



# AAVMC: THE FUTURE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



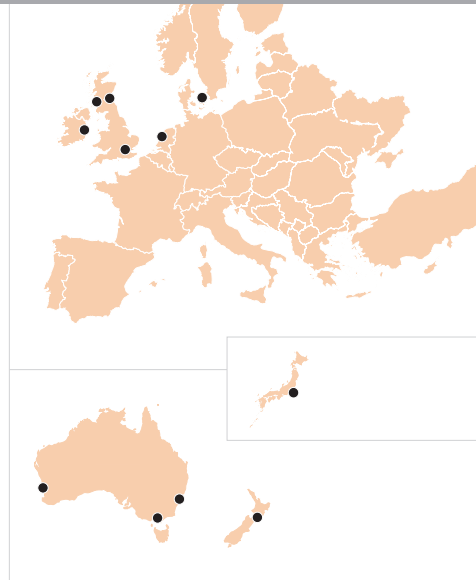
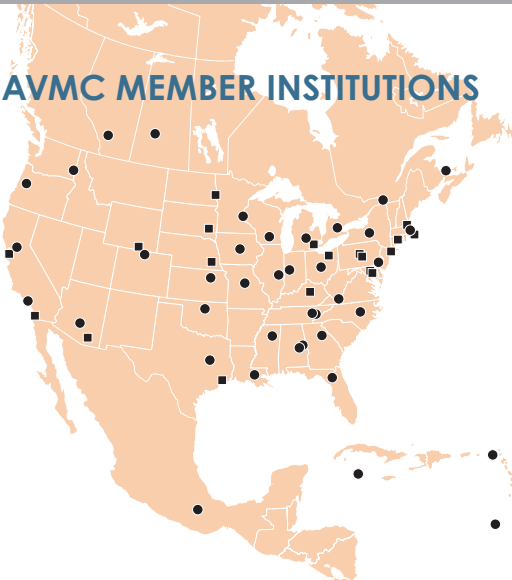
# ADVANCING ACADEMIC VETERINARY MEDICINE

Founded in 1966, the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health and welfare of animals, people and the environment by advancing veterinary medical education. Its member institutions are located at universities in the United States and throughout the world. The AAVMC exists to help academic veterinary medicine prepare the next generation of veterinarians and foster advancements in the profession.

## THE AAVMC:

- Provides an organizational structure for academic leaders to promote excellence in academic affairs, admissions and recruitment, research, diversity and One Health
- Operates the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) and publishes the *Veterinary Medical School Admissions Requirements (VMSAR)*
- Promotes high standards of scholarship by publishing the *Journal of Veterinary Medical Education (JVME)*
- Collaborates with allied organizations and convenes forums for thought-leaders
- Conducts research and generates the annual *Comparative Data Report*, containing historically important data related to academic veterinary medicine
- Works with Congress and executive agencies like the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and USDA to advocate and create opportunities
- Broadly communicates about achievements and challenges in academic veterinary medicine
- Operates national recognition programs to inspire professional excellence and service

## AAVMC MEMBER INSTITUTIONS



# ADVANCING ACADEMIC VETERINARY MEDICINE

## PROGRAMS

### Analyze

*Acquiring, analyzing and adding value to data that advances scholarship and advocacy*

As the primary source of information about national trends in veterinary medical education, the AAVMC is committed to providing our members with high-quality data and analysis that provides a firm foundation for evidence-based decision making, guides resource allocation and informs the public.

### Catalyze

*Creating forums for strategy and action*

The AAVMC serves as a facilitator and catalyst for solving problems, sparking innovation and bringing insight to current issues in academic veterinary medicine. The AAVMC convenes meetings for stakeholders and thought leaders who generate new ideas and approaches for creating progress in veterinary medical education.

### Advocate

*Telling the story of modern academic veterinary medicine to policy-makers and the world*

As the voice of academic veterinary medicine, the AAVMC uses public communications and focused outreach to inform and increase influence with government, the profession and stakeholders about a variety of issues, including agricultural and biomedical research, public health, animal welfare, support for colleges of veterinary medicine and others.

## INITIATIVES

### Achieving Educational Excellence

The responsibility of preparing new generations of veterinarians to care for people and animals in a rapidly changing world demands educational excellence. To achieve that end, the AAVMC:

- Advances educational initiatives that prepare the next generation of veterinarians for excellence in professional service
- Coordinates initiatives designed to cultivate leaders in academic veterinary medicine
- Conducts multi-institutional surveys related to veterinary medical education
- Facilitates instructional excellence through symposia and organizations like the AAVMC Veterinary Educators Collaborative and the AAVMC Primary Care Veterinary Educators



## Recruiting High-Quality Future Professionals

Modern veterinary medicine requires the best and brightest students. The AAVMC:

- Sponsors workshops, conferences, and meetings to promote success of admissions personnel at member institutions
- Hosts an annual Career Fair
- Gathers information regarding perceptions and behavior among prospective students, applicants and others
- Develops national recruitment strategies to identify, inspire and recruit students for careers in veterinary medicine
- Produces targeted communications for health professions advisors, potential applicants and the general public
- Oversees the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) to ensure efficient and effective processes for admission to veterinary medical school

## Enhancing Diversity in the Veterinary Profession

To achieve greater diversity and broaden awareness of diversity-related issues, the AAVMC:

- Reaches out to underrepresented groups through education and participates in relevant conferences
- Gathers, analyzes and shares diversity-related data, including campus climate and demographic data related to the applicant pool
- Leads a coalition of academic health professions organizations seeking best practices and opportunities to advance diversity across disciplines
- Hosts the bi-annual Iverson Bell Symposium, which showcases and advances diversity efforts in academic veterinary medicine





## Promoting a One-Health Approach to Global Wellbeing

The One Health approach fosters collaboration among multiple, interrelated fields such as veterinary medicine, human medicine, public health, the environment, and agriculture. To promote One Health, the AAVMC:

- Organizes and participates in One Health-related symposia and conferences
- Tracks programmatic offerings at member institutions
- Works to advance veterinary expertise and interdisciplinary cooperation on a global scale
- Showcases the efforts of veterinarians to control infectious disease, protect the global food supply and improve clinical care for animals and people
- Works with a variety of stakeholders to promote the One Health concept, including the Veterinary Medicine Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives

## Fostering Progress Through Discovery

Veterinary medicine plays an essential role in conducting basic and applied research that advances animal and human health. To promote research, the AAVMC:

- Tracks research trends and expenditures
- Sponsors programs that support biomedical research opportunities for veterinary students
- Co-sponsors the Merial-NIH Veterinary Scholars Symposium and other efforts to encourage research careers
- Recognizes the outstanding research achievements of veterinary faculty
- Brings national and international leaders together to develop research-related policies
- Advocates for increased animal health and biomedical research funding with the National Institutes of Health, United States Department of Agriculture and other entities



### **Mission**

*The AAVMC provides leadership for and promotes excellence in academic veterinary medicine to prepare the veterinary workforce with the scientific knowledge and skills required to meet societal needs.*



## **Vision**

*To promote and protect the health and welfare of animals, people and the environment by generating new knowledge and preparing the high-quality veterinary workforce needed to meet continually changing societal demands for veterinary expertise.*



**Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges**

1101 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 301, Washington, DC 20005-3536

202-371-9195 • [www.aavmc.org](http://www.aavmc.org)

 @AAVMC

 Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges - AAVMC

Published: March 2014