Overview
The Pre-Veterinary Medical Scholars Program provides early assurance of admission to the MU College of Veterinary Medicine to selected students pursuing undergraduate studies at the University of Missouri on the Columbia campus.

Objectives
• Guarantee acceptance into the MU College of Veterinary Medicine upon satisfactory completion of the program’s undergraduate requirements at MU.
• Develop a mentoring relationship between pre-veterinary medical scholars and MU CVM faculty.
• Facilitate student involvement in research and clinical activities in the college.

Eligibility
High school seniors and MU freshman with an ACT composite score of 30 or more, or an equivalent SAT score. ACT superscores accepted.

Selection Process
Selection is based on meeting the academic eligibility requirements, academic performance, evidence of leadership, extra-curricular activities and community involvement. U.S. citizenship or permanent residency is required.

Timetable
Deadline for application:
• High school seniors: March 15
• University of Missouri first-time freshmen: Sept. 15 or March 15
Notification of selection occurs soon after application deadlines.

Activities
Pre-veterinary medical (PVM) scholars are assigned faculty mentors of their choice whenever possible. For example, if a scholar is interested in surgery, he or she will probably be assigned to a faculty member who teaches surgery.

Meetings are required between PVM scholars and mentors. During these meetings, mentors review the scholars’ progress, offer advice, and answer questions. Mentors also alert scholars to events at the MU College of Veterinary Medicine, such as Open House and the Gentle Doctor Benefit.

Scholars may attend or assist in such events. Scholars will be informed of research activities in the College of Veterinary Medicine, and when possible, offered the opportunity to participate in research projects as a student assistant. Scholars assigned to clinicians may be able to attend case rounds and observe diagnostic or surgical procedures.
Undergraduate Requirements

To retain status as a PVM scholar, a student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 60 semester hours achieving a B- or higher grade as a full-time student within four years on the MU campus. Any courses used to meet required courses taken while in high school must be recorded on the student’s MU transcript to be considered. Credit by examination may be used if on a U.S. transcript.

Sample Listing of Courses

Communications, 6 hours
English 1000, Speech 1200 or Writing Intensive Class

Mathematics, 3 hours
Math 1100: College Algebra
Statistics 1200: Introductory Statistical Reasoning (or higher)

Biochemistry, 3 hours
Biochemistry 3630: General Biochemistry (or higher)
General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry leading to Biochemistry

Physics, 8 hours
Physics 1210 and 1220 (Must complete both)

Biological Sciences, 10 hours
Biology 1500: General Biology
Biology 2300: Intro to Cell Biology
AS3213: Genetics
AS3254: Physiology of Domestic Animals
AS4314: Reproductive Physiology

Social Sciences/Humanities, 10 hours
Economics, History, Political Sciences, Literature, Mythology, Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology

Electives, 10 hours

Minimum Standards

1. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or better in MU classes (semesters where a student is enrolled as a part-time student will not be used in the calculation of cumulative GPA). A student who fails to maintain a 3.50 cumulative GPA will have two successive full-time semesters to improve cumulative GPA to 3.50 or better. If the student’s cumulative GPA falls below the program minimum of 3.50 a second time, it will result in automatic dismissal.

2. Required courses for admission must be taken at MU in Columbia (60 hours). Elective courses may be taken elsewhere in summer, but grades will not be used in calculating the required cumulative GPA.

3. Make a B- or better in the 60 hours of required preprofessional courses. A single failing grade in any required course will result in dismissal. This academic requirement also applies to the general and organic chemistry requirements for Biochemistry 3630.

4. Maintain an average course load of 15 hours per semester (fall and spring only), exclusive of AP, CLEP, or advanced standing course hours.

5. Acquire at least 250 contact hours in high school or college observing a clinical veterinarian(s) practicing the profession. No more than 100 of the required 250 hours may be completed in the MU Veterinary Health Center as an employee. Confirmation of completed hours are required when submitting your veterinary medical college application.

6. Meet with mentor the first month of every enrolled semester: fall (September) and spring (January).

7. Become and remain an active member of the Pre-Veterinary Medicine Club and attend at least 10 meetings of the club per year.

8. Meet minimum attendance and participation requirements for supervised observation in the MU Veterinary Health Center. These clinical rotations cannot be used to meet the requirement for experience with veterinarians in standard 5.

9. Complete the program within four years.*

A minimum of three years (six full-time semesters) of undergraduate studies at MU are required before matriculating at the College of Veterinary Medicine.

*If a student submits an application to the College of Veterinary Medicine independent of the PVM Scholars Program, prior to meeting the minimum program standards and is unsuccessful in gaining admission, that student forfeits placement in the PVM Scholars Program.