Preventing disease and healing animals is at the heart of what veterinarians do, but they also do so much more.

Veterinary medicine is a well-respected profession because veterinarians make significant contributions to improving the health and wellbeing of the animals and people they serve. Veterinarians practice medicine that alleviates suffering, contributes to groundbreaking medical advancements, protects the environment, and makes the world a better, healthier place.

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This brochure is brought to you by the American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC) and Vet Med Pathways. AAVMC is a nonprofit membership organization working to protect and improve the health and welfare of animals, people, and the environment by advancing academic veterinary medicine. Its members include veterinary medical colleges in the United States and Canada, departments of veterinary science, departments of comparative medicine, and international colleges of veterinary medicine. Vet Med Pathways aims to illuminate the endless pathways within the world of veterinary medicine and support and inspire the next generation of community leaders.

To learn more about applying to veterinary medicine schools and the endless pathways in the veterinary medicine field, visit AAVMC at **aavmc.org** and Vet Med Pathways at **vetmedpathways.com.**

BECOME A VETERINARIAN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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What are my options as a veterinarian?

The following list is not exhaustive but provides an overview of careers where graduates of veterinary medical schools can effectively apply their Doctor of Veterinary Medicine [DVM] degrees.

- **Consulting**
- **Corporate veterinary medicine**
- **Diagnostic Laboratories**
- **Federal government**
- **Food supply medicine**
- **Global veterinary medicine**
- **Private practice**
- **Public health**
- **Public policy**
- **Research**
- **Shelter medicine**
- **Teaching**
- **U.S. Air Force**
- **U.S. Army**

How to Prepare for Veterinary Medical School

High School Students

- ☐ Gain a solid background in math and science.
- ☐ Take part in extracurricular activities (athletics, school clubs, FFA, etc).
- ☐ Study and maintain a high GPA and high SAT/ACT scores.
- ☐ Acquire as much experience with pets as possible. Consider volunteering at your local humane society or with a local veterinarian.

College Undergraduates

- ☐ Take a pre-vet or comparable curriculum, that is, one that includes math and several science courses such as biology and chemistry.
- ☐ Maintain a high GPA.
- ☐ Gain as much broad exposure to veterinary medicine as possible. Consider job shadowing with veterinarians, scientists, working on a farm or volunteering at an animal shelter.
- ☐ Schools have different requirements for standardized test scores. Contact schools that require standardized tests to find out their requirements.
- ☐ Join a pre-vet club. Most colleges and universities have one.