Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh for students from Hong Kong
Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh for students from Hong Kong

The University of Edinburgh, founded in 1583, is the sixth-oldest university in the English-speaking world and one of Scotland’s ancient universities. The University of Edinburgh is consistently ranked as one of the world’s top 20 universities.

The University of Edinburgh is a member of the Russell Group of universities and also Universitas 21, an international association of research-led universities.

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies was founded in 1823 by William Dick and is internationally recognised as a leader in veterinary education, research and practice. The School is ranked as one of the top vet schools in the UK and is part of the University’s College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

The Easter Bush Campus comprises The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, The Roslin Institute, Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education, our Veterinary Hospitals and The Veterinary Oncology and Imaging Centre. The Roslin Institute is an animal sciences research institute which is sponsored by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council. The Institute won international recognition in 1996, when Ian Wilmut, Keith Campbell and their colleagues created Dolly the sheep, the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell.

Our curriculum blends tradition with innovative use of modern technologies. Clinical and professional skills are taught from the earliest stages. Our approach is to ensure optimum integration of the core subjects throughout the curriculum. While many of our graduates enter and remain within the veterinary profession for life many others find that their training at Edinburgh enables them to succeed in a wide range of careers in research, government, private enterprise and academia.
OUR VETERINARY MEDICINE DEGREE IS RECOGNISED BY THE HONG KONG VETERINARY ASSOCIATION, ALLOWING STUDENTS TO PRACTICE AS VETERINARY SURGEONS IN HONG KONG UPON GRADUATION. ACCREDITATION BY BOTH THE RCVS AND THE AVMA ALSO MEANS THAT GRADUATES CAN PRACTICE IN THE EU, NORTH AMERICA AND BEYOND.

OUR NOTABLE VET ALUMNI ARE FOUNDERS OF VETERINARY SCHOOLS IN CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, IRELAND AND AUSTRALIA.
Five-year Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S)

As the Scotland’s oldest veterinary school, we provide students from around the world with an excellent veterinary education. Our Veterinary Medicine degree is recognised by the Hong Kong Veterinary Association, allowing students to practice as veterinary surgeons in Hong Kong upon graduation. Accreditation by both the RCVS and the AVMA also means that our graduates can practice in the EU, North America and beyond.

Year 1
- The Animal Body 1 and 2 (integrated anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, introductory pathology and infection & immunity)
- Animal Health, Welfare and Food Safety
- Professional and Clinical Skills (1)

Year 2
- The Animal Body 3 and 4
- Animal Health, Welfare and Food Safety
- Group-based, student-selected component
- Professional and Clinical Skills (2)

Year 3
- Clinical Foundation course
- Veterinary Pathology
- Dog and Cat Integrated Clinical Course
- Animal Health, Welfare and Food Safety
- Professional and Clinical Skills (3)
**Academic curriculum**

The programme involves taking a number of courses each year. The curriculum is constantly reviewed and improved, but currently involves:

**Year 4**
- Farm Animal, Equine and Exotics Integrated Clinical Courses
- Clinical Induction, Integration and Consolidation Course (CLIC)
- Animal Health, Welfare and Food Safety
- Professional and Clinical Skills (4)

**Year 5**
- Practical rotations in large and small animal
- Externship & Electives
- Student Selected Component
Support and Guidance

Studying Veterinary Medicine at Edinburgh will give you transferable skills such as effective communication, teambuilding and an understanding of business management.

Veterinary training also provides an outstanding background for those who wish to pursue a career in biomedical research, including both veterinary and human medicine.

Our long-standing combination of tradition and cutting-edge veterinary teaching benefits from a close-knit collegial community of students. On joining our programme, each student will be assigned a Personal Tutor to provide pastoral and academic support throughout your time on the programme.

Electives

The degree programme includes a range of elective and externship options. You will have the opportunity to work with international experts and gain experience in your chosen area of interest.

You will also be able to undertake a clinical or laboratory-based research elective in your summer vacation.

Extramural studies

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) requires that all students also complete 12 weeks of mainly agricultural extramural studies (EMS) before starting the third year of the programme.

Your extramural studies offer you the chance to gain more knowledge and experience in particular areas of interest. This is followed by a period of 26 weeks’ clinical EMS, where you will participate in a wide range of veterinary-related activities at home and abroad during the vacation periods. You can tailor some of your extramural experience to your own particular interests.

Professional development portfolio

On joining the course, each student will be assigned a Personal Tutor for the personal and professional development portfolio which runs through the whole programme. The Personal Tutor is a member of the academic staff.

The portfolio is a working record of your progress towards becoming a professional. It will contain evidence of your having achieved specific professional skills over the five-year programme.
Career Prospects

On graduation, the majority of vets start their careers in general practice, although many will continue with further studies. Practice could be companion animal (pets), farm animal, equine (horses) or ‘mixed’. You might also get the opportunity to work with exotic animals that are kept as pets, in zoos or in the wild. Work in the veterinary profession is highly rewarding, but also very demanding; there are career opportunities in a number of areas including:

**General Practice**

The veterinary surgeon is responsible for the prevention of disease and for the medical and surgical treatment of animals including household pets, zoo animals, farm animals and horses. Opportunities exist in practices that specialise in small animals, food producing animals, equine work or in mixed practices dealing with both small and large animals. Many veterinary surgeons working in practice choose to further their knowledge by studying for additional qualifications.

**Veterinary teaching and research**

Veterinary researchers play a vital role in advancing our understanding of diseases. Research in veterinary sciences enhances the health, welfare and usefulness of both food producing and companion animals. It safeguards the public from diseases spread from animals in food and by other means. By comparative investigations, it helps us understand and manage human disease, for example in cancer, genetics, reproduction and infections. Research is undertaken at the university veterinary schools and at research institutes, departments financed by Government, in laboratories and by private enterprise. Many careers in research span the interface between human and veterinary medicine.

**Government service**

Many opportunities exist within the public sector. Veterinary surgeons are involved in protecting public health in government departments and agencies such as the ‘State Veterinary Service’, the ‘Food Standards Agency’, the ‘Meat Hygiene Service’, the ‘Veterinary Laboratories Agency’, and the ‘Veterinary Medicines Directorate’. The ‘Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs’ employs vets to monitor animal health and to prevent the spread of diseases.

**Other opportunities**

Other opportunities exist in commerce and industry such as in pharmaceutical companies, in international and overseas organisations and consultancies and charities. The veterinarian’s broad scientific training is also of value in areas such as wildlife and environmental conservation.
Entry requirements

**A’ levels**
- AAA in Chemistry, Biology and one other subject approved for entry to the veterinary degree programme
- Please refer to the current list of University approved subjects at GCE A’ level considered for entry to the BVM&S. Please refer to the following link: [www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applications-admissions/entry-requirements/subjects](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applications-admissions/entry-requirements/subjects)
- If Physics has not been studied to A’ level, a good pass at GCSE is required
- We do not accept General Studies or Critical Thinking as third subject

**International Baccalaureate (IB)**
- Higher level in Chemistry, Biology and either Mathematics or Physics
- 766 or better in all higher level subjects with 7 in Chemistry
- Where Higher level Mathematics or Physics is not possible, another subject at Higher level may be accepted, subject to approval. In this case, you will also need 6 at Standard level in Mathematics or Physics
- If Physics does not form part of the IB Diploma, candidates must also provide evidence of a qualification at a minimum SQA standard Grade 2 or GCSE Grade B or equivalent in this subject

**Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKSDE)**
- 3 elective subjects with grades of 5*5*5* to include Chemistry, Biology and one other elective subject
- If Physics does not form part of the HKSDE, candidates must also provide evidence of a qualification at a minimum SQA standard Grade 2 or GCSE Grade B or equivalent in this subject
- A minimum of grade 3 must be gained in all other elective subjects

**English Language**

Students will also need to meet the normal admission requirements for English language:

- Cambridge CPE Grade C
- IELTS Academic module overall 7.0 with 7.0 in each component
- TOEFL-iBT 100 or above with 23 in each section
- IGCSE English (First language) Grade B
- Cambridge CAE Grade A
- Cambridge CPE Grade B
- Pearson Test of English (Academic): Total 67 with at least 67 in each “Communicative Skills” section
Applying to the University of Edinburgh from Hong Kong

Key Information

**UCAS code:** D100

**Start date:** September

**Programme**
5 years Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery (BVM&S)

**Typical Offer**
3As at A level including Chemistry & Biology International or Equivalent & English Language requirements

**Institution code:** E56

- All applications should be made via UCAS please refer to the following link: [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

- The deadline for applications to the Veterinary Medicine programme is 15 October. Please see [www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/international](http://www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/international) for more information on applying through UCAS.

- If you have missed the UCAS application deadline and still wish to apply, please contact our admissions team for guidance.

- We are happy to consider applicants who have taken a gap year, but we do not normally offer deferred places. Those who have taken a gap year are expected to have substantially more work experience.

- When applying, all candidates should submit a Work Experience Summary (WES). The WES must be completed and submitted prior to 1st November.

- Successful applicants will be invited to attend an interview in Hong Kong, which usually takes place in January/February.

- When you have been made an offer to study the BVM&S, you will be required to meet our standard English language requirements. We advise you to take the relevant tests as soon as possible, as it will ensure that you have given yourself enough time to meet the offer requirements.
The City of Edinburgh

Edinburgh is one of the most vibrant, cosmopolitan cities in Europe and is regularly voted as one of the most desirable places to live in the world.

The city has many attractions including its culture and entertainment, the retail experience, an international airport and good rail links to other parts of the UK and Europe.

Edinburgh mixes architectural beauty and history with a lively, fun environment. It offers an exciting array of entertainment, history, culture and sport, with the lush Scottish countryside and coastline just a few miles away.

It is a safe and prosperous city, with an abundance of parks and green spaces for recreation and reflection.

The city centre also plays host to a carnival atmosphere every August, when the world-famous Edinburgh Festival Fringe takes over the city.

Accommodation

As an applicant from our partner institutions, you will be guaranteed a place in our University halls of residence. Our student accommodation allows students to be independent in safe, secure and sociable surroundings. Our student accommodation is located in the city centre, which allows our students to experience living in the city and to make friends outside of their own subject area.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/accommodation

Living Costs

We have estimated that students need approximately £200 per week for living costs, including room and board. In addition to these expenses, you will also need to consider initial miscellaneous costs (deposits, textbooks, insurance, travel etc).

For the most up to date information on estimated living expenses visit: www.ed.ac.uk/cost-of-living

Student Fees

For up to date fee information please visit:
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/student-funding/tuition-fees/undergraduate
Studying Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh has to be one of the most unforgettable experiences of my life. The teaching staff are unbelievably helpful and patient, always willing to provide assistance when it’s needed. The city is enchanting with castles, cathedrals, festivals, breath-taking countryside views and amazing recreational facilities. I have made lifelong friends and I am so glad I picked Edinburgh!

Dr Adrian Chan  
Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery, Graduated 2014
Learn more

You can contact the Veterinary Medicine Recruitment and Admissions Team at the University of Edinburgh and they will be happy to answer your questions:

Recruitment and Admissions Team
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies
The University of Edinburgh
Easter Bush Campus
Midlothian EH25 9RG

📞 +44 (0)131 651 7305
✉️ VetUg@ed.ac.uk
🌐 www.ed.ac.uk/vet
📱 DickVetAdmissions
🐦 @EdinburghVets

The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336.