

## ***MST/DVM Program Guidelines***

(Master in Toxicology/Doctor of Veterinary Medicine)

**Introduction:** The College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (CVMBS) have partnered with the Center for Environmental Medicine (CEM) to create a program of study that results in earning both the *Master of Science-Toxicology* and the *Doctor of Veterinary Medicine* (DVM) degrees through the recruitment of international students (nonresidents, non-US citizens). Successful international applicants will complete all academic requirements in the MST Program prior to matriculation in the DVM Program. If needed, the curriculum may include Intensive English, Chemistry, and/or Physiology course(s) to adequately prepare the student for entry into the DVM Program. Upon successful completion of the MST program, students will earn a Nonsponsored position in the first year of the DVM Program. Students will complete the requirements of the DVM Program during the remaining four years of the combined program.

The CEM and its established International Open Laboratory (IOL) seek to unite the brightest minds in biomedical research to solve complex human health problems and link this with experiential learning for students at an early stage in their scientific training. There is a continuing need for well-trained specialists in Veterinary Toxicology throughout the world in teaching, diagnostic, and research positions both in private and public institutions. Recent environmental disasters underscore the need for individuals trained in these disciplines. The overarching goal of the IOL is to train the next generation of basic and clinical scientists who will then be prepared to look outside the boundaries of their own laboratory, institution and country to find solutions to global problems in the field of Toxicology.

**Admission:** Application to the combined degree program occurs concurrently with the regular DVM application process. Applicants fill out the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) Application as well as the Colorado Supplemental Application (CSA). Additionally, applicants who wish to apply to the combined program must complete the MST/DVM section of the Colorado Supplemental Application. Candidates **offered admission** must also complete the CSU Graduate School Application and meet the [TOEFL requirements](#) (click on Plan C) as set by the CSU Graduate School.

Evaluation of applicants to the combined program will be based on the same criteria as those applying for regular admission to the DVM Program. In addition, MST/DVM applicants will be evaluated based on the quality of a separate narrative that specifically addresses their motivations for participating in the combined program, as well as their previous and complementary experiences in the field of Toxicology as revealed in the body of the regular application. Previous experience in academic and/or non-academic activities related to Toxicology (to include Pharmacology, Pathology, Research) and other related fields is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**, and preference will be given to those with more extensive experiences.

**Note:** If you indicate you wish to be considered for the MST/DVM program (on the Colorado Supplemental Application), your application will additionally be considered in the regular DVM admissions pool. When decisions are released, if a candidate receives an OFFER to

the MST/DVM program, this becomes a superseding offer and they will not be further considered in the regular DVM admissions pool, regardless of whether or not they accept or decline the MST/DVM offer. If you are denied or designated as an alternate for the MST/DVM program, your application will be considered in the regular DVM admissions pool.

Applicants wishing to be considered *separately as a graduate student in the CEM* need to apply directly to the Toxicology graduate program.

**Program Details:** Admitted MST/DVM international students will complete the MST requirements prior to matriculation in the DVM Program. For international students for whom English is not their first language, the program will include intensive English courses and will include mentoring and guidance from faculty, administrators, and fellow students in the program to enhance communication and social development. Students will work with their faculty advisor to determine if it is required for them to complete one/all of the courses (Intensive English, Chemistry, and/or Physiology) prior to the fall academic semester of the MST program. Admitted MST/DVM students have committed to completing the program leading to the receipt of both an MS and DVM degrees.

### 1) **Master of Science (MS) - Toxicology Program Overview**

<http://csu-cvmb.colostate.edu/academics/erhs/cem/Pages/toxicology-graduate-programs.aspx>

The MST program includes a core of 13 credits of core Toxicology courses, 9 credits of Toxicology and seminar electives, and an additional 10 credits of general electives, enabling the student, in consultation with the faculty advisor, to plan an individual course of study that is responsive to the student's needs and interests.

Completion of the MS degree program requires a minimum of 32 credit hours as follows:

#### First semester (summer)

- Intensive English (if needed)
- Chemistry (if needed)
- Physiolog-BMS300 (if needed)

#### Second semester (fall)

- Fundamentals of Toxicology-ERHS502
- Pharmaceutical and Regulatory Toxicology-ERHS568
- Toxicological Pathology-ERHS603
- Toxicology Seminar-ERHS693C (can be taken Fall or Spring)
- Electives chosen by the student and faculty mentor as appropriate for the student

#### Third semester (spring):

- Clinical and Forensic Toxicology-ERHS566
- Metabolism and Distribution of Toxic Agents-ERHS601
- Mechanisms of Toxicity-ERHS602
- Toxicology Seminar-ERHS693C (can be taken Fall of Spring)
- Electives chosen by the student and faculty mentor as appropriate for the student

It is expected that accepted students attend a full day orientation for new students during the week before the first day of classes. The MST/DVM Orientation will be hosted by both the CEM and the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (date and time to be announced). Students will be introduced to faculty advisors, as well as MST students and other MST/DVM students. MST/DVM students will have the opportunity to participate in DVM student social activities and DVM student clubs beginning their first year of the combined MST/DVM Program.

## 2) **Guaranteed Admission to the DVM Program**

- Candidates are specifically offered a nonresident **Nonsponsored** position in the graduate Toxicology Program and in the four year part of the DVM Program. Please know, by state law, the tuition classification of Nonsponsored DVM student remains Nonsponsored for the duration of the combined program i.e. you cannot change your tuition classification once you matriculate in the DVM Program. Updated tuition information for the graduate and DVM Program are available at <https://financialaid.colostate.edu/doctor-veterinary-medical-students/>.
- If the student receives less than a 3.0 cumulative GPA at the end of the first year of the combined program (i.e. in the first year MST courses), they will not be eligible for admission to the DVM Program.
- Students who successfully complete the first year of the MST Program will be granted a nonresident **Nonsponsored** position in the subsequent DVM class.
- Students who are dismissed from the combined program for failing to maintain minimum requirements may appeal the decision within 30 days of notification of such dismissal from the CVMBS Office of the Dean. Appeals must be in writing and directed to the Associate Dean for the DVM Program.
- If a student wishes to drop out of the MST Program after matriculating in the program, but prior to completion of the first year of the combined program, s/he will lose the status of guaranteed admission to the DVM Program. They must reapply for admission to the DVM Program through the regular admission process.
- Successful MST students do not have to fill out a VMCAS Application and will only need to update their personal contact information at the time of the MST/DVM orientation. No additional application fees are required.

## 3) **Continuation in the Combined Program**

- It is expected that students in the combined program will complete the requirements of the MST Program prior to matriculation in the DVM Program.
- Consideration of extending completion of the MST Program after matriculation into the DVM Program, will be given on an individual basis by the Associate Dean for the DVM Program.

## 4) **Award of the Combined MST/DVM Degrees**

- When the student has successfully completed the requirements for the MST degree, it will be awarded by the CSU CEM in conjunction with the Graduate School.
- When the student has successfully completed the requirements for the DVM degree, it will be awarded by the CSU CVMBS.