Your Path to becoming a Vet

These pages are intended as a guide for students who would like to move into veterinary medicine after finishing their degree in DIT.

Courses in Ireland

In Ireland, there is only one institution where you can study Veterinary.

**UCD:** DN 301. A 4-year graduate entry route an average intake of 5. Apply through CAO and complete UCD Veterinary Medicine application form including degree transcripts. **GMSAT** required tests. The GMSAT tests are offered twice a year in March and September. Registration fee is € 335.00 and late fee is € 70.00.

It is advised that candidates download and read the **Information Booklet** prior to registering.

Am I eligible?

You are eligible if you:

- Hold a honours degree (NQAI Level 8) with a 2.2 Honours or above in a Biological/Biomedical/Animal Science discipline OR a Master’s degree, OR a PhD in a relevant area of biological science by June 2018.
- Are considered as EU applicants (i.e. not deemed ‘applicants for purposes of fees)

UCD also have a 5-year programme, **DN300** and application is also through the CAO.

You are eligible if you:

Hold an honours degree (NQAI Level 8) with a 2.2 Honours or above OR a Master’s degree OR a PhD in any discipline by June 2018.

Are considered as EU applicants (i.e. not deemed ‘overseas’ applicants for purposes of fees)

Study Abroad

It is possible to train abroad and then work in Ireland. However, according to the Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI); **It is a legal requirement and therefore, essential that you register with the Veterinary Council prior to engaging in any type of Veterinary work in Ireland.**

Please check with the **VCI website** to ensure the degree you are studying is accepted.

UK

Applications are through **UCAS**. Check UCAS site for application deadline details. Some UK institutions use a pre-entrance test **BMAT**.

The following institutions have a graduate-entry 4 year course (application through UCAS)
University of Edinburgh: Applicants must have achieved a minimum of a 2.1 honours degree or equivalent in an appropriate Biological or Animal Science subject for consideration for the 4-year Graduate Entry Programme. (UCAS Code D102). Applicants should provide detailed information on their practical experience (number of days/weeks spent and species worked with) in the appropriate section of their UCAS form.

Royal Veterinary College London: Minimum application requirement of a 2.1 honours degree in an appropriate biological science subject. Before you apply, you must have completed the minimum requirements:

- A total of two weeks of work experience (paid or voluntary) in one or more veterinary practices
- A total of two weeks in a variety of different animal environments (excl. your home environment/family business/pet ownership).

Interviews: All applicants to this course must attend an interview if invited and cannot receive an offer without attending an interview. Interviews will be held at our Camden campus between the end of November and early-mid December and all applicants must ensure they are available during this time before applying.

For a full list of accredited courses see the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

UK institutions interview candidates and your personal statement is extremely important. All look for relevant work experience. Tips for personal statements include; reasons for choosing Veterinary, work experience, team & leadership experience and other information e.g. what you enjoy doing.

According to the University of Edinburgh, work experience is vital;

In addition to the academic requirements we recommend that students gain as much practical experience as possible. This should include seeing veterinary practice, both large and small animal if possible and spending time on livestock farms (dairying and lambing are particularly useful) and other animal establishments such as zoos, kennels, catteries, wildlife centres and stables. Experience gained in veterinary or biomedical research laboratories is also encouraged to help student understanding of the scientific basis of veterinary medicine. Specific details of your practical experience needs to be clearly stated in your personal statement on your UCAS application.

As part of your application through UCAS you also need to provide an academic reference-if you are not finished your degree it is essential that your expected results are included in the reference.

Europe & USA

The Veterinary Council of Ireland recognise a number of European qualifications for registration in Ireland. These qualifications are listed by country on their website.

The AVMA Council on Education (COE) accredits US educational programmes. The AVMA COE assures that the minimum standards in veterinary medical education are met by all AVMA-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine and that students enrolled in those
colleges receive an education which will prepare them for entry-level positions in the profession.

Visit Veterinary Edu.org for the complete list of accredited online Veterinary Colleges and Universities.

**Careers Information**

**Vet Career Videos on YouTube**

3-4 minute series of videos about working as a Vet (produced by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons)

**Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons**

Includes Veterinary Careers information and college listing.

**British Veterinary Association**

Job vacancies and Careers advice pages, includes FAQ's on working with animals

**Federation of Veterinarians of Europe**

Links to veterinary schools throughout Europe.

**Further Study**

**Veterinary Council of Ireland**

Recognition of courses and membership information.

**American Veterinary Medical Association** (AVMA)

Lists accredited courses in USA.

**Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges** (AAVMC)

Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) - apply for courses in veterinary medicine in USA and Canada