

# High School Students

To prepare for application to the College of Veterinary Medicine, high school students begin by gaining veterinary experience, taking college prep courses with as much science as possible, maintaining excellent grades, and planning their undergraduate classes in order to complete the foundational coursework. Students can also benefit by taking on leadership roles in clubs and organizations.



## CONTACTS AT ISU CVM

**Recruitment Coordinator**  
futuredvm@iastate.edu  
515-294-1528

**Coordinator of Admissions**  
cvmadmissions@iastate.edu  
515-294-6808

REQUIRED FOUNDATIONAL COURSES (PREREQUISITES)*	SEMESTER HOURS REQUIRED	QUARTER HOURS REQUIRED
English Composition	6 sem cr	9 qtr cr
Oral Communication	3 sem cr	4-5 qtr cr
General Chemistry I + Lab & General Chemistry II	7 sem cr	11-12 qtr cr
Organic Chemistry I + Lab	4 sem cr	6 qtr cr
Biochemistry	3 sem cr	4 qtr cr
Physics I + Lab	4 sem cr	6 qtr cr
General Biology I & II (Organismal and Cellular) + Labs	8 sem cr	12 qtr cr
Genetics	3 sem cr	4-5 qtr cr
Mammalian Anatomy and/or Physiology	3 sem cr	4-5 qtr cr
Arts, Humanities and/or Social Sciences	6 sem cr	9 qtr cr
Electives	8 sem cr	12 qtr cr
Additional 9 Science Hours		
Upper Division Biomedical Science Courses** (300/3000 or higher-level courses)	9 sem cr	12-14 qtr cr



\*A bachelor's degree is not required for admission.

Please see the website for detailed descriptions of required foundational courses.

\*\*Scan QR code for additional details on Upper Division Biomedical Science Courses.

## AP Courses

Advanced placement credit is accepted for required course work provided the AP credit has been accepted by a college or university for credit toward courses equivalent to our requirements. This should be marked on the college or university transcript or a copy of your AP scores should be sent to the Office of Admissions when you apply to veterinary school. Enrolling in AP courses that are on the prerequisite list is another great way to lessen student debt. Please be sure to check with our admissions office if you're planning on using AP credit for a science prerequisite.

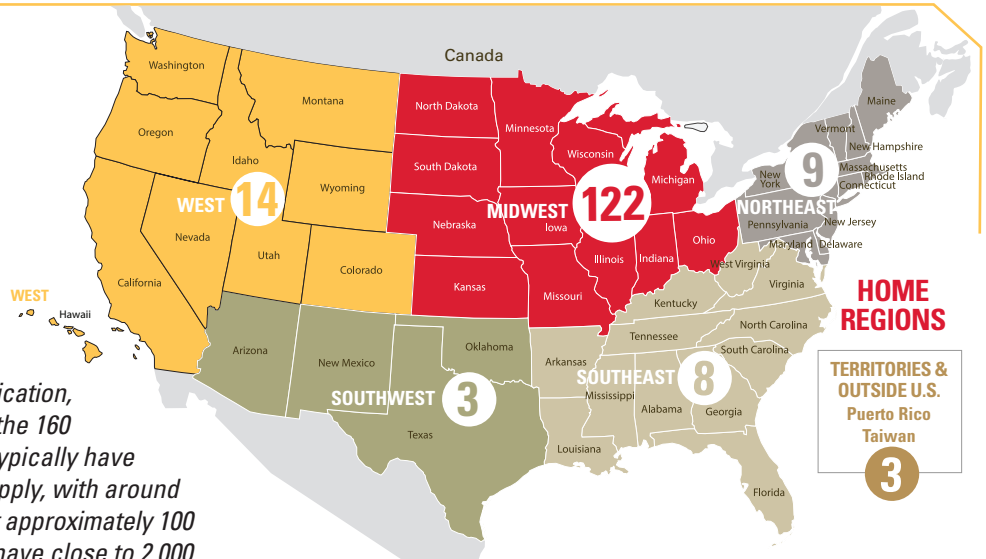


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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT  
[vetmed.iastate.edu/future-dvm-students](http://vetmed.iastate.edu/future-dvm-students)



# Frequently Asked Questions



**Q:** How difficult is it to get into the College of Veterinary Medicine?

**A:** While it does take hard work and dedication, it's not impossible to become one of the 160 students who are admitted each year. We typically have between 150 and 200 Iowa residents who apply, with around 60 in-state students admitted. We also admit approximately 100 out-of-state students each year. While we have close to 2,000 qualified applications, our waitlist tends to move quickly since most students apply to multiple veterinary schools.

**Q:** When should I apply to veterinary school?

**A:** Students apply to veterinary school a full calendar year before they wish to start. This typically occurs between the student's junior and senior years in their undergraduate career as the application process is open from mid-May to mid-September. Iowa State's College of Veterinary Medicine does not require a bachelor's degree to be accepted. Students may choose to apply once they have completed or nearly completed the required foundational coursework.

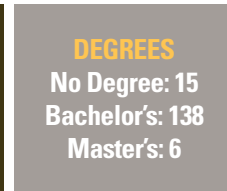
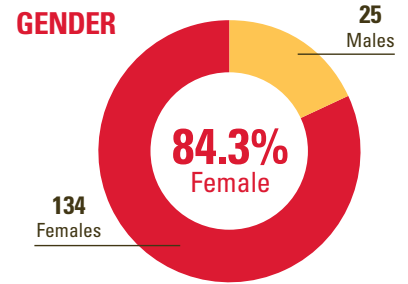
**Q:** What should my major be?

**A:** At many colleges and universities, pre-veterinary medicine is an option, not a major. Students can work toward a degree in any field that interests them. Our most common degrees are animal science and biology, but we annually admit students with majors in business, fine arts, economics, journalism and many more as long as students have completed foundational classes in their coursework. We do not give preference to any undergraduate major when admitting our incoming class.

**Q:** Do my chances of getting into the College of Veterinary Medicine increase if I go to Iowa State for my undergraduate degree?

**A:** No. We do not select our class based on which school a student attends for their undergraduate education. We recommend students find a college or university which best suits their interests and personality. Many colleges and universities, Iowa State University included, have resources for students interested in veterinary medicine including pre-veterinary and pre-health professions clubs. These clubs help students connect with experience opportunities, professionals in their area of interest, and much more. When choosing an undergraduate institution, students should inquire about pre-veterinary resources.

## CLASS 2027 PROFILE



**Q:** I've heard that I need experience to be admitted to veterinary school. When can I start getting that experience?

**A:** Yes, you'll need between 200-500 hours of quality (well-rounded) experience before you apply to Iowa State's College of Veterinary Medicine. You can start that experience now, even in high school. You should keep a journal or log of those hours including any insight you may have gained from those experiences. We are looking for veterinary experience that shows interaction between the applicant and clients and veterinarians.



For more information, please email:  
futuresvm@iastate.edu