



Admissions processes and entry requirements for UK veterinary schools

For applications in 2018

May 2018


Veterinary Schools Council

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Welcome!

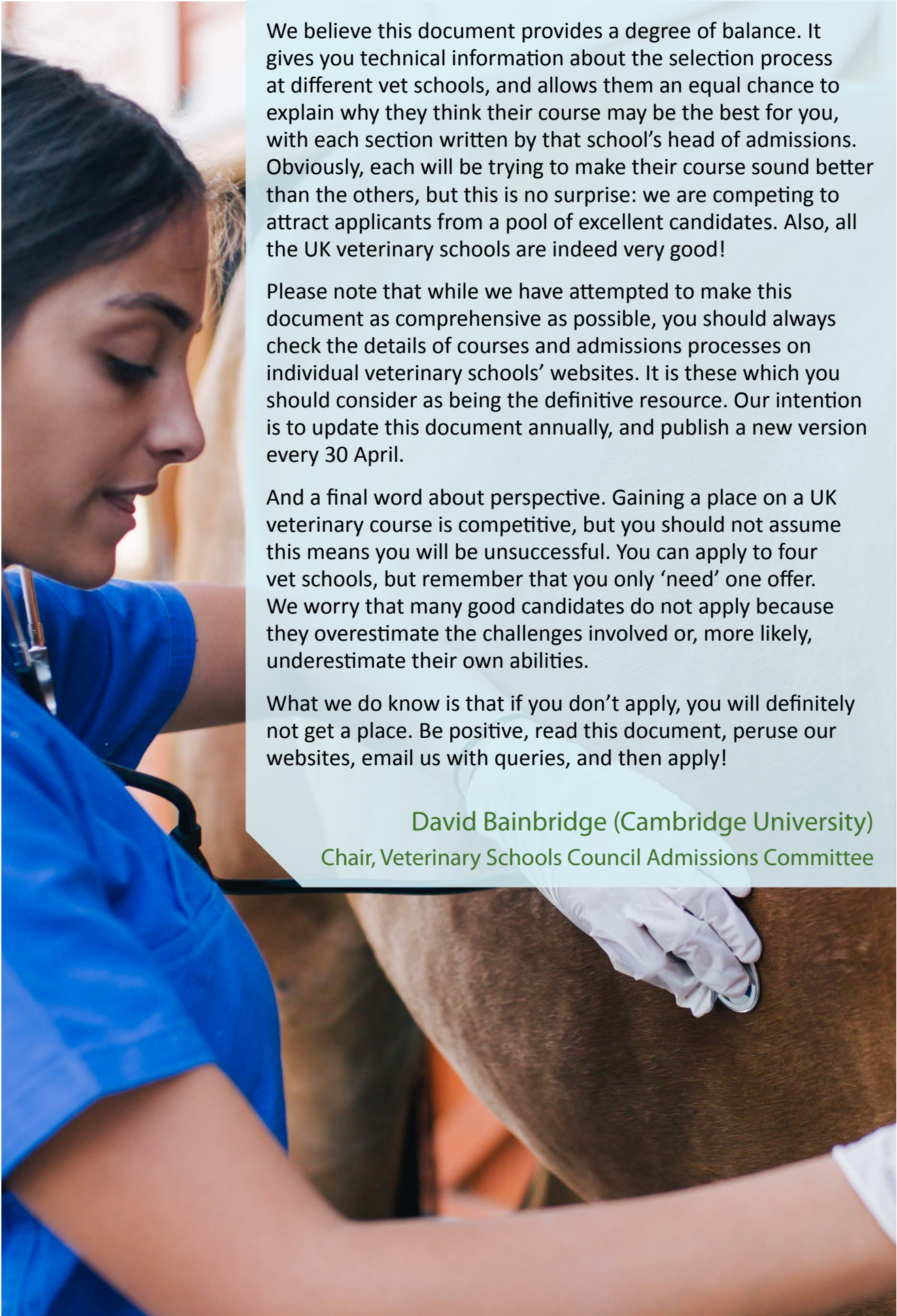
Embarking on a veterinary course can seem a daunting prospect. Courses are long, and potential vets are often told how difficult it is to secure a place. However, although intensive, training to be a veterinary surgeon can be an immensely enjoyable and rewarding experience, and leads to a wide variety of challenging and fascinating careers. Also, your chances of gaining a place on a veterinary course may be better than you think. Each year in the UK there are approximately half as many available places as veterinary applicants.

Of course, all veterinary schools teach you the same core of information, understanding and skills required to become a vet, but their courses do differ in various ways. Although your main intention is simply to gain entry to a course and qualify as a vet, it is also important that you choose the right course for you. The aim of this guide is to provide you with the information you need to make that choice.

The Veterinary Schools Council represents vet schools in the UK, Ireland and Netherlands, and promotes discussion and cooperation between them. It believes that providing clear, balanced information, presented by each vet school on an equal footing, is the key to ensuring that as many students as possible find a place on the best course for them.

This document has been produced by the council's Admissions Committee and is intended to fill in some gaps in the information available to you. You should, for example, be cautious about what you read on student chatrooms – these are often dominated by particular contributors, and the information provided can be inaccurate. Another factor to consider is that if you ask qualified vets for advice, they will each have experienced the course at just one vet school, and their knowledge of even that will necessarily be some years out of date. Also, entirely understandably, vets tend to promote the vet school where they trained as the best! As a result, it can be difficult for potential applicants to get a full, balanced idea of what the different vet schools offer.



A woman with dark hair, wearing blue scrubs and a stethoscope, is shown in profile, looking down at a horse. She is wearing white gloves and using a stethoscope to examine the horse's flank. The horse is brown and its body is visible in the lower half of the image.

We believe this document provides a degree of balance. It gives you technical information about the selection process at different vet schools, and allows them an equal chance to explain why they think their course may be the best for you, with each section written by that school's head of admissions. Obviously, each will be trying to make their course sound better than the others, but this is no surprise: we are competing to attract applicants from a pool of excellent candidates. Also, all the UK veterinary schools are indeed very good!

Please note that while we have attempted to make this document as comprehensive as possible, you should always check the details of courses and admissions processes on individual veterinary schools' websites. It is these which you should consider as being the definitive resource. Our intention is to update this document annually, and publish a new version every 30 April.

And a final word about perspective. Gaining a place on a UK veterinary course is competitive, but you should not assume this means you will be unsuccessful. You can apply to four vet schools, but remember that you only 'need' one offer. We worry that many good candidates do not apply because they overestimate the challenges involved or, more likely, underestimate their own abilities.

What we do know is that if you don't apply, you will definitely not get a place. Be positive, read this document, peruse our websites, email us with queries, and then apply!

David Bainbridge (Cambridge University)
Chair, Veterinary Schools Council Admissions Committee

Common policies agreed by Veterinary Schools Council

Disability

Many potential applicants worry that a disability will prevent them from entering a veterinary medicine course, or qualifying as a vet. Although disabled UK veterinary students are at present required to take all compulsory elements of their veterinary course (including practical work with all major domestic species), our experience is that it is often possible to make reasonable adjustments so that disabled students are able to participate in veterinary courses to completion. Because of this, if you are disabled and are considering a veterinary career, we advise you to contact the vet schools to which you are thinking of applying, to discuss your options further.

Contextual data

All UK veterinary schools take account of contextual data when making their admissions decisions. These data allow us to assess candidates' applications in the light of the educational opportunities they have had. The vet schools achieve this by using nationally accepted databases of past school attainment, various measures of previous participation in higher education, and other metrics of prior educational opportunity. All vet schools are committed to widening access to veterinary education.

Personal statements

All applications to UK veterinary schools must be made via UCAS, and the UCAS application process includes writing a personal statement. However, the vet schools are aware that the amount and quality of advice, and assistance applicants receive when writing their personal statement, varies greatly – and that this could potentially advantage or disadvantage certain applicants. Because of this, no UK vet school assesses the quality of the personal statement during their selection processes. Vet schools may of course ask questions about elements of the personal statement during their selection processes, however. Also, some vet schools have partially or completely replaced the use of the personal statement by introducing their own applicant questionnaires.

School examination systems

In this guide the UK veterinary schools have listed their requirements for the examination systems for which UK applicants most often study. However, all UK vet schools are experienced in considering a wide variety of public examination systems from around the world. If you are studying under one of these 'non-UK' systems, please see each veterinary school's website for further details about entrance requirements.

Courses

Information about each of the Veterinary Schools Council UK member veterinary schools is listed in alphabetical order by university, with three pages for each school. Every entry includes the vet school's contact details, information about the course, widening participation information, numbers of applicants and places, work experience requirements, conditional offers and selection processes.

All information was provided by the vet schools' admissions offices themselves, and was correct at the time of collation. However, please be aware that there is much more information available on the vet schools' individual websites.



There are two members of the Veterinary Schools Council which are not located in the UK:



There is one further university, the University of Surrey, which runs a course with the intention of graduating veterinary surgeons. Its admissions pages may be found at www.surrey.ac.uk/undergraduate/veterinary-medicine-and-science.

University of Bristol

**Bristol Vet School, Langford House,
Langford, Bristol, BS40 5DU**

www.bris.ac.uk

choosebristol-ug@bristol.ac.uk



Why apply to this veterinary course?

Bristol was voted the best place to live in the UK in 2017 (Sunday Times) and your typical Bristolian is laid back, welcoming and kind. Outside of study, there is so much to do at Bristol. There is a thriving student society, Centaur, which serves all the students in the vet school, and offers social, musical and sporting activities as well as student support. The university also offers a huge range of student clubs and societies. The city itself has a thriving social and arts scene as well as being a gateway to the beautiful countryside and coasts of the South West.

The university is a big, multi-faculty university with programmes spread across all disciplines and students from all around the world. The university has a main campus in Clifton, Bristol integrated with the surrounding city and second rural veterinary campus 14 miles away in Langford. Vet students get to benefit from both, spending most of their time in the city in years 1–3, travelling out to Langford for teaching one or two days a week, while years 4 and 5 are based full-time at Langford.

We have excellent clinical facilities at Langford and provide first opinion and referral veterinary services for small animals, horses and farm animals. The clinical services are operated by Langford Vets, a wholly owned subsidiary of the university of Bristol.

The modern curriculum was highly praised by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons at their accreditation visit in 2014. Students are hands-on with animals from year 1 and benefit from innovative teaching within our internationally acclaimed clinical skills laboratory throughout the programme. Intercalation is encouraged and up to 20% of our students choose to do this during their veterinary degree.

Professional studies, animal management, evidence-based veterinary medicine, veterinary public health, and clinical and practical skills are taught in every year of the programme. In the early years, pre-clinical sciences such as anatomy and physiology are taught in integrated units emphasising the clinical relevance. From year 3 students learn about medicine and surgery, preparing them for their practical clinical training in final year. The extended final year starts with an orientation period then students rotate around our clinics from May to December learning about all aspects of clinical veterinary science working alongside specialists in clinical disciplines. This is followed by additional clinical rotations which are

student selected, an elective period and one week each on Professional Studies and Global Health.

Widening participation

We have a contextual offer policy which currently is a two grade lower offer than the standard offer (AAC from AAA) and we also welcome applications from those with non-traditional backgrounds. We run a variety of schemes to assist those from applying local area schools including Pathways to Health Sciences and the new Bristol Scholars scheme.

Our combined Health Sciences Gateway programme has five veterinary places (120 applicants in 2017–2018 application cycle). Successful completion of this gateway year allows automatic progression onto the five-year BVSc programme.

The application

In numbers

150 The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2019, including graduates and non-UK/non-EU students (no maximum number for either)

9 The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2017 (1,238 applicants, 146 places)

33 The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2017 (129 applicants, four places)

Work experience

Our minimum requirement is for one week (or equivalent) with a vet practice and one week with an animal establishment undertaken within the three years prior to application. The maximum we consider is four weeks for vet practice and four weeks for animal. Any amount above this confers no advantage.

Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants who fulfil the minimum entry criteria for academic qualifications will be sent a Work Experience and Personal and Professional Attributes (WEPAPA) form. This is new for 2017 and is not currently used for Gateway applications. Only overseas fee status and Gateway students will be interviewed, although we reserve the right to make any offer conditional to an interview. The majority of UK/EU fee status applicants will be selected for offers via scores from academic criteria and WEPAPA.

Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

All eligible overseas fee status applicants are offered an interview. Gateway student weighting is 20% academic performance, 80% personal statement.

Interview

No interviews were held in 2017 for applicants of UK/EU fee status. Selection was paper-based only: 50% on academic performance (A level 30%, GCSE 20%); 25% on work experience; 25% on personal and professional attributes (latter two from the WEPAPA form).

2017–2018 applicants of overseas fee status, as well as Gateway applicants, used the same interview format of a single 25-minute session comprising a combination of a communication scenario and structured questions around motivations and suitability for the programme. In 2016 we interviewed 30 out of 104 Overseas applicants and 20 out of 142 Gateway applicants

Weighting of offers made after interview

See above for home fee status. Overseas and Gateway offers are made based entirely on interview score.

Typical conditional offers

A level: AAA including Chemistry and either Biology, Physics or Maths.

IB: 36 points overall with 18 at Higher Level, including 6,6 at Higher Level in Chemistry and either Biology, Physics or Maths

SQA Higher and Advanced Higher: AA at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and either Biology, Physics or Maths, and AAAAB at Standard Higher.

University of Cambridge

Department of Veterinary Medicine,
Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ES

www.vet.cam.ac.uk

admissions.enquiries@vet.cam.ac.uk



Why apply to this veterinary course?

Cambridge is an exciting and welcoming place to train to be a vet, and we provide our graduates with the best clinical and scientific springboard to thrive in the enormous range of careers available to them.

A major focus of our course is its practical emphasis. From their first week our students have hands-on experience in handling and management of all the major domestic species, as well as integrated sessions in clinical examination, diagnostic imaging and ‘exotic’ species. Every year your practical skills are progressively honed with our in-house animals and using our superb facilities, and we were the first vet school to introduce an all-clinics final year – the perfect preparation for entering any veterinary career.

Our veterinary students are also immersed in the scientific environment of the world’s premier science university. You will be taught by world experts, and gain the best training available in the scientific basis of clinical practice. This is the key to being a successful, adaptable and fulfilled clinician. In particular, all our non-graduate-entry students complete a full Cambridge BA science degree in their third year in a subject of their choice (for example in animal disease, conservation biology, management studies), which is often invaluable to their future career progression and flexibility.

The ‘Cambridge experience’ is unique. All our students are members of a college: a small community of perhaps 120 students each year taking a wide range of subjects. Vet students live in their college for at least the first three, and sometimes all, years of their course, and the college often becomes their major social hub. It also provides superb sporting, recreation and academic facilities, as well as unmatched pastoral, academic and financial support. Partly because of this, Cambridge has one of the lowest ‘drop-out rates’ of any UK university.

At Cambridge you are very much treated as an individual: we take 70-or-so students each year so we soon get to know who everyone is. You receive continual individualised support and advice, including Cambridge’s unique provision of weekly small-group (two–four students) teaching. This is an involving and rewarding opportunity to pursue your interests. Later, our small class size becomes even more valuable: our clinical rotation groups are tiny, which ensures a high caseload, so more experience and confidence by the time you qualify.

Finally, Cambridge is a beautiful and enjoyable place to spend your university years, whether

you're shopping in the city's medieval streets or dodging cattle on an idyllic riverside walk. And once you have a bicycle, travel costs are zero. Our clinical school is only ten minutes' cycle from the city centre – closer than any other, so you have speedy access to all the city has to offer throughout your time here.

And remember, our admissions process focuses on aptitude for science, so if you are doing well in science/ maths subjects at school, you may find we are the vet school at which you are most likely to secure a place.

Widening participation

We are committed to widening participation. During the admissions process we have access to a large amount of contextual information about your school's previous performance and its support for pupils aiming at university, and there are several opportunities for you to inform us of any educational disadvantage you may have faced. Once here, our financial support is extremely generous. UK students from low-income households receive thousands of pounds each year from the Cambridge Bursary Scheme, as well as having access to a wide variety of hardship funds. All students can apply for funding, often generous, for travel, sport and music, and these funds can be invaluable for veterinary students, whose ability to do paid work during university vacations is limited by the need to conduct extra-mural studies, whichever vet school they attend.

The application

In numbers

- 75** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2019, including five graduates and no min. or max. number of non-UK/non-EU students
- 4** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2017 (230 applicants, 57 places)
- 8** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2017 (16 applicants, two places)

Work experience

We have no minimum requirement, but we recommend that applicants gain 10 working days' experience observing veterinary surgeons at work. Any amount above this confers no advantage. At interview we may discuss cases you have seen, and in doing so are looking for how observant, questioning and interactive you are.

Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants should be entered for the university's (free) Natural Sciences Admissions Assessment by the UCAS deadline. This test, taken in early November in an exam centre (probably your school) provides a measure of your school science and maths attainment. In the optional parts of the assessment, you should feel free to answer questions on any

discipline. See: www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/applying/admission-assessments.

Applicants will also be asked to complete the university's online Supplementary Application Questionnaire, although this asks for fairly generic (not veterinary-specific) information, such as more details about the courses you are studying at school, and whether you were able to take all the options you wished .

Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

100% academic performance, especially in science/maths, especially in the last two years of school, but also at GCSE (or equivalent) and in the admissions assessment (see above).

Interview

75–80% of applicants are interviewed. This is often two 30-minute interviews with particular focus on aptitude in science and maths subjects being taken at school, but also discussion of reading and interests, and how the applicant discusses their work experience.

Weighting of offers made after interview

60% on academic performance, 25% on interview performance relating to science and maths, 10% on interview performance relating to work experience, 5% other.

Typical conditional offers

A level: A*AA. Applicants should be taking Chemistry and one, preferably two, of Biology, Maths and Physics. Further Maths may also be counted – please contact the admissions office of the college to which you are considering applying.

IB: a total of 40–42, and 7,7,6 in higher-level or science subjects.

SQA Advanced Higher: AAA in Advanced Higher science/maths subjects.

Graduate entry

We welcome applications from graduate students, and our graduate entry course lasts five years, omitting the third year. Requirements usually include a good Honours degree (2:1 or above; science subjects are desirable), and passes in at least two science/maths A levels. Our numbers of graduate students are often quite flexible and can be increased if we receive a strong field of applicants. Graduate applicants should apply to particular Cambridge colleges. See our website for details.

University of Edinburgh

Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9RG

www.ed.ac.uk

vetug@ed.ac.uk



Why apply to this veterinary course?

At The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies we offer an integrated programme where you will be taught about large animals, small companion animals, exotics and wildlife. This allows you to broaden your understanding of different species, increases your career prospects and it also allows you the flexibility to specialise at a later stage. You will be exposed to a wide range of stimulating teaching and learning methods designed to equip you with the confidence and skills for a fulfilling career in veterinary medicine. You will be taught by some of the UK's most prominent veterinary scientists in an environment of cutting-edge veterinary research. Not only will you be studying in one of the most vibrant and cosmopolitan cities in Europe, you will also benefit from a state of the art campus that is completely devoted to veterinary medicine.

Studying veterinary medicine at Edinburgh will give you many transferable skills such as effective communication, teambuilding and an understanding of business management. Veterinary training also provides an outstanding background for those who wish to pursue a career in biomedical research, including both veterinary and human medicine. By pursuing your studies at the University of Edinburgh you will gain a qualification that is widely and internationally accredited allowing you to practise in the UK, the rest of Europe, North America, Australasia and beyond. Our programme also includes extra-mural studies (EMS). This is a core part of our programme and provides unrivalled opportunities to gain real-life work experience anywhere in the world while being a student. EMS placements allow you to put your animal handling and clinical skills into practice, increase your confidence and gain valuable insight into the real world of work. We have a team which supports you in finding appropriate EMS placements and we also offer a number of partnerships across the world, providing you with unique and international opportunities to gain outstanding experience.

You will benefit from a very close-knit community of students and a dedicated student support team that take a personal interest in your wellbeing and success. You will be assigned a school house and a personal tutor who will support you throughout your studies, providing academic advice and a route to pastoral care. First year students also benefit from peer-assisted learning models whereby more senior students facilitate discussions with junior students. With over 280 student societies to take part in, nightlife, countryside and festivals, Edinburgh is a big city with a small-town feel, which has something for everyone. You will live in one of the safest cities in Europe and one which is regularly voted as one of the most

desirable places to live in the world. Edinburgh offers you an incredible opportunity to experience an exceptional education in a multi-cultural and thriving environment.

Widening participation

At Edinburgh, we are committed to attracting the best students no matter what background they come from. It believes that diversity is educationally as well as socially desirable, enriching the educational experience for all. We want to ensure that applicants are not held back by barriers, and we therefore seek to attract a wide range of applicants from different social, cultural and educational backgrounds. This is known as contextual admissions, as it enables the university to consider students' achievements in context. Further information can be found at www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applying/selection/contextual-admissions.

The application

In numbers

- 117** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2019, including 72 UK/EU students and 45 non-UK/non-EU students
- 11** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2017 (794 applicants, 72 places)
- 5** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2017 (160 applicants, 35 places)

Work experience

We do not ask for specific types or a number of days or weeks for work experience as it depends, to some extent, on the opportunities available to individual candidates. However, the broader the experience the better, but not to the detriment of academic studies. Candidates should however gain both veterinary practice and animal work experience. More than two weeks of animal-related work experience with any one species confers no further advantage. Variety and demonstration of value gained is more highly valued than actual time spent. See: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/5-year-programme/non-academic-requirements Work experience information is derived from the Work Experience Summary (WES). See: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/wes-form.

Tests and questionnaires before interview

Only Work Experience Summary (WES) prior to the deadline of 22 October.

Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

30% on academic performance, 20% on extracurricular (information derived from references and personal statement), 30% veterinary work experience, 20% animal-related work experience.

Interview

53% of applicants were eligible for interview in 2017–2018. Multiple-mini interviews are used with seven stations at 10 minutes each (two stations unstaffed task-based; five stations were one-on-one interviews). See: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/5-year-programme/edvetinterviews.

Weighting of offers made after interview

100% of the offer is based on interview score.

Typical conditional offers

All candidates must have Physics at GCSE/National 5 or equivalent.

A level: AAA to include Chemistry, Biology and one other university-approved subject: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements.

IB: an overall score of 38 points with 6,6,6 in Chemistry, Biology and one other higher-level subject.

SQA Higher and Advanced Higher: AAAAB Higher including Chemistry (A), Biology (A) and either Maths or Physics to be achieved by the end of S5. If Biology has not been studied in S5, it should be taken in S6 to Higher level. BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and another science subject.

Graduate entry

Four-year BVM&S Graduate Entry Programme (August start)

Target: 45 UK/EU and non-UK/non-EU graduates

Applications/entrants: 324/54 = 16.7%

An upper second class Honours degree (or equivalent) or an overall GPA of 3.4 (four point scale) in an appropriate biological or animal science subject which includes high grades in prerequisites subjects. See: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/4-year-programme/academic-requirements.

University of Glasgow

College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine,
464 Bearsden Road, Glasgow G61 1QH

www.gla.ac.uk

vet-sch-admissions@glasgow.ac.uk



Why apply to this veterinary course?

The University of Glasgow's School of Veterinary Medicine is pre-eminent in teaching, research and clinical provision, and attracts students, researchers and clinicians from around the world.

In 2017 the University of Glasgow was voted Scottish University of the Year

The veterinary school was founded in 1862 and is located on the 80-hectare Garscube campus at the northwest boundary of the city, four miles from the university's Gilmorehill campus. It has a 190-hectare commercial farm and research Centre at Cochno, 15 minutes from Garscube (five miles north).

The BVMS programme is based on integration of clinical and science subject areas and has a spiral course structure, meaning that you will revisit topics as you progress through the programme, each time with increasing clinical focus. In conjunction, there is a vertical theme of professional and clinical skills development to help you acquire the personal qualities and skills you will need in professional environments.

The programme is delivered over five years and is divided into three phases: Foundation phase (years 1 and 2), Clinical phase (years 3 and 4), Professional phase (year 5).

In your final year there are no lectures and the primary emphasis is on small-group involvement in clinical activity, covering the common species of domestic animals. During this time you will be involved in all aspects of work in our busy hospitals and you will also gain first-hand experience in practices linked to the veterinary school. Though this year of the programme is structured so that you will receive clinical experience in core clinical areas, there is also the opportunity to focus on personal interests or explore the breadth of opportunities in the veterinary profession by choosing two 'selective' experiences. Selectives may be used to gain experience in niche veterinary activities (such as aquaculture) or to gain in-depth clinical experience related to core subjects.

We have approved status from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), which enables you to have the option of practising in the USA or Canada following graduation, without the need for sitting lengthy and costly clinical proficiency examinations. A veterinary degree from the University of Glasgow will allow you to practise veterinary medicine.

We have a diverse student populations and the support you will receive from both students and staff is unique.

All students have an academic mentor as well as a student buddy. Glasgow has also pioneered a 'peer support' network, where students are trained to support each other through any difficult times.

Joining Glasgow University Veterinary School is like joining a family – everyone is here for you no matter what your difficulties.

Widening participation

The University of Glasgow has always been, and always will be, interested in your potential rather than circumstance or background. If you have the potential, drive and ambition to succeed, we will do all we can to support you to realise your aspirations, overcome barriers and fulfil your promise. In particular, the REACH programme works with S4–S6 pupils in 95 schools across the west of Scotland who have an interest in and ability to study a professional degree in veterinary medicine and surgery. The REACH programme will ensure that you are well prepared for the transition to university. Participants gain an understanding of career pathways, experiences of university learning and teaching, support with every aspect of the application process and advice from staff and students on becoming a vet. All REACH programme applicants who meet the minimum entry requirements in S5 are guaranteed an interview, but this does not guarantee a place on the course.

The application

In numbers

- 125** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2019, including 73 UK/EU students and 52 non-UK/non-EU students
- 11** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2017 (790 applicants, 73 places)
- 6** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2017 (348 applicants, 55 places)

Work experience

We require approximately six weeks of animal-related work experience, two of which should be with a veterinary surgeon.

Tests and questionnaires before interview

Confidential reference from a veterinary surgeon, and work experience report form.

Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

30% on academic performance, 20% on extracurricular (information derived from references and personal statement), 30% on veterinary work experience, 20% on animal-related work experience.

Interview

75% of applicants were interviewed in 2017–2018. The interview consists of two 15-minute interviews with particular focus on resilience in the first and a further discussion on what you have learned from your work experience in the second. The interviews are followed by a 30-minute Ethical Reasoning test, which is done on computer.

Weighting of offers made after interview

50% of weighting is on the interview and 50% is on Ethical Reasoning scores.

Typical conditional offers

A level: A*AA, including Chemistry and Biology.

IB: an overall score of 38 with Chemistry at Higher Level 6, Biology at Higher Level 6 and Maths or Physics at Standard Level 5.

SQA Higher and Advanced Higher: AAAAB at Higher to include Chemistry, Biology and either Physics or Maths. BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and Biology.

University of Liverpool

**Institute of Veterinary Science,
Thompson Yates Building, University of
Liverpool, Liverpool L69 3GB**

www.liverpool.ac.uk

vetadmit@liverpool.ac.uk



Why apply to this veterinary course?

The University of Liverpool's veterinary school was the first of the UK veterinary schools to be part of a university, and the first to offer a degree in veterinary science. Building on this outstanding tradition, the Institute of Veterinary Science has a continuing commitment to innovative veterinary education and research, giving students a fantastic start to their veterinary careers.

The institute offers in-depth clinical and research-based training from world-renowned experts in their various fields. Our two campuses offer students the opportunity to experience the full range of student activities and facilities while based on the Liverpool campus (years 1–3) and also to be immersed in the clinical setting while based at the Leahurst campus on the Wirral Peninsula (years 4 and 5). Leahurst is the location of our referral hospitals (small animal and equine), our two farms (one dairy, one mixed with beef cattle, pigs and sheep) and our first-opinion equine practice and farm animal practice (which also has hospitalisation facilities). Our first-opinion small animal clinic is based in Liverpool. Students are able to access all of these facilities across the course on campus, where the focus is teaching the veterinary surgeons of the future, through excellence in clinical practice, equally balanced across the three main disciplines: equine, farm animal, and small animal veterinary medicine and surgery.

Students at the University of Liverpool have the opportunity of experiencing all the aspects of student life while at our city centre campus, based in 'the friendliest city in the UK', including sport facilities and teams, and a huge array of societies under the umbrella of the Guild of Students, from drum and bass to quidditch, astronomy to potholing, there is something for everyone! There are also the Liverpool University Veterinary Society, Veterinary Zoological Society and others for those interested in different clinical areas.

Our students value their academic experience. In the most recent National Student Survey for veterinary science at the University of Liverpool, 97% of our students were satisfied overall with their course. The University of Liverpool was ranked fifth globally in 2017 for Veterinary Science by the QS World University Rankings, which are based on academic reputation, employer reputation and research impact.

A great city to live in, with fantastic surrounding countryside and national parks, an internationally recognised institute with a fantastic range of on-campus facilities and the opportunity to take full advantage of all the student experience has to offer. We look forward to your application to study veterinary science at the University of Liverpool!

Widening participation

The University of Liverpool's Foundation to Health and Veterinary Studies (year 0) is available to candidates who are interested in clinical sciences, including the BVSc degree, for which there are five places each year. Candidates typically have had a break from education, or did not complete post-16 education, and do not hold qualifications that would be considered for direct entry onto the BVSc degree. Applicants are required to have five GCSEs at grade B, including Maths, English and Science. We also consider applications for the BVSc course from candidates who have completed or are undertaking certain 'access to higher education' diplomas. If you are interested in either of these routes of entry, please contact us for further details.

The application

In numbers

- 160** The target number of places on the main (non-gateway) veterinary course for 2019, with no minimum or maximum for graduates or non-UK/non-EU students
- 6** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2017 (908 applicants, 162 places)
- 38** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2017 (76 applicants, two places)

Work experience

The University of Liverpool requires that applicants have a variety of experience, to include three weeks husbandry experience (comprising at least three different establishments or experiences) and two weeks veterinary clinical experience (to include two different practices, or two different species groups). More details are available from www.liverpool.ac.uk/veterinary-science/undergraduate/prospective-applicants.

Tests and questionnaires before interview

Details of your work experience must be provided via our online questionnaire by 20 October, available at www.liverpool.ac.uk/veterinary-science/undergraduate/prospective-applicants.

Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

All applicants who meet or are predicted to meet the academic criteria, and have undertaken the required amount and variety of work experience, will be invited for interview.

Interview

70–80% of applicants are interviewed. We use a multiple-mini interview format in which applicants discuss various topics with different members of staff or veterinary surgeons, for example scientific research, knowledge of the profession, your work experience, welfare, ethics and extra-curricular activities. Short written questionnaires or numeracy tests may also be included in the interview process.

Weighting of offers made after interview

All interviewed candidates are given serious consideration. Offers are made on the basis of performance at interview. Each station is scored; some stations may have a minimum acceptable score, otherwise all stations carry equal weighting and candidates with the highest scores are made offers.

Typical conditional offers

A level: AAA, including Biology and one other science-related subject (for example Chemistry, Maths, Geography, Physics, Psychology), plus a third subject (any subject considered excluding general studies and critical thinking). If the second science is not Chemistry, AS level Chemistry is required at grade B.

BTEC (Edexcel/Pearson) National Extended Diploma in Animal Management: DDD overall, plus Chemistry AS (or A) level at grade B or above.

IB: Overall 36, to include 6,6,6 in higher-level subjects, including Biology and Chemistry.

SQA Higher and Advanced Higher: BB at Advanced Higher in Biology/Chemistry, plus AAB in three other Higher subjects.

GCSE (or equivalent): AAABBBB (or 7776666) to include Maths, English and Physics or dual award science.

Graduate entry

Due to the integrated nature of the programme, graduates complete the same five-year course. Graduates are required to have an upper second class (2:1) degree, and A levels in Biology and Chemistry (grades BB for BSc graduates; AA for BA graduates)

Royal Veterinary College

Royal College Street, London, NW1 0TU

www.rvc.ac.uk

admissions@rvc.ac.uk



Why apply to this veterinary course?

The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVetMed) programme offers world-leading scientific and clinical training in veterinary medicine. This exciting course builds on our extensive veterinary history, and takes a fresh approach in bringing together technological change, clinical and scientific progress, and stimulating teaching and learning methods.

If you graduate from the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine programme, you will be registered with the RCVS and be able to practise as a veterinary surgeon in the UK. You could also apply to practise in the EU (if you are an EU national), Australia and New Zealand, and have the opportunity to sit the NAVLE exam to practise in North America.

You will gain a thorough understanding of the science underpinning veterinary practice and research, and develop fundamental problem solving, communication and team-working skills. In our busy RVC hospitals and collaborative practices, you will gain the broadest and best possible practical experience.

This comprehensive programme will help you acquire an understanding of the basic biological principles of normal body function and disease, and the ability to distinguish the pathological from the normal, to prevent disease and safely manage the processes of animal production. You will also explore opportunities to further veterinary knowledge through research, and develop the expertise to diagnose and treat disease and alleviate suffering along with the professional skills you need to work and communicate effectively in practice.

In the first two years, you will primarily be based at the Camden Campus studying basic veterinary sciences, acquiring introductory skills in handling and examining horses, farm animals and companion animals as well as developing your communication and team-working skills. In your third, fourth and fifth year you will mainly be based at our Hawkshead Campus where you will acquire knowledge and practical skills in clinical science necessary for you to participate fully in clinical practice at the RVC, collaborative practices, and in private veterinary practice.

Widening participation

Our Veterinary Gateway course is aimed at students who want to study veterinary medicine but who might not otherwise meet our entry requirements. The programme integrates an additional preparatory year designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills you need to study veterinary medicine. The Gateway programme has been running for about 10 years and we currently aim to place 50 students on this course due to its increasing popularity. Typical qualifications include but are not exclusive to five GCSEs at grade 4 (C) and three Cs at A level. You must also meet all of our Route A or Route B requirements that can be found alongside the more specific academic requirements on our website.

The application

In numbers

- 270** The target number of places on the main (non-gateway) veterinary course for 2019, including 100 graduates and approximately 125 non-UK/non-EU students
- 5** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2017 (839 applicants, 165 places)
- 4** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2017 (368 applicants, 100 places)

Work experience

You will need to have prior work experience in order to have developed animal handling skills and obtained an insight into the work of veterinary surgeons. Before you apply, you must have completed a minimum of:

- 70 hours of work experience (paid or voluntary) in one or more veterinary practices
- 70 hours in a variety of different animal environments (excluding your home environment, family business or pet ownership)

This work experience must be obtained within the 18-month period directly preceding the application deadline. Earlier experience is welcome but will not count towards our requirements.

Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants are required to submit a work experience questionnaire, detailing relevant work experience, when applying. All applicants (except North American students applying through VMCAS) must complete the online work experience questionnaire and submit it directly to the admissions team by 15 October.

Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

We start by looking at the compulsory work experience form to see if the applicant has submitted this on time and meets the specified requirements. We then move on to the UCAS application checking academic, contextual and written suitability. The applicant is then given an overall mark that is checked against the rest of the cohort to see if they meet the threshold score for interview.

Interview

Approximately 35–40% of our applicants are interviewed. Interviews are conducted in a multiple-mini interview format. Further to this, there is an observed group task that combined with the multiple-mini interviews will give them an overall score that we then use to make offers.

Weighting of offers made after interview

You can find our most up to date process on the website.

Typical conditional offers

A level: AAA–AAB with Biology (A) and Chemistry (A), and a third subject of your choice excluding General Studies.

IB: 7,6,6 in higher-level Biology, Chemistry and a third subject of your choice.

SQA Advanced Higher: AA or AB at Advanced Higher in Biology and Chemistry.

Graduate entry

Our four-year BVetMed Graduated Accelerated programme is aimed at students with an upper second class (2:1) honours degree in an appropriate biological science subject. This is open to both UK and international applicants: www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bvetmed-graduate-accelerated.

University of Nottingham

School of Veterinary Medicine and Science, College Road, Sutton Bonington, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 5RD

www.nottingham.ac.uk

veterinary-enquiries@nottingham.ac.uk



Why apply to this veterinary course?

We provide a fresh approach to veterinary education with a progressive and dynamic environment, which delivers an outstanding student experience. We offer three exciting and innovative degree courses which are designed with clinical outcomes in mind and based on excellence in teaching informed by scientific research.

The five-year course (D100) leads students from day one through a clinically integrated programme covering all of the common domestic, wildlife and exotic species. Our philosophy is that your education needs to be hands-on, bringing you into contact with animals and clinical case scenarios from the very beginning of your course. With this in mind, you will spend a lot of your time in our purpose-built clinical teaching facilities as well as working with our local Clinical Associates, the existing on-site agricultural facilities and the adjacent Veterinary Laboratories Agency.

The six-year course (D104) includes a Preliminary Year, which provides students with the relevant knowledge of biology, chemistry, animal health and husbandry required for later years of the course. See: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/veterinarymedicineandscience/veterinary-medicine-surgery-preliminary-year.aspx.

The six-year course (D190) includes a Gateway Year, which provides an opportunity to upskill capable students who might not otherwise consider entry to the profession. Students gain the relevant scientific knowledge required for the later years of the course. This fundamental scientific understanding will be set in the context of animal structure, function, health and husbandry. Students will also develop animal handling and an appreciation of the role of animals in society. See: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/veterinarymedicineandscience/veterinary-medicine-surgery-gateway-year.aspx.

For both the six-year courses above, years 2 to 6 follow the curriculum of the five-year course.

If you aim to work in the veterinary profession, we strongly encourage you to consider applying to study veterinary medicine and surgery here at Nottingham. We believe that our courses, which integrate clinical medicine and surgery with pathology and basic sciences, ensure that a University of Nottingham graduate gains the best possible foundations on which to build their future career.

Widening participation

Contextual offers (AAB in any order) are made to applicants meeting two of the widening participation criteria detailed on our website. See: www.nottingham.ac.uk/ugstudy/courses/veterinarymedicineandscience/veterinary-medicine-surgery-gateway-year.aspx.

Applicants who meet three of the criteria may be eligible for our Gateway programme. The Gateway course is open to UK students only. We do not consider graduate students for this programme. We will only consider applicants entering higher education for the first time.

The application

In numbers

- 160** The target number of places on the main (non-Gateway) veterinary course for 2019, including 100 graduates and approximately 125 non-UK/non-EU students
- 6** The number of UK/EU applicants per place in 2017 (1,284 applicants, 201 places)
- 2** The number of non-UK/non-EU applicants per place in 2017 (201 applicants, 128 places)

Work experience

We require at least four weeks animal handling work experience, from the broadest range possible, before you apply. We would expect that you have some experience in one or more vet practices with small and large animals. We do not mind if work experience is carried out over varying hours or days. Five days of work experience equals one week of experience.

Tests and questionnaires before interview

Applicants are required to complete three supporting questionnaires.

- Widening participation and work experience detail collection
- Motivation, ability, attitude and attribute assessment
- Situational Judgement Test

These are to be completed within one week of the 15 October deadline and will be emailed to you once your UCAS form is submitted. See: www.nottingham.ac.uk/vet/prospectivestudents/undergraduate/admissions.aspx.

Weighting of criteria used for calling for interview

Selection for interview will be on the basis of those candidates with the overall best profile of attributes from:

- Academic ability
- UCAS statements and further information
- Motivation, ability, attitude and attribute assessment
- Situational Judgement Test

Interview

Approximately 33% of applicants, or the top 600, will be invited to interview. 20-minute interview about the depth of motivation, insight into a veterinary career and interest in veterinary topics. 20-minute practical aptitude activity where applicants should expect to deal with animal material and clinical information. 20-minute group activity.

Weighting of offers made after interview

Offers are made on performance from the assessment day (100%). All assessment centre data is compiled and standardised to reduce any differences in marking between assessors. Students are then ranked for offers.

Typical conditional offers

A level: A in Biology, A in Chemistry, B in a third subject (excluding general studies, critical thinking, global perspectives and citizenship studies)

IB: a total of 34, with 6 in Biology, 6 in Chemistry, 5 in a third subject at higher level

SQA Advanced Higher: AA in Advanced Higher Biology and Chemistry

Graduate entry

We do not offer a specific graduate-entry route to veterinary medicine, however, science graduates are welcome to apply for the five-year D100 course. Typical entry requirements for science graduates are for a 2:1 in any BSc degree, supported by B grades in both Biology and Chemistry at A level. We also require a minimum of grade B in GCSE Maths and English.