



## Veterinary

### **Q: What should I major in?**

A: There is no required major for Pre-Vet students nor is there a general, Pre-Vet major offered at Texas A&M. Because of that, you should major in whatever subject most interests you. The most common majors for Pre-Vet students are Animal Science, Biomedical Science, and Wildlife and Fisheries since many of the prerequisite courses (found [here](#)) are included in your degree plan. Know that your GPA in the prerequisite and science courses is particularly important as that is what schools will use to compare between applicants of all majors.

\*Note a non-science major does not put you at a competitive disadvantage. You will just have to work with your academic advisor to incorporate some of the prerequisite classes into your schedule.

### **Q: Can I take a course at a community college?**

A: Yes, taking a class at community college is acceptable. Know that while the grade earned at a community college does not count on your TAMU transcript, the grade earned will be calculated into your GPA when you apply to Veterinary school. Use this to your advantage and get A's in any courses you take at community college to help raise your overall GPA.

\*Note before enrolling in a community college course, check [here](#) to make sure the course has a transfer course equivalency at Texas A&M

### **Q: Should I accept AP or IB credit?**

A: Accepting college credit can be beneficial. Most Vet Schools do prefer that most pre-requisite courses be taken at a four-year college, especially the sciences classes. However, talk to your academic advisor and PSA advisor before accepting credit for any course. You want to make sure that the credit you are accepting counts towards your degree.

\*Note that once you accept credit for a course, you cannot un-accept it so make sure you meet with your academic advisor and fully discuss this.

### **Q: When should I take the GRE?**

A: You should take the GRE in the spring or summer of the year you are applying. For more information on the GRE, visit [this website](#). Some vet schools are no longer requiring the GRE. Please check the schools' website.

\*Note if you are wanting to enroll in Veterinary school in the fall immediately following graduation, this would mean taking the GRE in the spring of your junior year or the summer before senior year.

### **Q: What do veterinary school application committees consider other than my GPA and GRE score when I apply?**

A: The biggest factor in a veterinary school application, other than GPA and GRE score, is both animal and veterinary experience. You must have spent time with both large and small animals. Veterinary experience must be supervised by a DVM.

\*Note a competitive application will include work history, leadership skills demonstrated through on and off campus involvement, community service and involvement, and academic achievements and awards.

### **Q: How do I get shadowing hours?**

A: The best way to get shadowing hours is to do it in your hometown since the opportunities in College Station are limited due to the large number of students in the Bryan-College Station area. Some ways to find shadowing opportunities is to directly approach veterinarians and to ask zoos or animal shelters who their veterinarian is. When shadowing, try to work alongside the veterinarian and build a relationship with them so that you can continue to gain veterinary experience.

\*Note working with a large variety in animals (i.e. not just working with household pets) makes you more competitive for Veterinary schools

**Q: Does the Texas A&M Veterinary School have a preference for Texas A&M undergraduates?**

A: No, the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine does not show preference to Texas A&M undergraduates. However, like all professional schools, TAMU Veterinary School is always looking for intelligent, compassionate, and capable applicants. An undergraduate education at Texas A&M is a great foundation for a competitive veterinary school application. TAMU's strong academic reputation and emphasis on selfless service provide great opportunities for you to excel as an applicant.

\*Note, although there is no preference during the application process, around 50% of the TAMU Veterinary School's entering class are A&M students every year.