

ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE

Founded in 1791, the RVC was the first veterinary school in the UK, and the driving force behind the establishment of the nation's veterinary profession. The first four students were admitted in January 1792, and ever since then the College has been at the forefront of teaching and research in the veterinary and allied sciences. The RVC was the first to submit a woman for membership to the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons; become an independent veterinary school within a federal university; be accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association; introduce a degree in Veterinary Nursing; offer a Masters programme in Veterinary Physiotherapy; establish a Centre for Lifelong and Independent Veterinary Education. Today, first-class teaching and research staff, experienced in a wide range of disciplines and skills, help talented students to exploit state-of-the-art clinical facilities and laboratories to the full – maintaining the RVC's long, proud tradition of making seminal contributions to both the animal and human sciences. The RVC has a successful record of training North American students and can count several hundred American graduates as alumni

CENTRAL LONDON/HERTFORDSHIRE: We have one campus in London (Camden) and one on the outskirts of London on a 575-acre site near Potters Bar (the Hertfordshire Campus). Both offer a friendly supportive environment and excellent facilities for teaching and learning. The London Campus boasts newly refurbished research laboratories, an extensive library, an anatomy museum, a Learning Resources Centre, the London Bioscience Innovation Centre and the Beaumont Animals' Hospital. Accommodation and a refectory are also on site and the clubs, bars, restaurants and theatres of Camden and London's West End are easily accessed. A twenty minute walk from the London Campus is Bloomsbury, home to the University of London whose collegiate structure incorporates the RVC. Here in the capital's 'university quarter', you will find some of the nation's greatest educational and research facilities. Hawkshead in Hertfordshire is our main clinical campus with three state-of-the-art teaching hospitals on site. Located near Potters Bar, it is a short train journey from London's King's Cross and comprises lecture theatres, laboratories, a Learning Resources Centre, a Clinical Skills Centre and some student housing. A refectory, swimming pool, squash courts and other leisure facilities mean the campus is quite self-contained. The Eclipse Building provides superb computing teaching and library facilities. In addition to its modern journals and textbooks, the RVC has one of the best collections of old veterinary books in the world.

CURRICULUM: We aim to provide an innovative and scientifically-based curriculum that gives students a thorough understanding of the sciences underpinning veterinary practice and develops vital problem-solving, communication and team-working skills. With its numerous on-site hospitals, the RVC is able to provide extensive caseloads. This means that our students amass a great deal of hands-on clinical experience. From 2007 on average each student will have undertaken 12 spays/neuters. The five year degree course in Veterinary Medicine is divided into three phases:
Phase one – years one/two (underpinning sciences)

Phase two – years three/four (clinical theory)

Phase three – years four/five (clinical rotations and elective study)

Phase one - the first two years are spent mainly at our London Campus and students study the healthy animal in its normal environment and acquire basic skills in handling and examining horses, farm animals and companion animals. The topics you are cover include Animal husbandry, Movement, control and measurement, Cardiovascular and respiratory systems, the Central Nervous System, Digestion and metabolism, Immunology, Endocrinology and thermoregulation, Renal system, Reproductive system, General pathology, Special species as well as underpinning scientific principles. Students are also required to undertake a minimum of twelve weeks Animal Husbandry ExtraMural Studies (AHEMS) during the first two years, including four weeks with animals of their own choice. It is recommended that the first year's work includes three weeks' lambing during the Easter vacation.

Phase two – the third and first half of the fourth year are spent at the Hertfordshire Campus. This phase provides the framework of knowledge and basic practical skills in clinical science necessary for students to participate fully in clinical practice at the RVC and in private veterinary practice. The taught courses in years three and four again cover the systems but this time in a clinical context. Principles of clinical science, disease control, population medicine and public health are also covered. Clinical Extra Mural Studies begin in the third year and eleven weeks needs to be spent at a variety of veterinary practices to progress to year four. Year four covers Lymphoreticular and haemopoietic system, Endocrine system, Urogenital system, Skin and Population medicine and public health.

Phase three – most of the final twelve months are spent gaining hands-on experience in RVC clinics (Intramural Rotations: IMR) and in veterinary establishments around the country (EMS). Students also spend eight weeks devising and executing a research project on any aspect of veterinary science of their choice. IMR cover small animal medicine, surgery and emergency critical care, Equine medicine and surgery, Farm animal medicine and surgery, reproduction and herd health investigation, Anaesthesia and Pathology. If students want to make a more detailed study into a particular discipline once they have completed their clinical rotations, they can choose from elective courses including Comparative Anaesthesia, Entrepreneurship in Veterinary Practice, Equine Surgery, Evidence Based Medicine, Exotic Pets, Farm Animal Production, Neurology, Orthopaedics, Pathology, Small Animal Clinical Studies, Therapeutics and Zoo Animal Studies.

Extra Mural Studies (EMS) – Twelve weeks of Animal Husbandry ExtraMural Studies (AHEMS) is undertaken during the first two years. It is possible to spend up to six weeks on an overseas AHEMS. Students are encouraged to spend two or three weeks lambing on a sheep farm during the first Easter vacation. During years One and Two, two weeks must be spent at a dairy cattle farm, two weeks at a pig farm and two weeks working with horses. Four weeks may be spent working with animals of the student's choice. During Years three to five, 26 weeks of Clinical EMS must be completed via a balanced programme of placements at

general veterinary practices, specialist veterinary centres, the State Veterinary Service, research institutes and at the Veterinary Laboratory Agency (VLA). One week must be spent studying meat hygiene in an abattoir. Up to six weeks of the 26 weeks of Clinical EMS may be spent overseas.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS: All applicants must apply through VMCAS. Completed applications are reviewed by our Student Selection Committee. Interviews will normally take place in the US, in February/March.

SIZE OF ENTERING CLASS: 220

DEADLINE DATE: The VMCAS application must be postmarked no later than October 1st.

CLASSES BEGIN: Late September

ADMISSIONS DEPOSIT: After an offer has been made, a deposit of £1,500 is required to hold a position in the class.

TUITION AND FEES: The tuition fee for 2007-2008 is \$33,952. Fees are revised annually and the rate for 2008-2009 will be published on our website at www.rvc.ac.uk.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS: c25 places available each year for overseas students. Students holding a relevant degree may be considered for the four year accelerated programme. Applicants are normally final year degree students although students with two years of pre-vet will be considered. Subjects must include Organic Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and a knowledge of physics. We ask for a GPA of 3.4, and in addition applicants should have a minimum of two weeks Animal/Veterinary Work experience.

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