

# Pre-Veterinary Medicine

College of Arts & Sciences  
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The Pre-Veterinary Medicine Program is not a major or degree-granting program. In order to graduate with a degree from UND, you will need to:

- Choose a [major](#) and complete the specific requirements determined by the department responsible for that major. Medical schools do not require any particular major.
- Complete the [Essential Studies requirements](#)
- Complete 120 semester credits (36 numbered 300 or above and 30 from UND)

## **Veterinary schools consider the following when reviewing applications:**

### **1. Academics**

Schools of veterinary medicine have varying pre-requisites, all of which have been taken into consideration to inform the UND Pre-Veterinary Medicine Program curriculum so that you are prepared to apply to any school you ultimately decide to. The national average GPA of 2022 veterinary school matriculants was 3.6 (cumulative) and 3.5 (science). To be a competitive applicant, you should aim for such a cumulative and science GPA and excel in all your courses.

### **2. GRE**

Roughly two-thirds of the veterinary schools in the US require the GRE. Plan to take the GRE in May or June the calendar year before you plan to begin veterinary school (third year if on a four year plan). Everyone studies differently, but we recommend that you start studying 1-3 months prior to the exam. We encourage students to take a lighter course load (~12 credits) the semester prior to taking the GRE to allow for dedicated study time. As a Kaplan partner, UND students have access to the Kaplan GRE review courses and materials at a discounted rate. The national average GRE score of 2022vet school matriculants was:

Verbal: 64

Quantitative: 53

Writing: 57

### **3. Life Experiences**

Admissions committees want to know that you have made an informed career decision and are knowledgeable about the veterinary profession. In addition, they are looking for applicants who have demonstrated a dedication to service. One way that they assess your non-academic qualities is to look at how you spend your time outside of the classroom, so set yourself apart! You will be asked to elaborate on relevant experiences on your veterinary school application in the following categories: animal experience, employment (non-animal related), extracurricular activities, research, veterinary experience, and volunteer work. Be sure to keep track of your experiences and include dates, times, activities, meaningful experiences, and the name and contact information of your supervisor (if applicable).

- a. **Animal Experience** → 200-500+ hours
- Animal Experiences include working with livestock, ranch experience, 4-H membership, animal training, working at a pet shop, volunteering at an animal shelter, or similar activities that were not under the supervision of a veterinarian. Try to get exposure to both large and small animals and multiple animal species.
- b. **Veterinary Experience/Shadowing** → 500+ hours
- Veterinary Experience includes any veterinary clinical, agribusiness, or health science experiences that took place under the supervision of a veterinarian. Try to get exposure to both large and small animals and to multiple animal species.
- c. **Community Service/Involvement**
- Demonstrate your desire to serve others and give back to your community. These experiences do not necessarily need to be related to veterinary medicine. Participate in things that are of genuine interest to you (either in a paid position or as a volunteer) and that you can speak passionately about in your application and interview. Examples include but are not limited to:
- Lifeguard, first responders
  - Coaching/teaching sports (for park boards, travelling leagues, Special Olympics)
  - Camp counseling (church camps, day camps, medical camps, music camps)
  - Volunteering at your local city mission, free clinic, humane society
  - College organizations (clubs, honor societies, sororities/fraternities)
  - College tutoring or TA positions
  - Medical missions trips
- d. **Research**
- UND has numerous research opportunities for undergraduate students. Research experience is expected of students applying to top tier veterinary schools or DVM/PhD programs. Regardless of where you plan to attend veterinary school, research experience can help strengthen your application.

# UND Pre-Veterinary Medicine Course Planner

## UND courses required by most veterinary schools

- BIOL 150/L: General Biology I
- BIOL 151/L: General Biology II
- CHEM 121/L: General Chemistry I
- CHEM 122/L: General Chemistry II
- CHEM 341/L: Organic Chemistry I
- CHEM 342/L: Organic Chemistry II
- BIMD 301: Biochemistry
- BIOL 315: Genetics
- BIMD 302/L: General Microbiology
- Physics (choose one) \*
  - PHYS 211 & 212: College Physics I & II
  - PHYS 251 & 252: University Physics I & II
- ENGL 110: College Composition I
- ENGL 130: College Composition II
- Math (choose one)
  - MATH 146: Applied Calculus
  - MATH 165: Calculus I
  - AP credit for Calculus
- A Statistics course (choose one)
  - PSYC 241: Introduction to Statistics
  - SOC 326: Sociological Statistics
  - ECON 210: Business/Economic Statistics
  - MATH 321: Applied Statistical Methods
  - BIOL 470: Biometry
  - PHE 306: Epidemiology and Biostatistics
  - Other statistics course
- Physiology/Anatomy & Physiology (choose one)
  - BIOL 442/L: Physiology of Organs/Systems
  - BIMD 220/L & 221/L: A&P I&II

## UND electives good for vet school preparation (\* highly recommended)

*Some may be required by certain veterinary schools; check individual requirements for schools of interest.*

- BIMD 328: Introduction to Immunology
- BIOL 312/L: Evolution
- BIOL 333: Population Biology
- BIOL 338: Animal Behavior \*
- BIOL 332/L: General Ecology
- BIOL 341/L: Cell Biology
- BIOL 364/L: Parasitology \*
- BIOL 369/L: Histology
- BIOL 376/L: Animal Biology \*
- BIOL 378: Developmental Biology
- BIOL 415: Genomics
- BIOL 380: Disease Biology \*
- BIOL 390: Endocrinology
- BIOL 426: Birds and Mammals \*
- PSYC 111: Introduction to Psychology
- MED 205: Medical Terminology
- COMM 212: Interpersonal Communication
- COMM 380: Health Communication
- Public Health courses
  - PHE 101: Introduction to Public Health
  - PHE 102: Epidemiology in Public Health
  - PHE 103: Introduction to Global Health
- Ethics courses
  - PHIL 120: Introduction to Ethics
  - PHIL 245: Death and Dying
  - PHIL 251: Ethics in Healthcare
  - PHIL 253: Environmental Ethics
- Business courses
  - ECON 201: Microeconomics
  - ENTR 101: Intro to Entrepreneurship
  - ENTR 386: Financials for Entrepreneurs
  - MGMT 300: Principles of Management
  - MGMT 310: Organizational Behavior

## Sample Four Year Plan

*This is just an example to aid in your academic planning. Consult with your assigned advisor on how best to combine the pre-veterinary medicine curriculum with your major requirements.*

	Fall	Spring	Summer
<b>First Year</b>	BIOL 150/L CHEM 121/L MATH 103 <sup>1</sup> Courses from Group 1	BIOL 151/L CHEM 122/L Courses from Group 1	Life Experiences Direct patient care Shadowing Volunteering Research
<b>Second Year</b>	CHEM 341/L BIOL 315 Courses from Group 1 or 2	CHEM 342/L BIOL 341 Courses from Group 1 or 2	Life Experiences Direct patient care Shadowing Volunteering Research
<b>Third Year</b>	PHYS 211 BIOL 442/L <sup>2</sup> Courses from Group 1, 2, or 3	PHYS 212 BIMD 301 Courses from Group 1, 2, or 3 ~12 credits for GRE prep	<b>WICHE Forms</b> (Complete over Spring Break)  <b>GRE</b> (take by Jun 15 <sup>th</sup> )  <b>1<sup>o</sup> Apps Due</b> (Submit by June 30 <sup>th</sup> )
<b>Fourth Year</b>	Courses from Group 2 or 3  <b>2<sup>o</sup> Apps Due</b> (Submit ASAP)  <b>Interviews Begin</b> (~ Oct-Feb)	BIMD 302/L Courses from Group 2 or 3	

<sup>1</sup> MATH 103 waived if ACT Math > 26 or AP Calc > 3 or equivalent college level math course

<sup>2</sup> Can substitute with BIMD 220/L: Anatomy & Physiology I *if* BIMD 221/L: A&P II is also taken. Note that BIMD 220/221 is human A&P; BIOL 442 is preferred.

**Group 1** courses are **required**: COMM 110, ENGL 110, ENGL 130, MATH 146, a statistics course

**Group 2** courses are good **electives**: COMM 212, COMM 380, MED 205, PHE 101, PHE 102, PHE 103, PHIL 120, PHIL 245, PHIL 251, PSYC 111, ECON 201, MGMT 300

**Groups 3** courses are **upper level science electives**:

Fall courses: BIMD 328, BIOL 332/L, BIOL 364/L, BIOL 378/L, BIOL 390, BIOL 420

Spring courses: BIOL 312/L, BIOL 333, BIOL 338, BIOL 341/L, BIOL 369/L, BIOL 376/L, BIOL 380, BIOL 415, BIOL 426