DVM Class of 2021 Orientation
Monday August 14, 2017 – Friday August 18, 2017

Monday August 14, 2017

Welcome DVM Class of 2021

Tuesday August 15, 2017-Wednesday August 16, 2017

RAM Outdoor Leadership Experience (ROLE)
Colorado State University Mountain Campus

Thursday August 17, 2017

TBD – More information coming soon!

Friday August 18, 2017

Getting Started – The First Week of Classes

Oath and Passages Coating Ceremony
2 – 4 p.m.
Hilton Hotel
425 West Prospect Road
Please join us at the reception following the ceremony. Family and friends are encouraged to attend.
Prior to the beginning of classes, the Colorado State University DVM program begins with a week of orientation activities both on campus and at the Colorado State Universities Mountain Campus, a 1,600 acre campus, nestled in a beautiful, secluded mountain valley at an elevation of 9,000 ft. in the Rocky Mountains. During orientation week students will be introduced to each other, administrators, faculty, staff, student mentors and the DVM program including curriculum, honor code and roles and responsibilities. Many of the activities will be interactive and will be aligned with the goals of engagement, team work, leadership, communication and professionalism.

The individuals who make up the DVM class of 2021 have worked hard to get here. You are a dedicated and driven group of individuals who strive to the best. Though we want you to continue to work hard and strive for excellence, we also want you to begin to see those around you, your peers, as colleagues, not competitors. You are here because you have a common goal, to become competent veterinarians. The veterinary profession is a small tight knit community of individuals working to better the lives of animals and humans through clinical practice, research, laboratory medicine, legislative initiatives and humanitarian efforts. It is important you begin this journey together with a common understanding of these goals. We encourage you to give some thoughts as to what type of class you would like to be. This, more than most anything, will shape your experience in the four years you have together here. In addition to your classmates, 2nd and 3rd year students will be involved in offering and facilitating portions of this orientation week. We encourage you to learn from them, get to know them and connect with them as mentors.

The RAM Outdoor Leadership Experience (ROLE) is an interactive orientation designed to aid the development of professional skills in the DVM Program in a relaxed environment, breath-taking in its scenic beauty. Activities have been designed to provide each student an opportunity to develop and enhance their professional skills, such as communication and team work. This time is also a great opportunity to get to know classmates, and DVM faculty and staff.

We are fortunate to have the opportunity to offer the experience of both low and high ropes courses. All activities are participation by choice. We hope that all of our students will feel confident and safe to participate. The orientation facilitators respect the fact that
the final decision of whether to participate in a particular activity is up to the individual student. Students are expected to attend all sessions, even if they decide not to participate.

**ROLE** will be held at CSU’s Mountain Campus, in the mountains west of Fort Collins. The Mountain Campus is located at approximately 9,000 feet above sea-level. *It is essential that each person drink plenty of water throughout the orientation to avoid dehydration and altitude sickness.*

We highly recommend that you bring the following items:

- Water Bottle
- Sunglasses
- Flashlight
- Sun screen
- Bug repellant
- Sweatshirt and long pants for evening (it can get quite cool [i.e., the 30’s] in the evenings)
- Closed toe shoes
- Raincoat
- Hat
- Toiletries.
- Pen and Paper

You will be issued one towel and wash cloth for your stay. Sheets and blankets will be provided for the beds. You might consider bringing a pillow.

Cell phone and internet access is not available at the Mountain Campus. Therefore, please leave your cell phones and laptop computers at home. There are no areas to secure belongings, so please leave your valuables at home. There are pay phones, so bring quarters if you need to make some phone calls.

*Please be advised that this is an alcohol free event.*
Challenge Ropes Course

The CSU Mountain Campus Challenge Ropes Course is designed to enhance team building and personal growth. Increased confidence (self-efficacy) is a common outcome of the ropes course experience, along with increasing communication skills and effective strategies to improve teamwork. Risk taking, group problem solving, and leadership skills also are common focal points.

Ropes course activities progress from low elements and group initiatives to the high elements. The **low elements** emphasize teamwork and the need for cooperation and effective communication. The **high elements** provide individuals with an opportunity to get outside their comfort zones, enhancing personal growth.

We practice the "**challenge by choice**" principle, which means not everybody has to participate in all the activities. Success is determined by your willingness to try new experiences. All challenge course facilitators have interpersonal and technical skills necessary to ensure your group’s safety.

For refer to the [CSU Mountain Campus website](#) for more information.