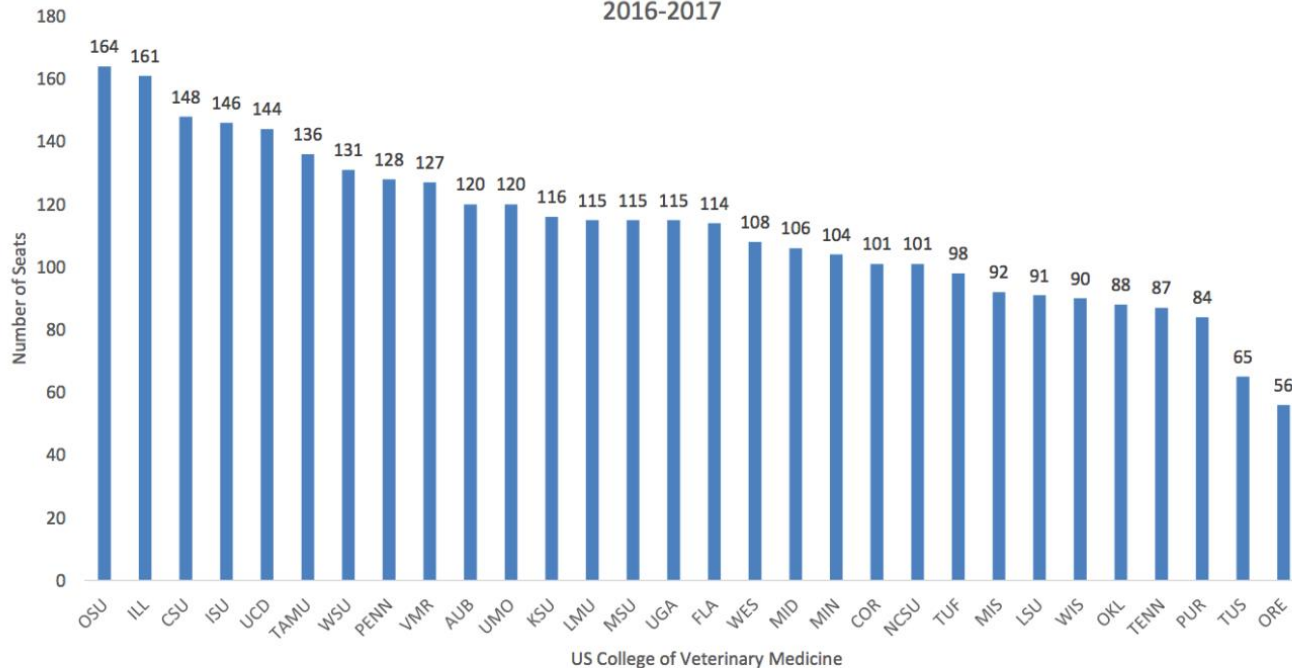
**Dream School**

**2-4 Schools for which you are competitive**

**Back up School**



**Number of Seats in the First Year Class**  
 By US College of Veterinary Medicine  
 AAVMC Internal Reports  
 2016-2017



Total class size = 3,372

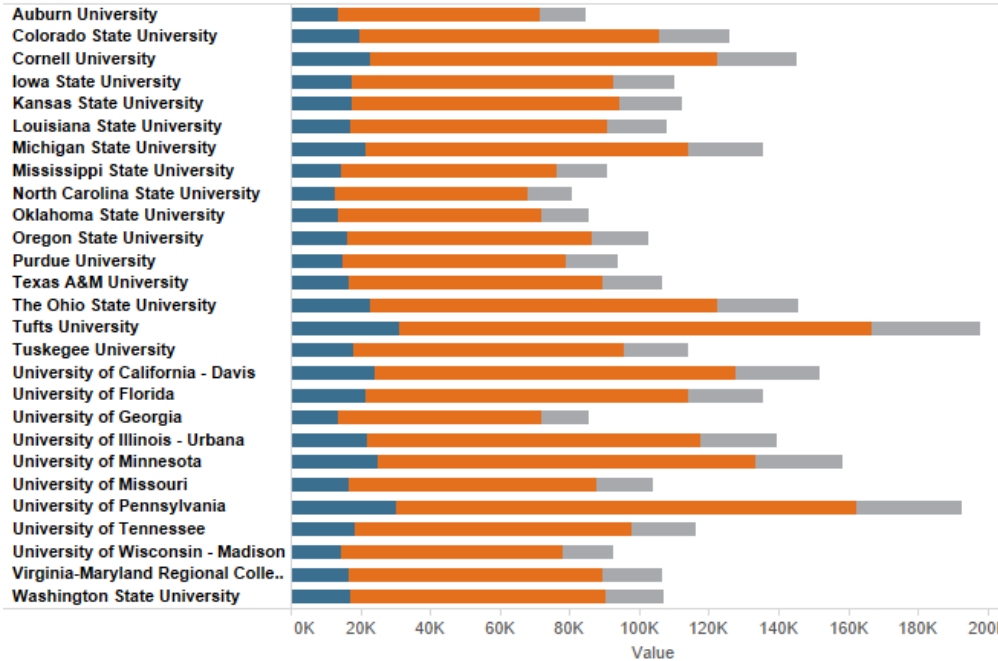
2017-2018 not available but should be similar  
 \*\* UC Davis increased from 144 to 150





## AAVMC Cost Comparison Tool

Use the filters to select colleges of veterinary medicine



**Resident - Estimated Loan Interest Accrued**

All values

**Resident - 4 Year Total Tuition**

All values

**Resident 4 Year Tuition & Loan Fees Total**

All values

**Resident Cost Categories**

- Estimated Resident Loan Interest
- Resident 4 Year Tuition
- Resident 4 Year Tuition & Loans

Figures for tuition, fees, cost of attendance/living, and average annual increase in tuition are derived and calculated from AAVMC internal data reports with data collected from 2011-2016. Users should anticipate continued escalations in the cost of education.

Estimated loan interest includes the cost of fully financing a DVM education based on the average graduating loan debt of 2015 graduates borrowing at a rate of 6%.

Data on the amount of average institutional scholarship aid awarded to students is derived from an AAVMC survey of its member institutions on net tuition conducted in 2015. Institutional aid is understood to be college funded scholarship, fellowship, or grant aid awarded to students.

Residency tuition discount does not include special circumstances such as non-resident contract positions or tuition remissions where a portion of non-resident tuition may be refunded upon post-graduation employment within the state.



# Good Options for UC Davis Students

## US Veterinary Schools

- University of California, Davis
- Western University (Southern California)
- University of Illinois
- Ohio State University
- Midwestern University (Arizona)
- Washington State University
- Kansas State University

## Accredited International Schools

- University of Sydney School of Veterinary Science
- Royal Veterinary College (RVC) (London)
- University of Glasgow School of Veterinary Medicine
- The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies (Edinburgh)
- St. George's University



## International Schools Application Process

- **VMCAS allows students to apply to international school 19 AVMA accredited schools, as well as 4 AAVMC Affiliate Members.**
- **Through UCAS students can apply for up to 3 accredited veterinary schools for £25**
  - **However it's not recommended because it can be rather confusing as it is really set up for UK students**
  - **You can apply to graduate programs as well**



# Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)

- Apply through UCAS for veterinary schools in the UK
- Deadline for UCAS: **October 15<sup>th</sup>**
- Requires personal statement and reference letters
- Much cheaper alternative for students who are applying
- Can apply to both VMCAS and UCAS

For more information, visit [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)



## Tuition Costs for International Vet Schools

- **University of Glasgow (No Physics required!)**
  - Cost of Attendance International Fee: £26,750 / \$29,905 a year for 5 years
- **Royal Veterinary College**
  - Cost of Attendance for International Students: £33,000 / \$36,892 a year
  - Average Expenditure for London: £13,388–20,900 / \$14,967–23,365
- **University of Edinburgh, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies**
  - Cost of Attendance for International Students: £30,200 / \$33,762 a year
- **University of Sydney (No Physics required!)**
  - Cost of Attendance for International Students: \$38,500 a year
- **Cost of Attendance UC Davis Veterinary School: \$31,655**
- **Exchange Rate for US Dollar: 5/30/2017**
  - \$1.12 US Dollar = €1.00 Euro
  - \$1.28 US Dollar = £1.00 British Pound

# University of Sydney

- 11<sup>th</sup> in the World Rankings
- Accredited by RCVS
  - Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)
  - Must have 12 weeks of Animal Husbandry Extramural Studies (AHEMS) and 26 weeks of Clinical EMS
- No interviews
- Begins in early February
- Minimum GPA of 2.80
- Prerequisites
  - O'chem (CHE 8 A/B)
  - Biology
  - Biochemistry
  - **NO PHYSICS!**



# Royal Veterinary School

- 3<sup>rd</sup> in the World Rankings
- Accredited by RCVS (similar to University of Sydney)
- Interview with family and friends in San Francisco
- Prerequisites
  - CHE 8 A/B
  - PHY 7 A/B/C



# Royal Dick Veterinary School (Edinburgh)

- **23<sup>rd</sup> in the World Rankings**
- **Prerequisites:**
  - **Biology/Zoology**
  - **Physics (PHY 7 A/B)**
  - **Biochemistry**
  - **O'chem and Inorganic chemistry (CHE 8 A/B)**
  - **Mathematics/Statistics**
  - **Genetics**
  - **Microbiology**
  - **Cell Biology**



# Application Statistics 2017 UCD Vet School

- **Offered Admission: 179**
- **Accepted Offer: 150**
- **Average GPA for CA Residents**
  - **Cumulative: 3.70**
  - **Overall Science: 3.67**
  - **Last 67 Quarter Units: 3.80**
- **Average GRE Score: Quantitative 71%**
- **Veterinary- Related Experience Hours: 180 hrs. (minimum)**
  - **1475 average hours**
- **UC Davis Students: Admitted Entering 2017**
  - **Total Admitted from UC Davis: 47**
  - **ANS (32), ABI (5), BIS (3), WFC (2), NPB (2), PTX (1), ANM (1), PSC (1)**
  - **GPA Range: 3.19–4.00**



## Applying to UC Davis w/minimum GPA (2.5)

2017.....lowest overall GPA = 3.186

2016.....lowest overall GPA = 3.446

2015.....lowest overall GPA = 3.184

2014.....lowest overall GPA = 3.463

2013.....lowest overall GPA = 3.239

2012.....lowest overall GPA = 3.347

2011.....lowest overall GPA = 3.064

VMCAS takes  
*ALL* grades in to  
account, no  
repeat  
replacement  
grades!



# Looking to Improve Your Chances of Getting into Veterinary School?

## 1. Apply to Overseas Schools

- Apply to international veterinary schools (i.e. Ross University, St. Georges, and St. Mathews)
- U of Sydney, Royal Veterinary College, U of Edinburgh

## 2. UC Davis Open Campus

- Open to public
- Provides access to UC Davis upper division science courses to raise overall and science GPA

## 3. Pursuing a Master's Degree

## 4. Attend Community College

## 5. Attend Post Baccalaureate Programs

- Help student transition from undergraduate to professional schools after they have completed their degree
- Raise GPA to be more competitive





## Last minute strategies...

- **Take lower division, science courses Summer I**
  - **AST, GEL, PLS, SAS**
- **Let someone review your answers to narrative prompts**
- **Practice the MMI and traditional interviews!**
  - **Historic traditional interview questions can be found on Student Doctor Network**
- **Summer veterinary experiences**
- **Letters of Recommendation**

## Graduate Record Examination (GRE)

- Only standardized examination required for entrance to all but one US Veterinary School
- Only General Test is Required
  - 3 sections – GRE Quantitative Reasoning
- Seven 30-minute tests (3.5 hours of testing)
- Scores are valid for up to five years after completion
- Must be taken no later than September 1<sup>st</sup> of the year you apply to veterinary school
  - **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL AUGUST TO TAKE IT**
    - **August would be good for a second time!**
- Take this seriously – do not go into it cold
- Cost of the test - \$205, there are fee waivers available

More information on GRE Website: <https://www.ets.org/gre/>

# VMCAS Personal Statement

- **VMCAS has changed the personal statement for the upcoming Fall 2018 cycle (1000 Characters)**
- **Be unique!**
- **Prompts are as follows:**
  - **There are many career choices within the veterinary profession. What are your future career goals and why?**
  - **In what ways do veterinarians contribute to society and what do you hope to contribute?**
  - **Considering the breadth of society we serve as veterinarians today; what attributes do you believe are essential to be successful within the veterinary profession? Of these attributes, which do you possess and how have you demonstrated these in the past?**
- **Grammar**
- **No negative comments!**
- **Keep in mind your audience**
- **Proof read – have a friend read (or even us)**
- **UC Davis will include additional “Diversity Statement”**

## Great Examples- “Career Question”

“As an aspiring veterinarian, my future career goal is to enhance food production systems and combat other sustainability challenges that affect both human and animal health.....

To supplement this career path, I would like to become board certified in epidemiology and work on research regarding preventative measures that limit disease transmission”

*NOT: “I have loved animals since I was born....”*

*OR: “ I want to work with animals, I don’t like people much.....”*

*OR: “ I will graduate from vet school and open my own, low-cost clinic”*

## Great Examples:

“In what way do veterinarians contribute...?”

*“The veterinary field is very diverse; earning a veterinary degree does not mean a person needs to pursue general practice. Veterinarians can be responsible for advocating for animal welfare, protecting human and environmental health, and educating the general public”*

***NOT: “Veterinarians work hard to save all the animals!”***

# VMCAS Letter of Recommendations

- **Three electronic letter of recommendations are required**
  - One has to be from a veterinarian
  - Check your schools in advance!
  - You may need one from an advisor, professor, etc.
    - There may even be ranking
- **Letters pulled in order received**
  - Multiple letters may actually hurt you rather than help you
- **Narrative letters *not currently read!* (by UC Davis)**
- **Evaluation by Recommenders**

## The MMI

- **Multiple Mini Interviews**
- **Short questions**
  - Can be prompts, puzzles, scenarios, etc.
- **Several veterinary schools use the MMI (UCD included)**
- **Practice but don't practice too much!**
- **Several resources are available:**
  - Us
  - Health Professions Advising
    - Workshops
  - Friends
- **Example: You have just accidentally run over your neighbor's cat while reversing your car. You have 5 minutes to break the bad news to her.**

## Other Tips

- Enter course names **EXACTLY** as they appear on official transcript
- Your Primary School is **UC Davis**
- Enter **GE** courses as science if they will help

## Other Resources

- **Health Professions Advising**
- **Each School's website**
- **VMCAS**
- **The Animal Science Advising Center**





## Health Professions Advising: VMCAS Workshop

- 2 hour session
- Educational and interactive portion
  - Topics include: Admissions 101, Exploring Careers, Financing a Vet Education, Suturing, Mock MMI, etc.
  - Incoming first-years are welcome
  - Questions can be sent to [healthprofessionsadvising@ucdavis.edu](mailto:healthprofessionsadvising@ucdavis.edu)

**SAVE THE DATE**  
JULY 10 - 14  
MU Garrison  
2 - 4 PM



**UCDAVIS**  
HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING

**2017 Pre - Vet Bootcamp**  
July 10 - 14 🐾 MU Garrison 🐾 2 - 4 PM

Join us at our Pre-Vet Bootcamp happening the second week of July for a mix of interactive and informative workshops! Hear from vet med professionals and admissions reps and snag a free t-shirt!

*Join us for*

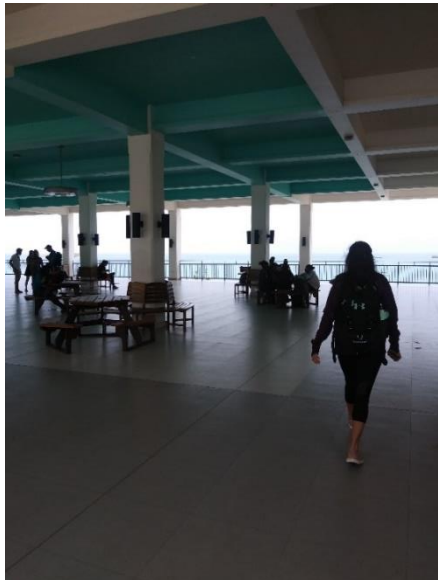
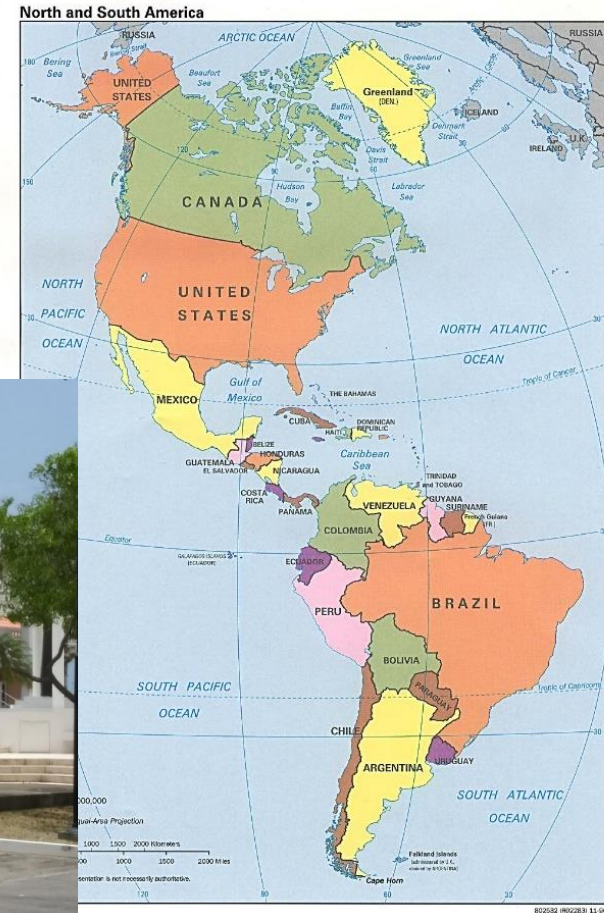
- MMI*
- Application Prep*
- Exploring Careers*
- Financing your Education*
- Suturing*
- and more...*

**UCDAVIS**  
HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING

Visit:  
[facebook.com/healthprofessionsadvising/](https://facebook.com/healthprofessionsadvising/)

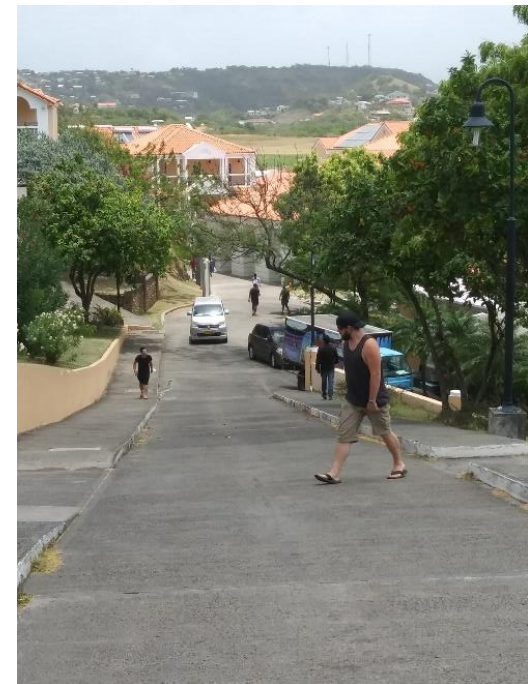
# Saint George's University

- Grenada, West Indies





Island is 12 by 21 miles  
2 Seasons, wet and dry  
Official Language: English  
Malaria- free since 1962!  
“Spice Island”  
Diverse



## Veterinary Medicine (765)

- Established 2003
- 29 UCD graduates, 10 currently enrolled

**Cost \$182,930 (UCD \$138,930 vs. Western University \$196,670)**

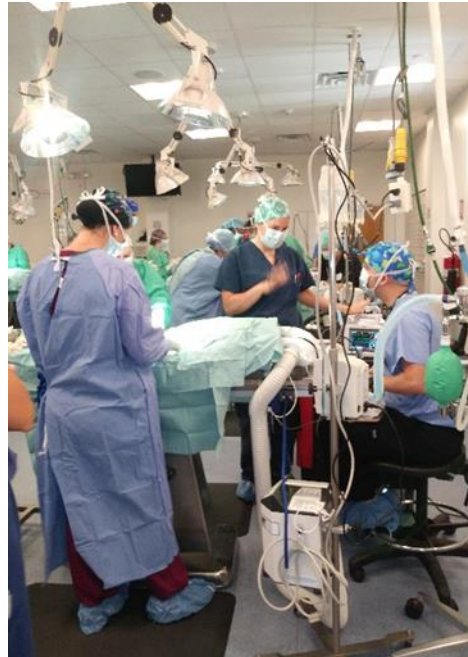
## 3 Year Program

- August and January start date
- Apply through VMCAS, holistic review
- CHE 8 and PHY 7A/B
- Foundations Program
- Final year in affiliate schools (29)  
US, UK, AU, CN
- Two terms, two breaks



## School of Veterinary Medicine

- AVMA accredited
- No tracking
- Graduation Ceremony in New York, New York
- Largest lecture halls 800-900 students
- Students and faculty represent 140 countries
- UC Davis: Highest for DVM Admits



98 Full  
scholarships  
awarded between  
MD and DVM



## Housing

- **Students MUST live on campus first year**
  - **Exceptions: Brought Family members, spouse, pet**
  - **Office for “significant others”**
- **1780 Spaces, new dorm being built**
  - **Singles (studio)**
  - **2,3,4,5 separate bedrooms, shared kitchen and bath**
  - **No ovens on campus**
  - **Cleaning service 2x per week**



## Transportation

Scooters, cars, buses  
Buses from main campus  
to Grenada every 10 min (\$1)



## Food



No Dining Commons, meal plans

## Other Programs

- **See SGU**
  - Apply, get accepted, upon arrival, Hotel and Air Paid
- **12 day program**
  - Classroom Instruction/Labs
  - Leadership Training
  - Hikes/Beach/Snorkeling





# Questions?

**Animal Science Advising Center**  
**1202 Meyer Hall**  
**[asac@ucdavis.edu](mailto:asac@ucdavis.edu)**

