Massachusetts’ Veterinary School
A Successful Public-Private Partnership Delivering Unique Value to the Commonwealth

Veterinary education is a government function in the U.S. and around the world for -
• Life science related workforce and economic development.
• Public health, biomedical research, bio-defense and food security.
• Veterinary education for its citizens.

Massachusetts’ veterinary education model is highly effective and efficient.
• The school was established with co-operative investments by the Commonwealth and Tufts University.
• The Massachusetts model delivers better than 15:1 leveraging of state support with private dollars.
• Strong student achievement and exceptional faculty research outcomes are hallmarks.

The veterinary school educates essential life science and clinical workforce professionals.
• This is the only veterinary school in the Commonwealth.
• Pharmaceutical, medical device and animal health industries rely upon veterinary experts in laboratory animal medicine and pathology.
• Veterinary medicine contributes more than 17,000 jobs in the state and veterinarians are leaders in the small business community.*
• The school operates many K-12 STEM programs and partnerships to engage young people in science.

The veterinary school drives economic development in Massachusetts.
• Almost every human therapy must first be proven safe and effective in two animal species.
• The school provides collaborative research and testing for more than 40 companies and institutions a year.
• Our life sciences incubator has nurtured 21 companies on campus to date.
• Grafton Science Park is in development for larger companies to expand in Massachusetts.
• Veterinary medicine contributed $1 billion of income, $2.3 billion of business activity, and $1.4 billion of net new economic activity in 2015.*
• Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University is the 2nd largest employer in Grafton bringing nearly 1000 jobs and $90 million of value added. *

The veterinary school is a unique resource for Massachusetts’ public health and homeland security.
• Over 70% of emerging infectious diseases are animal diseases transmitted to people.
• Cummings School has major research in these zoonotic and food and waterborne diseases.
• Veterinarians are front line public health practitioners and critical responders in pandemic preparedness.

The veterinary school is a leader in wildlife medicine and environmental health and serves multiple state agencies.
• We have pioneered Conservation Medicine and One Health that address environmental, animal and human health.

Reliable and stable state support is essential to preserving veterinary education in Massachusetts.
• Three veterinary schools have failed without state support.
• All fully accredited veterinary schools in the United States depend upon significant state cost sharing.
• Other sources of school revenue (e.g., tuition, gifts, etc.) depend on a reliable state partnership.
• It would likely cost Massachusetts $150 million in start-up capital and over $25 million a year to operate a state veterinary school without this partnership with Tufts.

* UMass Donahue Institute, *Economic Impacts of Veterinary Medicine on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*, June 2015