2017 VET PREP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Program Overview
The College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University offers a year-long program to assist disadvantaged students in obtaining the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree. Vet Prep students have been very successful in this program and have a high rate of graduation with their CSU DVM degree. The program offers coursework and mentoring to selected students who, upon successful completion of the one-year program and requirements, will be admitted to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program in a Colorado position at Colorado State University.

The College receives many more qualified applicants than can be admitted directly into the DVM program. The Vet Prep program offers an opportunity to recruit top students with a guaranteed admission. In addition, the College is strongly committed to enhancing the diversity of the veterinary program. Vet Prep students are selected because of their outstanding application in addition to their disadvantaged background. The typical admitted Vet Prep candidate has a disadvantage claim, a stellar general application, and some evidence that he/she could benefit from academic strengthening prior to matriculation in the professional program. In other words, the only reason our Vet Prep students didn’t get admitted outright into the DVM program was because of a hint of a need to improve your academic preparation. That’s what the Vet Prep program provides, in addition to mentoring, academic support, and a social support network.

Candidate Selection and Eligibility
Because of the limited number of positions in the veterinary program, many qualified applicants are denied admission each year. The Veterinary Admissions Committee ranks qualified disadvantaged* applicants who were denied admission (or ranked as alternates) in the regular admissions process and selects the top 10 applicants to be offered positions in the Vet Prep Program. If an offer is declined, the next-ranked candidate will be offered the position.

*Disadvantaged circumstances are evaluated as one or a combination of economic, educational and cultural-social factors.

- Economic factors include: a demonstrated history of low income of applicant and family unit prior to college entrance and pre-veterinary education; level of financial support provided by applicant to the family unit prior and during pre-veterinary education; if applicant has a major financial responsibility to a household; and history of financial aid.
Educational factors include: inadequate early education because of frequent change of schools during elementary and secondary education; unusual number of hours of employment or necessitated other time commitments for supporting self or family unit during high school and pre-veterinary education; lack of exposure to academic role models and of participation in sound educational programs.

Cultural/environmental factors include: born to immigrant parents; reared in an ethnic minority culture; reared in a family with English as a second language; experienced cultural stress as a result of transition from a predominantly ethnic minority community to an academic environment; reared in an economically depressed area; reared by someone other than parents; reared in an environment lacking exposure to opportunities offered by higher education; reared in an environment of abuse such as alcohol, drugs, child abuse and other physical abuse.

Becoming Admitted/Enrolled in the Vet Prep Program
There is no need to apply to CSU’s undergraduate program. We will forward your veterinary application materials to the CSU Admissions Office and take care of undergraduate admission for you. If additional documentation is required, you will be notified. You must be enrolled full-time for the fall and spring semesters. In order to be an enrolled student, you must be assigned to an undergraduate or graduate degree program. We strongly encourage our Vet Prep students to complete a Master’s degree concurrent with the Vet Prep program. If you do not pursue one of our graduate (MS) programs, we sign most Vet Prep students up as second-degree Microbiology candidates. Obviously, if you already have a Microbiology degree, do not yet have a degree, etc., we will work with you to select another option.

Orientation, Monday, August 14, 2017
New Vet Prep students will be expected to attend a half-day orientation on Monday morning, starting at 8:00 am in the Pathology Building (main campus). This orientation will introduce participating faculty and peer mentors and provide details of expectations of the program.

Expectations of the Program

Critical: Establish Colorado domicile by end of July 2017 (latest date is one year from the planned date of matriculation in the DVM program the following fall). It is the student’s responsibility to take the steps necessary to establish domicile. ALL VET PREP STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED to contact LeAnne Schnader at leanne.schnader@colostate.edu at the Tuition Classification Office for more information. Plan on moving to Colorado, at the latest, by the end of July in order to leave plenty of time to establish domicile by the required date.

Attend the required orientation in August 2017 (details will be provided)

Update Colorado Supplemental Application by August 14, 2017

Vet Prep Program Enrollment Options
Vet Prep students have three options for fulfilling the one-year Vet Prep Program prior to the start of the DVM Program Fall 2018. Students may select any one of these three options and must maintain a 3.0 GPA throughout the program to guarantee admittance to the DVM Program Fall 2018.
- **Vet Prep Only Option** - Take a minimum of 12 semester credits in Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 as an undergraduate student with a focus on required and elective courses to prepare you for the DVM Program at CSU. Students in this option must maintain a 3.0 GPA and will not earn a Masters degree upon completion of this option.

- **Toxicology MSPRO Option** – Take courses starting Fall 2017 to complete a Masters degree (Professional/Non-thesis) in Toxicology. The required and elective courses will prepare you for the DVM Program at CSU as well as will fulfill the degree requirements to complete the MS degree. Students in this option must maintain a 3.0 GPA and will receive the Toxicology MS degree upon successful completion of requirements.

**Fall 2017 (must enroll at CSU full time – minimum 12 semester credits)**

1. **Coursework for the VetPrep only Option (no MS)**
   - **Course requirements** (depending on previous coursework, and as determined by Program Director)
   - Physiology (BMS300, BMS360 or BMS501, depending on previous physiology coursework; 4 credits)
   - VS 495 Independent Study (1 credit; weekly 1-hour session of leadership development and other topics facilitated by Program Director)
   - Elective science course (as determined by student in consultation with Program Director)
     - Recommended electives are VS 331 Online Histology (4 credits), MIP 342 Immunology (4 credits), or other electives as approved.

2. **Coursework for the Toxicology MSPRO Option**
   - Physiology (BMS300, BMS360 or BMS501, depending on previous physiology coursework; 4 credits)
   - VS 495 Independent Study (1 credit; weekly 1-hour session of leadership development and other topics facilitated by Vet Prep Program Director)
   - The Toxicology MS program includes a core of 12 credits of core Toxicology courses, 10 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 degree program requires a minimum of 32 credit hours. A maximum of 9 credit hours of previous graduate work in appropriate areas of study may be transferred with departmental approval.
     - Recommended Toxicology Courses for Fall
       - ERHS502 Fundamentals of Toxicology
       - ERHS603 Toxicological Pathology
       - Electives chosen by the student and faculty mentor
   - The academic training in the MS (Toxicology) program will provide a clear understanding of clinical and diagnostic toxicology, pharmacology, toxicological pathology, metabolism and distribution and an exposure to research in the field of toxicology. The ability of highly motivated students within this Program to acquire an advanced degree before entering into the DVM program provides a stepping-stone for achieving future residency programs, doctoral programs and/or faculty status at different institutions. The advanced degree of this Program will prepare candidates academically for the DVM program as well as for future careers in veterinary
toxicology either in academia, the private sector, or research.
  o General electives within this program will include courses for the VetPrep curriculum.

**Spring 2018 (must enroll at CSU full time – minimum 12 semester credits)**

1. **Coursework for the VetPrep only Option**
   
   **Course requirements** (depending on previous coursework, and as determined by Program Director)
   
   o BMS 305 Domestic Animal Gross Anatomy (4 credits)
   o VS 495 Independent Study/Seminar (1 credit; weekly 1-hour session of student seminar presentations facilitated by Program Director)
   o Elective sciences course (as determined by student in consultation with Program Director)
     * Recommended electives are BMS 531 Domestic Animal Gross Anatomy Laboratory Dissection (3 credits), BMS 450 Pharmacology (3 credits), or other electives as approved.

2. **Coursework for the Toxicology MSPro Option**
   
   o BMS 305 Domestic Animal Gross Anatomy (4 credits)
   o The Toxicology MS program includes a core of 12 credits
   o VS 495 Independent Study/Seminar (1 credit; weekly 1-hour session of student seminar presentations facilitated by Program Director)
   o Core Toxicology courses, 10 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 degree program requires a minimum of 32 credit hours. A maximum of 9 credit hours of previous graduate work in appropriate areas of study may be transferred with departmental approval.
     * Recommended Toxicology Courses for Fall
       * ERHS601 Metabolism and Distribution of Toxic Agents
       * ERHS602 Mechanisms of Toxicity
       * Electives chosen by the student and faculty mentor
   o The academic training in the MS (Toxicology) program will provide a clear understanding of clinical and diagnostic toxicology, pharmacology, toxicological pathology, metabolism and distribution and an exposure to research in the field of toxicology. The ability of highly motivated students within this Program to acquire an advanced degree before entering into the DVM program provides a stepping-stone for achieving future residency programs, doctoral programs and/or faculty status at different institutions. The advanced degree of this Program will prepare candidates academically for the DVM program as well as for future careers in veterinary toxicology either in academia, the private sector, or research.
   o General electives within this program will include courses for the VetPrep curriculum.

3. **Submit FAFSA form** (if requesting financial aid for DVM program).

**Summer 2018**

**Toxicology MS Program:** Electives chosen as needed by the student and faculty mentor
appropriate for the student. The MS Toxicology Program has a comprehensive exam taken early in the summer to fulfill the requirements for the MS degree.

- **Comprehensive Examinations for Toxicology MSPro** are given the second week after spring finals (usually the last week in May).

**Guaranteed Admission to the DVM Program**

All students who are admitted to and successfully complete the Vet Prep program will be automatically admitted to the DVM Program the following year (assuming successful completion of the Vet Prep program requirements). However, you will be asked to update the contact information and tuition classification information in your Colorado Supplemental Application at the time of Vet Prep orientation. No additional application fees are required. You do not need to re-submit anything relative to the VMCAS application.

**In order to meet the guaranteed admissions provision, students must:**

1. **Obtain a C grade or better in all coursework** (including fall and spring courses).
2. **Complete all academic requirements with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0** (including fall and spring semesters).
3. **Be eligible for a Colorado sponsored position via having established domicile by the appropriate date** (alternately student will have the option of a guaranteed Non-sponsored position).

**Cost**

Students in the Vet Prep Program will have to pay tuition based on their tuition classification as of Fall 2017, but will receive a $10,000 scholarship to help offset tuition costs during the Vet Prep year ($5,000 each semester). Students have the option to elect the general Vet Prep Program or the Master of Science in Toxicology Program. The $10,000 scholarship can be applied to either of these options.

- **General VetPrep Program Option**
  
  Fall 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters you will have to pay undergraduate tuition and fees. Colorado sponsored full-time undergraduate tuition and fees are currently approximately $5,400 per semester ($10,800 approximate total cost). If you are not currently a Colorado resident, full-time undergraduate non-resident tuition and fees are approximately $13,600 per semester ($27,200 approximate total cost).

- **MS Program Option**
  
  For students who elect for the MS option, the total cost is approximately $15,345 for a CO resident and approximately $28,650 for non-resident students (tuition, fees, and special program charges).

The financial award is a total of $10,000 towards the student’s CSU tuition account, thus lowering the tuition costs stated above. This $10,000 award is given in August 2017 ($5,000) and again in January 2018 ($5,000).
We believe strongly in the value of the VetPrep Program and the students in the program. Non-resident VetPrep students are strongly encouraged to establish domicile in CO to pay the CO-sponsored tuition rate during veterinary school, which will result in a cost savings of at least $130,000. Once you matriculate into the DVM Program you are eligible to apply for the many scholarships that are given to DVM students annually. The College gives over $1.6 million dollars a year to current DVM students, so there are many opportunities for scholarships once enrolled as a DVM student.

Appeals
Students who are dismissed from the VetPrep Program for failing to maintain minimum grade requirements may appeal the decision within 30 days. Appeals must be in writing and directed to the Program Director.

About CSU and Fort Collins, Colorado
CSU’s veterinary program is ranked as #3 in the nation by US News and World Report. It is the anchor to the CSU campus. For more information about the CSU campus, access the general website at www.colostate.edu. A good site to visit that will surely convince you to attend CSU’s veterinary program is http://csu-cvms.colostate.edu/dvm-program/Pages/Why-Choose-CSU.aspx. There is a good bus system that many students utilize and there are many bike paths.

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