



Cornell University
College of Veterinary Medicine

The Transfer Application






Cornell University

College of Veterinary Medicine

Transfer Student Application

Instructions

- Complete the Transfer Student Application and sign the last page of the application. Read and sign the Essential Skills and Abilities statement (at the end of this application.) VMCAS not required for this application.
 - Email a copy of the full application including the hand signed Essential Skills and Abilities statement, by **June 1st or October 1st**. Application fee of \$65 (Check or money order made payable to Cornell University) can be sent separately to the address below. Note: All application materials and supporting documents must be received by the above dates to be considered.
 - Request your transcripts, which must be sent directly from the Registrar(s) Office(s) from all colleges directly to the DVM Admissions Office. This includes all undergraduate transcripts, graduate transcripts, and an updated transcript from the veterinary college from which you are seeking to transfer.
 - If using AP Chemistry or Physics (score of 4 or higher) for the general chemistry and/or general physics prerequisite courses, request official scores from the College Board, which must be sent directly to College Code 4818.
 - Print or email copies of the evaluation forms to give them to your evaluators to complete and send in by the deadline. (Note: You should provide at least one evaluation per experience listed in Question 11). Links to the evaluation forms are found in the body of the application. Note: at least one letter from a veterinarian is required.
 - New York State residents, please complete the NY State Residency form at the following link and send in by the deadline: <https://www.vet.cornell.edu/education/doctor-veterinary-medicine/admissions/requirements>
 - International applicants, please review and provide information found at the following link: <https://www.vet.cornell.edu/education/doctor-veterinary-medicine/admissions/international-students>
- Applicants seeking advanced standing must include a letter from their **Associate Dean** certifying that the student is in good academic standing, has not been on academic probation, and has not been subject to any disciplinary action or dismissal for any reason.
-  If you are having trouble filling out the Transfer Student Application, please download the free Adobe Acrobat Reader at: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>



Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine

Application for Transfer

1. Name in Full:

Please state any other name which may appear on documents we will receive:

2. Telephone Number(s)

3. Email Address:

4. Addresses

Current Address:

Permanent Address:

Are you a U. S. Citizen? Yes No

Place of Birth:

What is your U.S. State of Legal Residence?

How long have you lived in this State?

When did your residency in this State begin?

Are you a Canadian citizen? Yes No

Citizenship:

Non-citizen status:

Visa type:

Alien Registration Number:

Issued in:

On:

5. Date of Birth:

6. Gender: Male Female

Veteran/Military Information

7. **Military:** **Yes** **No**

(If you answered **Yes** please answer the questions below, if **No** please skip this page)

What is your Military Status?

Active Military

US Veteran

US Military Reservist

US Military Dependent

Definitions

Active Duty: Currently serving on active duty in any branch of United States Armed Services.

National Guard: Currently serving in the National Guard of any United States military branch.

Reserve: Currently serving in the Reserves of any United States military branch.

Veteran: Please select "Veteran" if you have served in any military branch of the United States Armed Services, received honorable discharge and have not already selected any of the options above (i.e., Active Duty, National Guard or Reserve).

8. **Ethnicity/Race:** (Optional)

Ethnicity (Optional)

- ☐ Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity
- ☐ No Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity

Race (Optional)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ White/Middle Eastern

9. **Number of Colleges Attended:**

An official transcript is required from each college attended to be sent to our office directly from each institution by the deadline date. We also accept electronic transcripts from college registrar's.

9A. Letter from Dean, Associate Dean, or their designate at your current College of Veterinary Medicine certifying that you are in good academic standing, have not been on academic probation, and have not been subject to any disciplinary action or dismissal for any reason.

10A. ***Number of Animal/Veterinary/Biomedical Research Letters of Evaluation** that will be forwarded to our office to support your application

Animal/Vet/Biomedical Evaluation: Please go to our website to get the form:

<https://www2.vet.cornell.edu/education/doctor-veterinary-medicine/prospective-students/transfer-students>

(Send the above link to your evaluator or print a copy of the form and send to your evaluator to complete and return to us by the deadline.) Letters may be attached to the form.

* The Admissions Committee requires evaluations from EACH veterinary, animal, biomedical research related experience listed in the next section, for the experience to be considered. Since the Admissions Committee wants to give full consideration to your experience in these areas, we ask that you list all work experiences, either voluntary or paid, in chronological order, (most recent first). If you list an experience more than once, because of multiple letters, do not duplicate the total hours worked/volunteered. (Example: Applicant worked a total of 500 hours; 300 with first evaluator; 200 with second evaluator; not 500 with both). Additional experiences can be listed in Section 11B without letters.

10 A. CONTINUED

Biomedical Research is valued but not required for DVM admission.

*Please do not list any experience for which you can not provide a letter of evaluation. If you need additional space please feel free to include extra sheets.

Name of Employing Practice/Firm/ Organization	
Address	
Phone	
Work Setting	
Primary Species	
Secondary Species	
Total Hours Worked	
List your duties and responsibilities: (Estimate the percentage of time spent on each, e.g., taking vital stats (15%), prepare and administer medication (15%), drawing blood (15%), monitoring recovering patients (15%), running lab work (10%) animal restraint (30%).	
Dates Employed	
Supervisor's Name	
Name on Evaluation Form	

Name of Employing Practice/Firm/Organization	
Address	
Phone	
Work Setting	
Primary Species	
Secondary Species	
Total Hours Worked	
List your duties and responsibilities: (Estimate the percentage of time spent on each, e.g., taking vital stats (15%), prepare and administer medication (15%), drawing blood (15%), monitoring recovering patients (15%), running lab work (10%) animal restraint (30%).	
Dates Employed	
Supervisor's Name	
Name on Evaluation Form	

10 B. Additional Animal/Veterinary Experience (*WITHOUT* evaluation letters).

If you need additional space, please feel free to include extra sheets.

Name of Employing Practice/Firm/ Organization	
Address	
Work Setting	
Primary Species	
Secondary Species	
Total Hours Worked	
List your duties and responsibilities: (Estimate the percentage of time spent on each, e.g., taking vital stats (15%), prepare and administer medication (15%), drawing blood (15%), monitoring recovering patients (15%), running lab work (10%) animal restraint (30%).	
Dates Employed	

Name of Employing Practice/Firm/ Organization	
Address	
Work Setting	
Primary Species	
Secondary Species	
Total Hours Worked	
List your duties and responsibilities: (Estimate the percentage of time spent on each, e.g., taking vital stats (15%), prepare and administer medication (15%), drawing blood (15%), monitoring recovering patients (15%), running lab work (10%) animal restraint (30%).	
Dates Employed	

Name of Employing Practice/Firm/ Organization	
Address	
Work Setting	
Primary Species	
Secondary Species	
Total Hours Worked	
List your duties and responsibilities: (Estimate the percentage of time spent on each, e.g., taking vital stats (15%), prepare and administer medication (15%), drawing blood (15%), monitoring recovering patients (15%), running lab work (10%) animal restraint (30%).	
Dates Employed	

11. Employer Evaluations/Non-veterinary related work experience. (optional)

(This section is optional and is provided for those who wish to submit additional evaluations.)

Please go to our website to get the form:

<https://www.vet.cornell.edu/education/doctor-veterinary-medicine/prospective-students/transfer-students>

(Send the above link to your evaluator or print a copy of the form and send to your evaluator to complete and return to us by the deadline.) Letters may be attached to the form.

Name of evaluator	Company/Organization	Responsibilities
-------------------	----------------------	------------------

C. Have you ever been fired or dismissed by an employer?	Yes	No
--	-----	----

If yes, please include an explanation:

12. College Information:

A. Did you graduate from High School?

No

Yes High School Name:

B. List in chronological order (starting with your veterinary college) all colleges and universities you have attended. Under "GPA Credits" do not count pass/fail or other credits which do not affect the GPA (if more than 3 colleges, please add a separate page).

Institution	Total Credits	GPA Credits	GPA	Dates of Attendance	Degree Received or Anticipated	Major

C. If you have a double major/minor, indicate the major/minor here and (if it is not stated on your transcript) attach a letter from your registrar confirming this fact:

D. If you have an honors thesis or honors program, indicate here the honors thesis and/or program and (if it is not stated on your transcript) attach a letter from your registrar confirming this fact:

E. Are you a first generation college student?

Yes

No

F. If your college education was interrupted, briefly explain for how long and for what reason (s):

G. Have you ever been dismissed from, placed on probation at, or otherwise disciplined by an educational institution? Yes No

H. List any awards or recognition you have received since high school for excellence in scholarship:

13. Prerequisite Courses

Transfer students are expected to have completed all the required undergraduate Prerequisite Courses to enter our DVM curriculum. All required courses must be completed by the end of term before matriculation with course titles similar to those listed below. If your course titles are different, submit a *Prerequisite Substitution Form* found on our web site at:

[Prerequisite Substitution Form](#)

All prerequisite courses must be taken for a grade (C- or higher) and for credit, not pass/fail, S/U or narrative. AP credit means "Advanced Placement" can be used for General Chemistry and Physics (score of 4 or higher). If you have AP for Biology or writing intensive courses the expectation is you would have advanced courses to meet these requirements.

Prerequisite Courses:

- > Full year of English Composition or Writing Intensive Courses
- > Full year of Biology with Labs
- > Full Year of Chemistry with Labs
- > Full Year of Physics with Labs
- > One semester or two quarters of Organic Chemistry
- > Biochemistry (4 semester credits or 6 quarter credits)
- > One semester or two quarters of an Advanced Life Science (see list of courses on our web site)

14. Summary of Research and Teaching Experience. **

(Optional - DO NOT repeat experiences listed in Question 11.)

Please list in chronological order (most recent first).

Dates	Institution	Position	Responsibilities
-------	-------------	----------	------------------

** If you require more space to describe your experiences, please enclose a separate page.

15. Extracurricular/Co-curricular/Community Service Activities and Organizations. **

Please list in chronological order (most recent first).

Dates	Activity/Organization	Responsibilities
-------	-----------------------	------------------

** If you require more space to describe your experiences, please attach a separate page.

16 Personal Information: (Collected primarily for statistical or informational purposes only - optional)

A. Please check all items that apply to you

I have published a scientific paper: Yes No

If yes, title of paper and publication:

I am a licensed veterinary technician: Yes No

I attended medical or veterinary school for at least one semester: Yes No

I have toured your Veterinary College Facilities: Yes No

If yes, what month/year?

I attended an admissions presentation: Yes No

If yes, what month/year?

If yes, where was the presentation given?

I subscribe to the pre-vet email newsletter: Yes No

B. Interests and Background:

Currently I am most interested in this aspect of veterinary medicine: (Please check only one circle below)

Biomedical Research

Equine

Government

Industry

Lab Animal

Mixed

Production Animal

Public Health

Small Animal

Undecided

Zoo/Wildlife

17. Parent/Guardian Information

Father's Name:

Is (living or deceased): Living Deceased

Address and phone:

State of legal residence: Since:

Mother's Name:

Is (living or deceased): Living Address Deceased

and phone:

State of legal residence: Since:

18. Essay Questions (3,000 characters max. each)

This should help the admissions committee learn something about you as a person, your reasons for wanting to become a veterinarian, and your career goals.

(Enclose writing statements below on separate pages in application packet, please include full name on all separate pages).

Your personal statement is a one-page essay (not to exceed 3,000 characters) that gives our veterinary admissions committee a clear picture of who you are and, most importantly, why you want to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.

Although there is no set of rules mandating what a strong personal statement should include, here are a few tips to help you successfully craft an effective personal statement:

- Explain a defining moment that helped steer you toward a career in veterinary medicine. Consider using that moment as the focal point of your essay.
- Be original and thoughtful: Discuss how you would contribute to the profession and patient care, all of which will help you stand out from other applicants.
- As you are telling us why you want to pursue a career in veterinary medicine, explain why you are good candidate for veterinary school. Be sure to convey your passion for veterinary medicine in your statement.
- Many of you have had meaningful experiences with animals or veterinarians as children and these are important but should only be mentioned briefly.
- Your application materials already contain a summary of your accomplishments, so avoid repeating information from your transcripts or reference letters.
- Give yourself time to organize your thoughts, write well and edit as necessary.
- Ask yourself if this essay is a good representation of your character, ideals and aspirations.
- Don't forget to proofread!

19. **B. Short Essays** (enclose writing statements below on *separate pages* in application packet, please include full name on all separate pages)

- Please respond to each of the following questions in 200 words or less per question. These questions are intentionally open-ended with no right or wrong answers so that you can provide the admissions committee with more information about yourself. When giving examples, please choose those that best illustrate your point, regardless of whether they are from a veterinary setting.

A. Describe a situation in which your actions have had a significant impact.

B. Describe a situation where you have learned from experience.

C. Describe a situation where circumstances were against you and how you made it work for you.

Di. Describe a challenge or problem you have faced in the past, and how you reached a solution.

Dii. If you had to face this challenge again, would you do anything differently and why?

20. **Disadvantaged Statement** - optional (200 words or less).

If you feel you have beendisadvantaged in any way (including, but not limited to, economic opportunities, educational opportunities, cultural background, discrimination, physical handicaps, or other mitigating circumstances) please explain here.

21. Please include a statement indicating why you are seeking to transfer to the Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine.

22. Have you ever pled nolo contendere (no contest) or been convicted of a either a felony or a misdemeanor, other than a minor traffic violation?

Yes

No

23. Optional Questions

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell is interested in learning more about our applicants, and the factors that might have helped you decide to pursue veterinary medicine as a career. Responses to the following questions are completely voluntary, and will have no bearing on the admissions process. We hope you will take a few minutes to share your thoughts with us.

1. At the point in your life when you decided to pursue veterinary medicine as a career were you:

In Elementary school

In Middle school

In High school

In College

Post Graduate

2. What sources of information or advice about the profession did you find to be most helpful?

Family and friends

High school guidance counselor

College faculty advisor

Career center

Veterinary college websites

Other websites about the veterinary profession

My veterinarian

Other (describe)

3. Are any members of your family veterinarians? Yes No

4. If a member of your family is a veterinarian did they graduate from Cornell? Yes No

5. If so, what degree(s) did they earn? Undergraduate Degree Veterinarian Degree

6. As you prepared to apply to veterinary school, on a scale of 1 to 5, how easy was it for you to gain animal experience in the following settings:

1 = very difficult, 2 = somewhat difficult, 3 = neither easy nor difficult, 4 = somewhat easy, 5 = very easy

Work with small animals (dogs and cats) in a clinical setting

Work with cows in an ambulatory setting

Work with horses in a clinical or ambulatory setting

A Research laboratory

A farm

An animal shelter

A wildlife center

A zoo

Other (describe)

Your legal signature below attests to your understanding and agreement to the following policies:

1. I realize that, if accepted to Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, I will be expected to abide by its rules and regulations including adherence to the Honor Code, which governs student conduct; and participate in curricular activities involving the use of live animals in laboratory and clinical settings where the faculty determine no alternative to live animals is appropriate.
2. New York State statute defines "residence" as the permanent or principal home for the 12-month period immediately prior to the date of expected enrollment, or, in the case of dependents, (which we define as being claimed on your parents federal income tax) the home of parents or guardians. I realize that once I have submitted my application, my residency status will not change.
3. I realize that, if accepted, I will be required to work closely with dogs, cats, horses, cows and other animal species.
4. I realize that clinical training requires that I work long hours, nights and weekends.

I certify that the information I have provided on the application and in any related material is true and complete and will notify Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine promptly if there is a change in any aspect of this application. I understand this is a continuing obligation throughout my enrollment at Cornell and that inaccurate, misleading, or incomplete statements or a failure to update any aspect of the application could result in honor code proceedings, dismissal, rescission or cancellation of my Veterinary Medical degree, or other disciplinary sanctions.

Legal Signature _____ Date _____

Please read carefully the Statement of Essential Skills and Abilities below.

Please sign and send in with your application.



Statement of Essential Skills and Abilities

Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine - DVM Degree

Introduction

The Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree (or DVM) signifies that the holder is a veterinarian prepared for entry into the practice of veterinary medicine with or without further postgraduate study. All Cornell veterinary students must acquire broad scientific knowledge and technical skills necessary for them to function independently in a wide array of clinical, research, and other situations. Candidates for the DVM degree must demonstrate the requisite skills and abilities to satisfy both the overall and course-specific requirements of the curriculum. Moreover, students must be able to function safely and effectively in multiple environments such as classrooms, laboratories, examinations, large and small animal clinics, and a variety of animal environments. Exposure to chemicals (e.g., medications, disinfectants, anesthetics, tissue fixatives) and pathogens are unavoidable during veterinary school and beyond.

Veterinarians are governed by a code of ethics and professional behavior that forms a social contract between the profession and society. The DVM degree is conferred only after the student has achieved satisfactory mastery of the necessary scientific and clinical knowledge as well as technical skills, while also demonstrating the professionalism, attitudes, and behaviors that are consistent with the professional degree of veterinarian. Throughout the curriculum, students must demonstrate a high level of compassion for all animals and people, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, the highest moral and ethical standards, and a motivation to serve, and they are expected to interact effectively with people of all ethnic, social, cultural, and religious backgrounds.

Essential Requirements

The following information will familiarize applicants and students with the abilities, skills, and attitudes expected to meet the requirements of the curriculum and the profession. The avowed intention of an individual student to practice only a narrow part of clinical medicine, or to pursue a non-clinical career, does not alter the requirement that all veterinary students take and achieve competence in the curriculum required by faculty.

The College of Veterinary Medicine at Cornell University has an ethical responsibility for the safety of patients and clients with whom students and veterinarians interact and interrelate. Patient and client safety and well-being are therefore essential factors in establishing requirements involving the physical, cognitive, and emotional abilities of candidates for admission, promotion, and graduation. Candidates for the DVM degree must be able to elicit and receive a variety of inputs from their environment, including tactile, visual, and auditory stimuli, then process these inputs based on their knowledge and experience, and finally make appropriate responses that include both verbal communications and a variety of physical actions. A candidate for the DVM degree must demonstrate abilities and skills in five areas: observation, communication, motor, intellectual (conceptual, integrative and quantitative), behavioral, and social.

- I. Observation: The candidate must be able to observe and make assessments from required demonstrations and experiments, including but not limited to anatomic dissection, microscopic analyses, animal/patient demonstrations, and radiographic and other graphic and diagnostic images. A candidate must be able to observe a patient accurately at a distance and close at hand, and assess findings. S/he must perceive and interpret signs of fear, aggression, and other potentially dangerous behaviors exhibited by various animal species. Observation requires the functional use of vision, hearing, and somatosensation, often in complex situations in veterinary health care environments.
- II. Communication: A candidate must be able to elicit information, establish rapport, offer explanations, and to describe changes in behavior, activity, and posture. Communication includes not only speech, but also interpretation of nonverbal cues, and reading and writing in English. The candidate must be able to communicate effectively, efficiently, and in a timely manner with all members of the health care team.
- III. Motor Function: A candidate must have sufficient motor skills to use scientific and diagnostic instrumentation, to carry out animal restraint and essential diagnostic procedures, including palpation, auscultation, percussion, and other components of a physical exam on live animals, to perform surgical manipulations, and to conduct dissection and necropsy on cadavers. A candidate must be able to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general care, surgery, and emergency treatment to patients of all species. In addition, the candidate must be able to escape physically dangerous contacts with animal patients. Such actions require coordination of both gross and fine muscular movements, equilibrium and functional use of the senses of touch, vision, and hearing.
- IV. Intellectual (Conceptual, Integrative, and Quantitative): Problem solving, a critical skill of veterinarians, requires that a candidate be able to obtain, retrieve, analyze, integrate and synthesize information from multiple sources efficiently and accurately. In addition, a candidate should possess the ability to measure and calculate accurately, to perceive three-dimensional relationships, and to understand the spatial relationships of structures. Candidates must be able to formulate and test hypotheses that enable effective and timely problem-solving in the diagnosis and treatment of patients in a variety of clinical situations. In many cases, these decisions and appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic maneuvers are time-sensitive. Thus, candidates must demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and abilities to process multiple situations simultaneously.

- V. Behavioral and Social Attributes: A candidate must be able to fully utilize his or her intellectual abilities, exercise good judgment, promptly complete all responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and to develop effective relationships with their companions, peers, staff, colleagues, and with clients. S/he must be able to work effectively as a member of a health-care team, and must be able to tolerate physically and emotionally taxing workloads, to function effectively under stress, and to display flexibility and functionality in the face of uncertainties inherent in assessing patients' health problems. Candidates need to be able to both elicit and convey information to clients and staff in a timely and effective manner, using both oral and written formats. S/he must understand the legal and ethical aspects of the practice of veterinary medicine, and function within both the law and the ethical standards of the veterinary profession. The candidate is expected to demonstrate a high commitment to professional behavior that includes, but is not limited to, demonstration of competence, compassion, integrity, lifelong learning, concern for others, interpersonal skills, collegiality, interest, and promotion of the public good.

These personal qualities, abilities, and skills will be assessed during the admission process and throughout the educational program. In addition, applicants and enrolled veterinary medical students must be able to perform the duties of a veterinary student without endangering the lives of patients, caretakers, colleagues and staff, or themselves. In order to complete required courses, students are expected, at a minimum, to work with dogs, cats, horses, and cows. Other species are commonly seen (e.g. rabbits, warm- and cold-blooded small and exotic pet species, llamas and alpacas, etc.).

For Completion by All Candidates:

I certify that I have read and fully understand that all students are required to meet the requirements for the Cornell DVM program as set forth in this Statement of Essential Skills and Abilities.

_____ (Please print full name)

Signature Date (Please sign and date)