The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery

Five Year Programme

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies
Welcome to the University of Edinburgh, School of Veterinary Studies

I am delighted that you are considering The University of Edinburgh to study Veterinary Medicine. I hope you find this guide useful when making what is, undoubtedly, a life-changing decision.

At Edinburgh we are committed to offering you an outstanding higher educational experience, one which we believe provides an opportunity to shape your future beyond measure. We have a responsibility to ensure we provide you with the very best.

The School of Veterinary Medicine provides specialist teaching by academics who are at the forefront of their fields. Our research division is The Roslin Institute, a world-class research centre which undertakes top-class basic and translational science to tackle some of the most pressing issues in animal health and welfare, their implications for human health and for the role of animals in the food chain.

Your educational experience at Edinburgh will be transformative. Our programme will prepare you to work around the world as a veterinarian. Our internationally accredited programme and diversity of learning experiences will set you apart with the latest knowledge, global perspectives, research-informed skills and well-practised expertise required for professional success.

As a future graduate, you can access a range of excellent careers and employability services. From dedicated careers support delivered at a local level, to a broad range of internship options and the opportunity to engage with Alumni internationally, we will equip and prepare you for a global employment market.

Good luck with your preparation towards fulfilling your dream of studying veterinary medicine. You will be warmly welcomed as part of our ‘family’. We have a dedicated admissions team, who are willing to support you in your applicant journey. In the meantime, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us and we will do all that we can to help.

I wish you every success with your studies and hope to welcome you to Edinburgh in the near future.

Professor David Argyle
Head of School
1583
THE YEAR THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH WAS FOUNDED

11,000+ INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
FROM 140 COUNTRIES

31,000+ STUDENTS

20,000+ UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

TOP SPORTING UNIVERSITY IN SCOTLAND WITH WORLD CLASS FACILITIES

OUR NOTABLE VET ALUMNI ARE FOUNDERS OF VETERINARY SCHOOLS IN CANADA, THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED KINGDOM, IRELAND AND AUSTRALIA
OUR VETERINARY MEDICINE DEGREE IS ACCREDITED BY THE RCVS,
THE AVMA AND EAEVE, ALLOWING OUR GRADUATES TO PRACTICE
IN THE UK, EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA, AUSTRALASIA AND BEYOND.

HAS BEEN INVESTED IN THE EASTER BUSH CAMPUS

£100 MILLION+

5 GALLERIES
30 LIBRARIES
250+ STUDENT SOCIETIES

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS & STUDENT SOCIETIES

RCVS
Choose Edinburgh

Academic Excellence and Awards

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, founded in 1823 by William Dick, is recognised as an international leader in veterinary education, research and practice and is consistently ranked as one of the top schools in the UK.

The Roslin Institute is an animal sciences research institute, which is sponsored by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council. The Institute won international fame in 1996, when Ian Wilmut, Keith Campbell and their colleagues created Dolly the sheep, the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell. This important breakthrough reaches its 20th anniversary in 2016 and this will be marked by a programme of events.

Learn more: www.easterbush.mvm.ed.ac.uk

Accreditation

The School is accredited by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE), allowing our graduates to practice veterinary medicine throughout the UK, Europe, North America, Australasia and beyond.

Learn more: http://edin.ac/1S9wrcj

Research and Reputation

The School, along with The Roslin Institute, aims to make a real difference to animal and human health and our partnership with the Medical School is summed up in the ethos - One Health.

The Roslin Institute is a world class research centre and undertakes top-class basic and translational science to tackle some of the most pressing issues in animal health and welfare, their implications for human health and for the role of animals in the food chain.

We place a major emphasis on conducting high quality research and attracting world-class talent. Agricultural and veterinary research at the University of Edinburgh and Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC) was ranked as most powerful in the UK in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF). Three quarters of the research and related activity submitted was judged to be in the highest categories - 4* or 3* - which are classified as “world leading” or “internationally excellent”.

Learn more: www.easterbush.mvm.ed.ac.uk

The Easter Bush Campus

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and The Roslin Institute are located at The Easter Bush Campus.

The Campus has the largest concentration of animal science related expertise anywhere in Europe: it aims to become internationally recognised in animal science by 2025, leading efforts to address livestock improvement, food security and alleviation of poverty in developing countries.

An ambitious programme of development is in place for the Campus providing a dynamic and vibrant working environment with world class facilities equipped with the latest technologies.

This allows us to continue to attract the highest calibre of teaching staff, scientists and clinicians in order to foster and enhance our collaborative environment which sustains and expands our links with partners and industry.

The City of Edinburgh

Edinburgh, the inspiring capital of Scotland, is a historic, cosmopolitan and cultured city, which offers a unique living and learning experience. One of the most vibrant cities in Europe, the city of Edinburgh is regularly voted as one of the most desirable places to live in the world and has been rated the “friendliest city in the UK”. This cosmopolitan, safe and welcoming atmosphere encourages all students to feel at home very quickly.

Edinburgh is rich in social, cultural, learning and sports facilities. The city of Edinburgh hosts 12 annual festivals each year, including the world’s largest arts festival in August and one of the world’s largest winter festivals.

Learn more: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/edinburgh
The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery

The five-year undergraduate degree is our main route into veterinary medicine.

The five-year Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degree will prepare you for many aspects of the veterinary profession.

Veterinary medicine is first and foremost a scientific discipline, but wherever possible the science will be presented in the context of its clinical relevance, so you have a clear understanding of where it all leads. At Edinburgh we offer an integrated programme where you will be taught about large animals, small companion animals, exotics and wildlife – this style of programme allows you to broaden your understanding of different species, increases your career prospects and it also allows you the flexibility to specialise at a later stage.

Our course offers a wide range of stimulating teaching and learning methods designed to equip you with the confidence and skills for a fulfilling career in veterinary medicine. You’ll be taught by some of the UK’s most prominent veterinary scientists in an environment of cutting-edge veterinary research.

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.

The degree of BVM&S is the equivalent of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and has the same standing worldwide. Many of our graduates go on to work across the globe.

Extra-Mural Studies

Our programme also includes Extra-Mural Studies (EMS). This is a core part of our programme and provides our students with an unrivalled opportunity to gain real-life work experience whilst studying.

Students must complete a minimum of 38 weeks EMS during their course, which should normally consist of 12 weeks pre-clinical and 26 weeks of clinical placements.

EMS placements allow students to further practice their animal handling and clinical skills, as well as increasing their confidence, increasing their work experience and providing a valuable insight into the real world of work.

Our students have taken part in some incredible EMS projects across the world. We have a team which supports our students during their EMS placements and provides guidance in finding appropriate placements. EMS opportunities are advertised on the student intranet, but in some cases students find their own. We also have a number of partnerships across the world, providing our students with unique and rare opportunities to gain amazing experience.

Our new graduates are therefore able to ‘hit the ground running’ having developed their day one competences whilst on EMS placements during their degree.
Programme Structure

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

First Year
- The Animal Body 1 and 2
- Animal Life & Food Safety 1
- Professional and Clinical Skills 1

Second Year
- The Animal Body 3 and 4
- Animal Life & Food Safety 2
- Student Research Component
- Professional and Clinical Skills 2

Third Year
- Veterinary Pathology
- Integrated Clinical Course - Dog and Cat
- Professional Clinical Skills 3
- Clinical Foundation Course 3

Fourth Year
- Integrated Clinical Course: Farm Animal
- Integrated Clinical Course: Equine
- Integrated Clinical Course: Exotics
- Professional and Clinical Skills 4
- Veterinary Public Health

Fifth Year
- Final Year Rotations
- Student Research Component

For more detailed information on our modules, please refer to our online module guides: [www.drps.ed.ac.uk/15-16/dpt/utclivms.htm](http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/15-16/dpt/utclivms.htm)
Entry Requirements

Admission to the five year Veterinary Medicine and Surgery degree at The University of Edinburgh is based on the following criteria, which should be gained at the first attempt and one sitting.

Key Programme Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification:</th>
<th>BSc Veterinary Medicine &amp; Surgery (Hons)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCAS code:</td>
<td>D100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution Code:</td>
<td>E56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Mode:</td>
<td>Five years full-time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course Location:</td>
<td>Easter Bush Campus, Edinburgh EH25 9RG</td>
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For more information on entry requirements and programme:
www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/5-year-programme

SQA Highers and Advanced Highers
Candidates are required to take a sixth year and undertake Advanced Highers.

AAAAB Five Highers including Chemistry (A), Biology (A) and either Mathematics or Physics to be achieved by the end of S5. If Biology has not been studied in S5, it should be taken in S6 to Higher level.

BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and another science subject.

If possible Advanced Higher Biology, as this will be beneficial for the first year of the course. If Physics has not previously been studied to Standard Grade or Higher level, it should be studied in sixth year to either Standard Grade, National 5, Intermediate 2 or Higher level.

A levels
Three 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 below.

University-approved subjects:
http://edin.ac/1T5YUQ5

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 a third subject.

AS modules
Rests of AS level modules are acceptable. In order to be considered candidates must be predicted to gain our minimum entry requirements in A2 subjects. Only candidates who gain or are predicted to gain our minimum entry requirements within the normal 2-year period for A level examinations will be considered.

Cambridge Pre-U Diploma
D3, D3, D3 (or a combination of D3 and A level grade A) in Chemistry, Biology and one other University-approved subject.

International Baccalaureate (IB)
The minimum entry requirement is 38 points. This must include: Higher level in Chemistry, Biology and either Maths or Physics 766 or better in all higher level subjects with 7 in Chemistry. Where Higher level Maths 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 Maths 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.

Graduates
A 2:1 Honours Degree (or equivalent), in an appropriate science subject. Candidates with a non-science degree will be considered provided they have gained high grades in the science A levels (or equivalent) in Chemistry and Biology.

Please note that all candidates applying for the BVM&S as a second degree (including graduates from the UK, EU, EEA) are considered at the International Fees rate.

The Admissions Committee regrets that it cannot consider ONC, HNC, HND or part- degree qualifications as equivalent to an Upper Second Class Honours degree for entry requirement purposes.

Mature Students
The Admissions Committee aims to select mature candidates from a variety of backgrounds to further enhance the diversity of the intake. Although mature applicants receive consideration, there is no relaxation of programme entry requirements. In order to be considered you would, therefore, have to achieve the normal minimum entry requirements. Normally candidates must attain these
grades in the one sitting and at the first attempt. However, if you are not able to study full time (if, for example, you are continuing to work) you would not necessarily be expected to gain the grades at the one sitting but you would certainly have to attain them at the first attempt.

Mature students are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office providing further information on both school and further education examination results to discuss their qualifications on an individual basis prior to making a formal application.

**North American Pre-Veterinary courses**

US and Canadian candidates with two years of a pre-vet will be considered for the 5-year BVM&S programme. An overall GPA of 3.4 (4 point scale) is expected.

**EU and International Entry Requirements**

If your qualifications are not listed above, please refer to the following web page, which provides specific information and advice, including entry requirements, for prospective students by country. If you require further support and assistance regarding your qualification contact our admissions team.

Undergraduate entry requirements by country: [www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/country](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/country)

**English Language Entry Requirements**

If English is not your first language, you will also need to meet the University’s required standard of English. Below is a list of some of the typical English language qualifications we accept. If you have an alternative English language qualification which is not listed below, please contact our admission team for guidance.

| 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 English: Advanced & Proficiency overall 185 with 185 in each component |
| Pearson Test of English (Academic): Total 67 with at least 67 in each Communicative Skills section |
| Trinity ISE: ISE III with a pass in all four components |

You can improve your language skills in Edinburgh. Courses run through the summer so you can take extra classes and an examination in Edinburgh prior to your degree course starting in September.

English courses in Edinburgh: [www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/english/courses](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/english/courses)

**Work Experience**

We do not request specific types of work experience or state a number of days/weeks required, as it depends to some extent on the opportunities available to individual candidates. The broader the experience the better, but you should not gain experience to the detriment of your academic studies. You should, however, gain both veterinary practice and animal work experience.

Types of work experience could include time spent:

- Seeing veterinary practice, both large and small animal if possible.
- Livestock farms - dairy and lambing are particularly useful.
- Other animal establishments, such as zoos, kennels, catteries, wildlife centres, pig farms, poultry farms and stables.
- A day at an abattoir is recommended but not demanded.
- We encourage experience gained in veterinary or medical laboratories to help you appreciate the scientific basis of veterinary medicine.

Please note: the above are suggestions and ideas for work experience. This is not a checklist and achieving all these placements is not a requirement.

You should provide detailed information on your practical experience (number of days/weeks spent and species worked with) in the appropriate section of the UCAS or VMCAS (North American graduates only) application.

You should be aware that the selectors can only take into account work already undertaken and not work planned. You may receive an offer conditional on gaining further specified work experience.

**Work Experience Summary (WES) - UCAS Candidates Only**

All candidates applying via UCAS are required to complete and return a Work Experience Summary (WES) prior to the deadline of 22 October. The WES form will be sent to you via email by the University of Edinburgh upon receiving your UCAS application form.

**Non-academic achievements and interests**

Your personal statement and references give us an idea of your skills, achievements and motivation, which are important factors in scoring your application.

- Social involvement
- School responsibilities
- Leadership
- Organisational abilities
- Interests and hobbies
- Cultural, sporting, musical, vocational and voluntary achievements
How to Apply

All applications for admission should be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS): www.ucas.com

North American graduate applicants may choose to apply through the Veterinary Medical Colleges Admissions System (VMCAS): www.aavmc.org

Application Deadlines

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>15 September</td>
<td>VMCAS application deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 October</td>
<td>for VMCAS applications only, deadline for GRE scores (0917 institution code, 0617 department code)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 October</td>
<td>UCAS application deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 October</td>
<td>WES submission deadline (UCAS Applicants only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 October</td>
<td>deadline for submitting degree transcripts</td>
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Please refer to pages 18-19 for key dates throughout the application process.

Late Applications

If you miss the UCAS and VMCAS Veterinary Medicine application deadlines, we may still be able to consider your application for the Graduate Entry Programme if there are still places available.

Work Experience Summary - UCAS only

All UCAS candidates are required to complete and return a Work Experience Summary form (WES) to the Admissions Office prior to the deadline of 22 October. Please note that applications submitted without a WES form will be considered incomplete.

Additional Tests

Note that the following tests are not required for candidates applying to the BVM&S at the University of Edinburgh:

- BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT)
- UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT)
- Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
- Veterinary College Admission Test (VCAT)

Health Questionnaire

All applicants with an Unconditional Firm offer will be required to complete the health questionnaire prior to entry to the programme regardless of whether a disability or health condition was declared on application or not, and enrolment is subject to Health Clearance.

Interview

All applicants will be required to attend a mini multiple interview (MMI). The aim of our selection interviews is to measure aptitude as part of a holistic assessment of candidates.

Mini Interview stations:
1. Work Experience
2. Career Exploration and Awareness of being a Professional
3. Scientific Data Interpretation
4. Awareness of Animal Welfare
5. Moral and Ethical Dilemma
6. Practical Manual Task
7. Numeracy

A series of interview sessions are normally arranged between December and March each year. The Admissions Team aim to get in touch with candidates invited to attend an interview no less than three weeks prior to their interview date if arranged in Edinburgh. Please note, the Team will aim to give as much notice as possible to those candidates selected for an interview at an overseas location.
Student Support

Our long-standing combination of tradition and cutting-edge veterinary teaching benefits from a close-knit collegial community of students.

Studying Veterinary Medicine at Edinburgh will allow you to further enhance your transferable skills such as effective communication, team building and an understanding of business management.

We are also building a resource of online materials that students can use prior to arrival and also once they are here. These currently include materials on lectures, time management and assessment but this will grow over time.

Student Support

We have a dedicated Student Support Officer on campus, who is available to our students for any support issues and can offer help, guidance and someone to listen when needed.

Our staff and students are sorted into ten ‘Houses’, named after the Pentland Hills. Each ‘House’ meets on a regular basis to discuss issues, offer support and organise events. This enables students to receive support and advice from students in different years and to open the student body up to friendships being formed across the year groups.

Study Skills

We offer dedicated study skills advice, through drop-in and individual bookable sessions. Typically during these sessions, current methods will be reviewed and alternative strategies are suggested. Often students find just small changes can make a big difference to their enjoyment and success at University.

We also offer workshops and other events where students can try out various techniques and talk to fellow students about what methods they use.

VetPals

VetPals is our peer assisted learning model, which provides student-to-student support systems. Senior students facilitate discussion on specific topics with junior students. Feedback has shown that this has been highly beneficial to all taking part.

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 you having achieved specific professional skills over the four-year programme.

Students also have access to the full range of support services from the University of Edinburgh.

More information on all our support services can be found on our website: http://edin.ac/1S9vxfl
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.

Learn more about the University’s Career Services: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/careers
Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

The University of Edinburgh joined the Coursera consortium and offers a number of exciting MOOCs.

These are short free online courses, called Massive Open Online Courses or MOOCs, they are presented by top universities from all over the world.

At the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, we offer two MOOCs, which are five weeks long and will provide you with an insight into what to expect of our programme of study and teaching.

Our MOOCs are as follows:

**EDIVET: ‘Do you have what it takes to be a veterinarian?’**

This course provides a basic overview of what is involved in the first year of a Veterinary Medicine degree. Over five weeks, the course covers information on the profession’s past, present and future, as well as an introduction to body systems, basic animal care, and veterinary professional and clinical skills.

**Animal Behaviour and Welfare**

This course allows learners to develop an understanding of some of the main welfare issues that animals have to cope with, as well as gaining an insight into the behavioural needs and the emotions of dogs, cats, farmed animals and captive wildlife.

For more information visit: http://edin.ac/1SDEvlY
Student Experience

Events
The School also hosts a number of events throughout the year where students and staff come together to celebrate. These range from the annual Pre-Burns night event to the Hallowe’en event. These events are just one of the many ways the School includes all of its students and makes them feel more like a family.

Clubs and Societies
There are over 260 student societies – more than any other university in the UK – covering everything from hot air ballooning to economics to mountain climbing, which can cater to your interests. As well as being fun, many societies can give you the kind of transferable skills useful in future careers.

Learn more:
www.eusa.ed.ac.uk

Sports and Fitness
The University has over 65 different sports clubs including everything from fencing to skydiving, horse riding to ice hockey. The main sports facilities are centrally located at the Pleasance Sports Centre and include a full range of indoor sports facilities and a 25m swimming pool. Our outdoor facilities include playing fields, tennis courts and the Outdoor Pursuits Centre on Loch Tay for sailing and mountain biking, and in Aviemore or skiing, mountain climbing and hill walking.

Learn more:
www.ed.ac.uk/sport-exercise

Accommodation
Once you accept your offer to study at the University of Edinburgh, our accommodation team will be in touch to provide you with details on what accommodation packages are available. As a new student to the University 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. Transport links to Easter Bush Campus are excellent and the bus pass expenses are subsidised.

We understand that it is difficult for students to arrange accommodation in a city before they have moved there and so we offer a range of accommodation packages to meet your needs. Flats are available from early August and cover the whole academic year, self-catered accommodation is available with shared kitchen facilities in each flat – South Clerk Street. This is located approximately 10 minutes walk from central University facilities at a fee of approximately £20.00 per night.

Applications can be made for accommodation from February. More information can be found on the accommodation website:
http://edin.ac/1Q25wss
Money Matters

Tuition Fees
The annual tuition fee for the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degree is fixed for the full duration of the course. All graduate and overseas candidates are considered on a full-fees basis only.

For up to date tuition fee information, refer to the following website:
http://edin.ac/1Q25RLU

Payment of Fees
At Edinburgh we recognise that students need flexibility when paying fees. We provide a range of payment options to suit everyone. The fee can either be paid in full, or spread over manageable instalments by Direct Debit.

For more information refer to the Payment Options website:
www.ed.ac.uk/finance/students/fees

Scholarships
The University offers a number of scholarships for students who are nationals of countries outwith the EU.

Further details are available on the Scholarships and Student Funding Service website:
http://edin.ac/1S9wfcV

Living Costs
We have estimated that students need approximately £700 per month for living costs, including room and board. In addition to these expenses, you will also need to consider initial, annual and miscellaneous costs (deposits, bedding, textbooks, insurance, travel, etc). The most up to date information on estimated living costs is available on the University website:
http://edin.ac/1S9w01z

• Living costs in the UK are comparable to many major cities in the world.
• The International Office can offer advice about how to budget.
• Consider the cost of accommodation and daily living expenses as well as the cost of tuition fees.
• Planning a budget will depend on the type of accommodation selected and spending habits.
• Food costs will vary, but will account for a significant part of the budget.

Additional Costs
In addition to any tuition fees charged, additional costs include specialised equipment and lab coats (estimated at £150), locker deposits (£15) and transportation costs to Easter Bush Campus. If using public transport from the city centre, this will be approximately £468 per year, which will be subsidised by the School proportionally in line with year of study.

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:
http://edin.ac/1S9w01z
Admissions Cycle

You

Decide to apply

15 September
(VMCAS) application deadline

Apply

October

We receive all application and supporting documents

Evaluate

November

Admissions Committee evaluate applications:
• Academic background
• Academic reference (including predictions)
• Relevant work experience
• Extra curricular activities
• Personal Statement

Apply

15 October
(UCAS) application deadline

Submit

1 November
Upload or send all academic transcripts (UCAS graduate and overseas candidates)

Upload

December

• Admissions Committee decide on candidates to be called for interview
• Interview candidates either in Edinburgh or another overseas location depending on accessibility
• Decide on offers
• Send out details of our electronic offer pack to all successful candidates

Check

• Admissions Committee decide on candidates to be called for interview
• Interview candidates either in Edinburgh or another overseas location depending on accessibility
• Decide on offers
• Send out details of our electronic offer pack to all successful candidates

22 October
Submit Work Experience Summary by 22 October (UCAS only)

• Regularly check your email account and the “My Details” section on the University’s EUCLID portal and respond to any requests for information/action to take (UCAS candidates only)
• Regularly check your email and respond to any requests for information/action to take (VMCAS candidates)
• Attend interview (in Edinburgh or at another overseas location depending)
May
All candidates
Informed of your decision

March
• Informed of our decision
• Respond to our decision
• If an overseas candidate, arrange for a tour and visit to the School (optional)

May
Overseas and Graduate candidates only
• Make arrangements to pay the £1,500 deposit to secure your place
• Complete and return your financial guarantee form by 1 May

June
All candidates
• Receive results and confirm offer
• Continue to send out information on starting at Edinburgh including details on Induction events and Certificate for Acceptance of Studies (CAS) for visa purposes
• Complete and return your confidential Health Questionnaire

June
• Meet all the conditions of your offer
• Ensure you complete and return your Confidential Health Questionnaire directly to the Occupational Health Unit
• Join the Facebook groups for August or September starts
• Regularly check email for information and updates from the School
• Prepare to start the programme (August or September)

August/September
Welcome new students!
Frequently Asked Questions

I have missed out on getting the grades required. Can I still apply?
No, unfortunately not. We receive a great number of applications from those that are able to meet the minimum entry requirements. Your application would not be competitive enough if you didn’t meet them.

Can an A grade balance out a C grade?
No. We are looking for you to be able achieve consistently.

What do you mean by one sitting?
You need to sit all your exams at the same time and at the first attempt of ever sitting that type of qualification (apart from AS modules).

Can I take a subject early?
There is nothing preventing you from doing this but in order to be considered you will still be required, for example, to take 3 A levels in one sitting and at the first attempt. However, if you are undertaking Curriculum for Excellence, early subjects may be considered (see SQA Highers Academic Requirements).

Are there any subjects you do not consider?
There are some, for example GCE A level General Studies and Critical Thinking. You can find the University’s approved list of subjects we do accept here: http://edin.ac/1VBVTaE

What if I don’t have any Physics?
Applications without any evidence of Physics to at least GCSE or National 5, Intermediate 2 or Higher (or equivalent) will not normally be considered.

Do you consider A* grades at A level?
No. A* grades are treated in the same way as A grades at A level. The University will review this again at some point in the future.

Do you accept resits?
No, although a couple of module resits at AS level (to be sat prior to completion of A level) is normally acceptable. Please check with the Admissions Office if you are unsure.

I have been ill or had problems whilst studying, what should I do?
It is important that your school informs the exam board. The Admissions Committee assumes that any compensation for adverse factors including ill-health and bereavement has already been applied for by the applicant’s school and is reflected in exam results.

I am unsure whether my qualifications meet the criteria, what should I do?
We receive many applications from around the world so can offer direct guidance on your application. Please contact the BVM&S Admissions Team at vetug@ed.ac.uk for further advice if you are not studying for any of the qualifications mentioned in this booklet.

Will I get a place if I meet the entry requirements?
Not necessarily. Entry to study Veterinary Medicine is extremely competitive so we assess more than academic results. You can read more about the selection process later in this booklet.

Can I apply part way through my degree?
Contact the Admissions Team for further information at: vetug@ed.ac.uk

I am a mature applicant. Do you have different entry requirements?
Contact the Admissions Team for further information at: vetug@ed.ac.uk

If I hold a non-science degree what other qualifications do you look for?
If you hold a 2i (or are predicted) or better in a non-science degree, you would also be required to achieve grades of AA in Chemistry and Biology A level. Unfortunately candidates holding (or predicted) a 2ii (or equivalent) will not be considered.

When assessing graduate applications, does the Admissions Committee refer back to school results?
If you are studying towards a science subject which covers the areas that the Committee are looking for then no, little emphasis will be placed on your school results. However, if you hold a non-science degree then yes, the Committee will look back at school results.

Can I access the University’s general admissions policies?
Yes, these can be found online here: http://edin.ac/1Q551UK

I have missed the deadline, can I still apply?
Yes, we normally consider late applications from international and graduate candidates. Please contact the BVM&S Admissions Team directly for further information on how to apply at vetug@ed.ac.uk

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What is a Work Experience Summary Form (WES)?
A Work Experience Summary Form allows you to record your relevant practical experience. All UCAS candidates must submit a Work Experience Summary form (WES) prior to the deadline of 22 October.

Do I need to send references for veterinary/animal work experience gained?
No, we only require that you complete a WES form prior to the 22 October deadline – the information you supply on the WES is sufficient.

Do you count veterinary/animal work experience planned after the 22 October deadline?
Unfortunately, we are unable to take account of any work experience “planned”. However, you should still include this information in the comments section of the WES.

I will not have any veterinary/animal work experience prior to submitting my application. Will I be eligible?
You will still be eligible to apply but we look for significant career exploration. We recognise that applicants have different levels of opportunity available to them to gain work experience and this is taken into account but there must be strong evidence that you have researched the career and that you can evidence this. We would not recommend applying if you cannot demonstrate this.

How much detail on my veterinary/animal work experience do I need to go into on the personal statement?
We are looking for brief details on the type of work experience you gained and the length of time on each. This is then supported by your WES form. The WES form is not limited in the number of placements you can include and has a free text section for you to give detail of your activities on the placement. Please check with other vet schools though as each school has different requirements.

What other things do you look for in an application?
The Admissions Committee look for evidence of career exploration prior to application (through work experience gained) and evidence of non-academic achievements and interests which could involve social involvement, school responsibilities, leadership, cultural, sporting, musical, vocational and voluntary achievements and interests and hobbies.

Can I amend my application after the deadline?
Not usually, we have to judge the application as it is on 15 October. We do not accept amended personal statements and expect your reference to be correct at the time of submission. However, there should be a factual error in personal details we can amend this. If you are unsure, please contact the Admissions Office to obtain clarification at vetug@ed.ac.uk

How many schools can I apply to?
You can choose up to four Veterinary Medicine schools. You have a fifth choice which may be used for an alternative programme without prejudice to demonstrating your commitment to veterinary medicine.

Can I defer entry?
The Admissions Committee do not normally offer deferred places. Candidates should apply through UCAS again prior to the year in which they wish to gain entry.

Do you recommend using your fifth choice?
Yes, it’s a good safety net. Entry to veterinary medicine is very competitive and gives you a fallback if you happen to be unsuccessful.

Do other Universities see where else I have applied for Veterinary medicine?
No, UCAS provide invisibility of any other University choices until you have received all your decisions and decided which offers, if any you accept.

Is there a minimum or maximum age limit?
There are no age restrictions for entry to study Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh.

How much veterinary/animal-related experience do I need?
We do not specify a required amount of work experience as it depends, to some extent, on the opportunities available to individual candidates. The broader the experience the better, but applicants are reminded that experience should not be gained to the detriment of their academic studies. Please see our website for further details on work experience: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying
Do I need to include every non-academic achievement I have gained?
No, it is a fine balance but you need to select the ones that show high skill, attainment and variety. We are looking for a rounded individual. You might find it helpful to think broadly of different experiences you have, especially those involving work with other people – Veterinary Medicine can be an intensive career choice, so we are looking to see you have ways of winding down and relaxing.

Can my referee mention anything towards my non-academic achievements?
Yes, the reference is used in conjunction with your Personal Statement, so your reference should mention such things if they are in a position to do so.

Are there specific achievements you are looking for that will give advantage, such as the Gold Duke of Edinburgh award?
No, we do not have a specific list of achievements we are looking for. You should aim to demonstrate what you have gained from your achievements and your commitment to them.

Am I required to sit the BMAT, MCAT or VCAT?
No, none of our candidates applying through UCAS are required to sit any of the above.

I am applying as a graduate candidate, should I apply for both the D100 and D102 courses?
No, apply to just one programme as the Admissions Committee will consider you for both programmes and it saves you having to use two UCAS choices for Edinburgh.

I am a graduate applicant with a degree and I live in the UK or EU/EEA what do I pay?
Graduate candidates, regardless of where domiciled, are considered for admission on a full cost fee basis only. Details of the current fees are available here: http://edin.ac/22DIG3g

I am a school leaver from Scotland how much are the fees?
For up to date information on tuition fees for Scottish applicants, please refer to the following website: http://edin.ac/1T7HxhE
You may be eligible to have your fees paid by the Scottish Government for your full period of study. You should apply to the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) who will pay your tuition fees to the University. http://edin.ac/1ZwzgEL

I am a school leaver from the UK (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) what are the fees?
For up to date information on tuition fees for UK applicants, please refer to the following website: http://edin.ac/1T7HxhE

Can I contact a current on course student?
All candidates who are made an offer will be paired with a student mentor in March/April. They are a current student who will be able to offer you invaluable advice and support. We try to match you up with students from a similar area where possible.

I am an international student, can I do some of my EMS back home?
Yes, currently only 2 weeks each for both the Animal Husbandry (1 week dairy, 1 week lambing) and Clinical EMS requirements (4 weeks in total) must be completed in the UK.
Can I visit the University?

Our Undergraduate Open Days are a great opportunity to come and see the University for yourself. For further information on Open days and when they are held visit: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/open-day

If you cannot attend any of the University Open Days please contact the Admissions Team at vetug@ed.ac.uk to arrange an alternative visit.

Can I intercalate during my course?

If you have special interest in animal disease you can choose to complete a BSc (Hons) Veterinary Science after your second or subsequent years. The programme consists of a year of advanced study in one of the following: biochemistry, neuroscience, microbiology & infectious diseases and zoology. You may, with permission, attend intercalated degree courses at the other UK Veterinary establishments and/or in other parts of the University. For exceptional candidates, there is also the alternative possibility of a one-year MSc by research after the third year, and even the possibility of doing an intercalated three-year PhD. You can also enroll on one of our prestigious taught MSc programmes which include Animal Welfare and Behaviour, Infectious Diseases, Conservation Medicine, Equine Science or One Health.

I am an international candidate can I do paid work whilst studying?

As a non-resident you are allowed to have paid employment for up to 20 hours per week during term time. During the vacation you are allowed to work full-time. However, due to the nature of the programme and the requirement to do Extra Mural Studies, we do not recommend working whilst studying.

Is the BVM&S equivalent to a DVM?

Yes, the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery is equivalent to a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

Is there student accommodation at the Easter Bush Campus?

No, all student accommodation is based in the central area of Edinburgh: www.accom.ed.ac.uk

Do you have any guidance for parents?

Yes, choosing the right University is an important decision in any student’s life and we understand parents want to be involved in their son or daughter making the right choice. Our Parents Guide is available here: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/parentsguide

For a more comprehensive list of Frequently Asked Questions, which may be of use to you, please refer to the following link: http://edin.ac/1Q59HtZ
Useful Contacts

BVM&S Admissions Team
Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies
The University of Edinburgh
Easter Bush Campus
Midlothian, EH25 9RG

Telephone: +44 (0)131 651 7305
Fax: +44 (0)131 650 6585
Email: vetug@ed.ac.uk
Web: www.ed.ac.uk/vet

Follow us
Facebook: www.facebook.com/DickVetAdmissions
Twitter: www.twitter.com/EdinburghVets

Head of School/Dean
Professor David Argyle

Directors
Veterinary Admissions
Dr Sally Argyle
Veterinary Teaching
Professor Susan Rhind
Student Affairs
Dr Geoff Pearson
Research and Graduate Studies
Professor Bernadette Dutia

Other Contacts

Accommodation Services
+44 (0)131 651 2042
accom.allocations@ed.ac.uk
www.accom.ed.ac.uk

Edinburgh University Students’ Association (EUSA)
+44 (0)131 650 2656
advice@eusa.ed.ac.uk
www.eusa.ed.ac.uk
www.twitter.com/EUSA

International Office
+44 (0)131 650 4296
enquiries.international@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/international-office

Student Disability Service
+44 (0)131 650 6828
disability.service@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/student-disability-service

Student Fees and Funding – Scholarships and Student Funding Services
+44 (0)131 650 2230
fees@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/fees

Student Recruitment and Admissions (SRA)
+44 (0)131 650 4360
sra.enquiries@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/student-recruitment
www.twitter.com/ApplyEdinburgh

UCAS
+44 (0)871 4680468
enquiries@ucas.ac.uk
www.ucas.com
www.twitter.com/ucas_online
Travelling to Easter Bush

The Easter Bush Campus is located seven miles to the south of the centre of Edinburgh. Students can apply for a subsidised bus pass to help offset the cost of travel. The main methods that students use to come to the campus are:

- **Bus** - Lothian buses runs regular services several times an hour.
- **Bike** - we have a secure bike shed, showers and changing facilities and the University supports a number of schemes to help people cycle to and from the campus.
- **Car** - some students choose to drive and are able to apply for a free student car park pass.
The Power of Three

The unique offering of Excellence in Teaching, Research and Clinical Care make up the three pillars of The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.