



Western University

OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The College of Veterinary Medicine
Welcomes the Future Class of 2022



**College of Veterinary Medicine
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Program**

Orientation Booklet and Admissions Guide

The Interview Process

Interviews at Western University of Health Sciences are meant to be an exchange of information in a warm and welcoming environment. It is an experience that is to be both positive and enjoyable for the student applicants. Our interviews are never meant to be threatening nor confrontational in any way. Applicants have been selected by the admissions committee because they exemplify those qualities that we feel are important in the professionals whom we educate.

We understand that the applicants are also making choices regarding the professional school that they will attend. Our goal is to inform the applicants of the educational programs provided to assist them, the state of the art facilities that are available to the applicants, and demonstrate to potential students that we are “living our values” so that we are here for our students and for each other. This is what makes Western University of Health Sciences a special place to learn.

General Applicant Information

- We received over 700 applications and expect approximately 400 interviews to be scheduled to fill a class of 105 students.
- Interviews will be conducted October 28 and 30 and November 4, 6, 11, and 13, 2017.

Orientation

The interview day has been organized to allow candidates to obtain information on our program and support services; therefore, we encourage you to **ASK QUESTIONS!**

Tour of the Campus

A tour of our campus is optional will be offered on the day of your interview.

Interview

- Candidates should be in the interview waiting area 15 minutes prior to the interview.
- The average interview is conducted in a multiple mini-interview format with two sessions approximately 15 minutes in duration for each session.
- The interview panel may be comprised of two of the following: faculty member, a practicing DVM, and/or alumni of Western University.

Admissions Committee Decisions

- Following the interview, candidates are placed in one of three categories: Accept, Alternate, or Not Accept.
- Candidates are notified by e-mail of the college’s decision. **Notification letters for all categories will be e-mailed by mid-December 2017.** If you have not received notification of your status by mid-January 2018, please feel free to contact the Admissions office.
- **Official transcripts, history & physical information, and titer results are required of all accepted students.**
- Candidates selected as alternates may be offered a seat in the class as late as the first week of school in August.

Questions

If you have questions regarding your application, please contact your Admissions Counselor by phone or email (please refer to the Contacts page for contact information).

Evaluation Form

You will receive an e-mail shortly after your e-mail with a link to our interview day evaluation form. Please take a moment complete and submit it to the Admissions Office as soon as possible. Your feedback and comments are important to us, as we consider them when planning next year’s interview day activities. The information that you report will remain confidential and will not be used in determining admission

IMPORTANT ACCEPT STATUS INFORMATION

ALL prerequisite course work in progress must be completed by the end of the **Spring 2018 semester or quarter or **June 15, 2018**. Candidates who are completing their degree may complete non-prerequisite coursework in **Summer 2018**. Summer 2018 coursework must be completed by **August 1, 2018** or the candidate's seat in the class will be rescinded. **Fall 2018 courses will not be accepted.****

If you have prerequisite course work in progress, and are accepted to WesternU's Veterinary Medicine program, your acceptance will be contingent upon successful completion of **ALL** prerequisite courses ("**C-**" or lower is unacceptable) by Spring 2018 (or June 15, 2018 at the latest) and satisfaction of all admissions requirements.

A current history and physical along with the results of a TB test or chest x-ray, both **within six months of matriculation**, and current Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and adult pertussis) will be required for registration. We will also need titer results for MMR, varicella (chicken pox), and the Hepatitis B series (or have first two shots completed in order to register). Rabies vaccination is also required of all Veterinary Medicine students (must have started series by first day of class).

We strongly recommend that you schedule an appointment for your physical examination as soon as you receive your letter of acceptance.

All required documentation must be received by the deadline indicated below. Failure to complete the admissions requirements by the deadline will result in the delay of your financial aid and/or the rescindment of your acceptance.

Acceptance Deposit & Acceptance Declaration Form	April 15, 2018
History, Physical & Immunization Documentation	July 1, 2018
Updated Official Transcripts Fall & Winter Coursework	March 1, 2018
Spring Course Work/Degree in Progress Documentation	June 1, 2018
Any Additional Requested Documentation	June 1, 2018
Non U.S. Residents/Proof of Legal U.S. Residency	June 1, 2018
(i.e., visa, green card) – <u>only if you are a non-resident and/or hold a visa</u>	
All Official Spring Transcripts	June 30, 2018

Transcripts are to be sent electronically to the EDS department at eds@westernu.edu. If transcripts are unable to be sent electronically, please have them mailed to:

Western University of Health Sciences
Attn: CVM Admissions/EDS
309 E. Second Street
Pomona, CA 91766

If you have any questions, please check with the Admissions Office.

ACCEPTANCE DEPOSIT

For DVM candidates accepted to Western University of Health Sciences, the acceptance deposit is \$500, payable to Western University of Health Sciences and is due by the date indicated in the acceptance letter. **This deposit is non-refundable.** Upon matriculation, the university will apply the \$500 deposit toward the student's account.

ALTERNATE STATUS INFORMATION

Candidates selected as alternates may or may not be offered a seat for the upcoming entering class. Please note that alternate candidates are not ranked or numbered, rather they are considered as a pool of viable candidates. **The alternate status remains unchanged until notified in writing by Western University of Health Sciences' Office of Admissions.**

Alternate candidates may be offered a seat from the time the alternate notification is received until classes start in August 2018. Please submit the alternate declaration form online to confirm that you wish to remain under consideration should a seat become available. If you should accept a seat elsewhere, please notify us **in writing** (email is preferred) so that we may remove you from the alternate pool.

If you are placed in the alternate pool, and you would like suggestions on how to improve your application for the next application cycle, you are encouraged to review the competitive statistics page on the prospective student website. In addition, suggestions on how to improve your application do not guarantee an interview and/or acceptance to the DVM Program. We ask that you not email your admissions counselor for advising, as they do not have details regarding why you were not chosen initially for a seat in the class.

IF YOU ARE NOT OFFERED AN ACCEPTANCE

The Office of Admissions will notify candidates who are unsuccessful in gaining admission by email. Admissions will notify alternates not selected for admission via email by late August if not offered a seat by the first day of class. Applicants not offered a seat are encouraged to review the competitive class statistics page on the prospective student website. In addition, suggestions on how to improve your application do not guarantee an interview and/or acceptance to the DVM program. We ask that you not email your admissions counselor for advising, as they do not have details regarding why you were not chosen initially for a seat in the class.

Remember to check our website for new application deadline dates and any changes in program prerequisites. Please review the admissions requirements carefully for these changes.

WESTERN UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES CATALOG

You may access the University Catalog via our web site. It is presented as a pdf file so you will need to download Acrobat Reader to access the [catalog](#).

In addition, with the advent of an online catalog, the information contained in the Student Handbook has been incorporated into the catalog. University Academic Policies and Procedures are contained as a section within each program component.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW & TIMELINE

Please visit [the Curriculum page of our website](#) to view information about the curriculum for the program.

**Western University of Health Sciences
College of Veterinary Medicine**

STUDENT TIME COMMITMENTS

Years 1 & 2
<p>Scheduled In Class Time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Problem-Based Learning modules (PBL): 6 hr/wkBasic Science Laboratory: BSL 4 hrs/wk ▶ MCB, Veterinary Issues: 42 hr/wk▶ Anatomy Laboratory: 4 hr/wk▶ Primary Care Clinic/Clinical Skills: 2 hr/wk (averaged over semester) (Commuting cost and time is the student's responsibility) <p>Self-directed/Impromptu Time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Q and A: up to 2 hr/wk▶ Laboratories/skills practice: 6 hr/wk▶ Group meetings: 6 hr/wk▶ Library/computer/case research: 8 hr/wk▶ Studying: 8 hr/wk
Year 3
<p>Scheduled Time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Required rotations:▶ Contact time: Normally 20-30 hr/wk (includes rounds, outpatients, inpatients, business meetings, and record maintenance)▶ Non-contact time: As a group 20 hr/wk (includes library/computer/case research, learning objectives, studying)▶ Commuting cost and time is the student's responsibility <p>Self-Directed, individual study time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Approximately 10-20 hr/wk
Year 4
<p>Scheduled Time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Selective rotations:▶ Contact time: 40-50 hr/wk (includes rounds, outpatients, inpatients, business meetings, record maintenance)▶ Non-contact time: 20 hr/wk▶ Library/computer/case research▶ Learning objectives▶ Reading
<p>Self-Directed, individual study time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Approximately 10-20 hr/wk

FINANCIAL AID

Applying for Aid

Students need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order to apply for financial aid. The Financial Aid Office encourages all students to file the FAFSA [via the web](#) on or after **October 1, 2017**.

Federal Student Aid
An OFFICE of the U.S. DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

PROUD SPONSOR of
the AMERICAN MIND®

FAFSA®
Free Application for Federal Student Aid

Home About Us FSA ID StudentAid.gov Help

SEARCH
English Español

Get help paying for college

Submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

New to the FAFSA?

Start A New FAFSA

Returning User?

- Make a correction
- Add a school
- View your Student Aid Report (SAR), and more...

Login

Students are encouraged to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to update your 2015 IRS tax return information. The school code for Western University of Health Sciences (WesternU) is **024827**. The priority deadline for the financial aid application is **March 2, 2018**. Once the student has submitted the completed FAFSA application, the Financial Aid Office will then be able to determine the student's eligibility for federal aid. An award letter will be sent electronically to the student's Western U e-mail address by mid-April. More detailed information about the financial aid process is available [online](#).

STUDENT BUDGET

The budgets are set for the student alone. **Per federal regulations we are not allowed to supplement the student budget for spouses or any other dependents.** However, we are able to add childcare expenses to your budget if your spouse is working while you are attending WesternU. In addition, financial aid is not designed to cover outside consumer debt such as automobile payments, auto insurance, credit card debt, and moving expenses to attend WesternU.

The following budget was assigned to vet med students for the 2017-2018 academic year:

2017/2018	First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine	10 Months	10 Months	10 Months	11 Months
Tuition & Fees				
Tuition	\$52,860.00	\$52,860.00	\$52,860.00	\$52,860.00
Student Body Fees	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
Graduation fees	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$350.00
Total Fees	\$52,900.00	\$52,900.00	\$52,900.00	\$53,250.00
Budget Items/Estimated Costs				
Books & Supplies	\$819.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Living Expenses (R&B/Personal)	\$17,563.00	\$17,563.00	\$17,563.00	\$19,320.00
Transportation	\$2,742.00	\$2,742.00	\$6,741.00	\$7,062.00
Vet Med National Boards	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$1,000.00
Membership Dues	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$100.00
Background Check & Finger Printing	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$100.00
SCAVMA (covers all 4 years)	\$120.00			
Total Budget Components	\$21,044.00	\$20,305.00	\$24,304.00	\$27,582.00
Loan Fees				
Direct Stafford Unsubsidized Loan Fees	\$457.00	\$457.00	\$457.00	\$480.00
Grad PLUS Loan Fees	\$1,355.00	\$1,323.00	\$1,494.00	\$1,550.00
Total Loan Fees	\$1,812.00	\$1,780.00	\$1,951.00	\$2,030.00
Total Budget	\$75,756.00	\$74,985.00	\$79,155.00	\$82,862.00

Budgets for the 2018-2019 aid year will be posted on our webpage by the end of March 2018. To view our updated budgets please [visit the financial aid website](#).



For more information on budgeting and finances, please visit our “**Financing a Healthy Future**” [website](#).

DISBURSEMENTS

Federal regulations require that all federal funds be divided into equal payments. Based on the Veterinary Medicine program, disbursements are typically scheduled 5 days prior to the first day of enrollment for the fall term. Spring disbursements are typically scheduled the first Monday of January upon returning from the winter holiday break and summer disbursements typically occur by the end of April.



- Your financial aid disbursement will be applied to your student account to pay off tuition and other fees before the tuition due date.

If there is a credit balance, it will be disbursed to your checking account on your [scheduled disbursement date](#). These dates will be updated by the end of March 2018 for the 2018-2019 academic year

LOAN PROGRAMS

Your financial aid award will be based on the budget shown above. Graduate professional students are eligible for two types of federal loans as shown below:

Federal Unsubsidized Stafford - Students may be eligible for up to \$42,722 based on a 10-month academic year. Effective July 1, 2013 interest rates have changed to a “variable-fixed” rate. The rate would be fixed until the loan is paid in full. Interest rates will be established on July 1, for the upcoming academic year. For the 2017/2018 academic year the interest rate is 6.0% (T-bill + 3.60%) which starts accruing interest as soon as the funds are disbursed to the university. Please remember that the interest rate for the 2018/2019 academic year may differ based on what the 10-Year T-Bill will be by the end of May 2018. For additional information [visit our website](#). In addition, there is a 1.066% origination fee, which is assessed at the time of disbursement. Federal unsubsidized repayment will begin six months after the student graduates or drops below half time enrollment. Limited deferments and forbearances are available to students upon graduation based on economic hardship.

Grad PLUS Loan – **Effective July 1, 2013 interest rates have changed to a “variable-fixed” rate.** The rate would be fixed until the loan is paid in full. Interest rates will be established on July 1, for the upcoming academic year. For the 2017/2018 academic year, the interest rate is 7.00% (T-bill + 4.60%), which starts accruing interest as soon as the funds are disbursed to the university. Please remember that the interest rate for the 2018/2019 academic year may differ based on what the 10-Year T-Bill will be by the end of May 2018. For additional information, [visit our website](#). In addition, there is a 4.264% origination fee, which is assessed at the time of disbursement. Repayment begins 6 months after the student graduates or drops below half time enrollment. Limited deferments and forbearances are available to students upon graduation based on economic hardship. Students may borrow up to the cost of attendance minus other financial aid. ***The Grad PLUS loan also requires a credit check.**

Alternative Loans – Alternative loans are designed for international and DACA students. However, students eligible for federal loans can apply for alternative loans. **In order for an international student to obtain funding a U.S. Citizen co-signer is required.** Alternative loans are based on credit worthiness. Unlike the Stafford Loan program, approval is not guaranteed. The lending institutions determine interest rates of which there is no cap. Some lenders may charge an origination fee. Alternative loans may not have deferment/forbearance options as well. ***Alternative loans also require a credit check.**

***Please note: Grad Plus and alternative loan borrowers cannot have an adverse credit history, which includes 90 days or more delinquency on any debit, or a credit report that shows default,**

discharge, foreclosure, repossession, bankruptcy, tax lien, wage garnishment or write off of a Title IV debt during five years preceding the date of the credit report.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Private Scholarships – Scholarships are available from private sources such as: hospital auxiliaries, ethnic associations, religious affiliations, community organizations, etc. We encourage students to access the Internet for [scholarship sources](#).

WICHE– Pays a portion of tuition for those students who are residents of the following states: Arizona, Hawaii, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota and Wyoming.

Institutional Scholarships – Are also available. To find out more, visit the Financial Aid Office or [visit our scholarship website](#).

For additional information on Financial Aid, please visit our website at www.westernu.edu or call 800-346-1610

UNIVERSITY STUDENT AFFAIRS – SUPPORT SERVICES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018

Please click on the links to learn more about the support services offered by the university and other information important for potential students.

[Learning Enhancement and Academic Development \(LEAD\)](#)

The LEAD office is student-oriented. It serves as an important resource, partnership and support system for students. LEAD counselors are dedicated to assist students in developing their academic, professional and personal skills.

[Harris Family Center for Disability and Health Policy \(CDHP\)](#)

If you have a disability and/or medical condition there are a number of support services available to you. Assistant Director of Accommodations and Resource Center (AARC), Sandra Lawler is available to meet with you and discuss the intake process, required documentation and academic accommodations. To contact the center, you may call (909) 469-5441 or email slawler@westernu.edu

[Fitness – Pomona, CA Campus](#) |

We want you to stay mentally and physically fit while you are a student, so we offer a number of great opportunities for fitness memberships:

1. **LA Fitness** - WesternU pays \$100 and **you pay \$99-\$219 per year** depending on your option (California/Multi-State/Signature, with or without racquetball) for enrollment.
2. **Reimbursement to any Non-LA Fitness Gym** – You may be eligible for a reimbursement for an annual/pre-paid membership or a month-to-month membership (excluding LA Fitness).

[Counseling](#) |

We are pleased to provide all full-time students access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for Students through OptumHealth.

[Identification Badges](#)

Student identification badges must be worn at all times while on campus, and entry into buildings may be denied without proper ID.

[Health Insurance](#)

[Student Parking](#) |

[Housing](#) |

[Metrolink](#) |

[Student Government Association, Community Service & Clubs](#)

[Diversity](#)

We are proud of our diverse student body, and the many extracurricular activities offered on campus reflect that diversity. We offer a wide range of opportunities with campus organizations that include **cultural, religious, medical, and fine arts** clubs. The cultural diversity present on our campus provides students with an appreciation and respect for people of all backgrounds.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

Karen Hutton-Lopez, Director of Admissions (A-Z)
(909) 469-5650

klopez@westernu.edu

Alexandra Higgins, Admissions Counselor (A-L)
(909) 469-5272

ahiggins@westernu.edu

Lindsay McCasland, Admissions Counselor (M-Z)
(909) 469-5474

lbinks@westernu.edu

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE

Cindy Hines, Financial Aid Counselor
(909) 469-5259

chines@westernu.edu

Linda Frenza, Financial Aid Counselor
(909) 469-5356

lfrenza@westernu.edu

UNIVERSITY STUDENT SERVICES

Beverly Guidry, EdD, V. P. of University Student Affairs

bguidry@westernu.edu

For questions regarding Orientation, Health Insurance, and Pre-Enrollment Activities:

Debbie Harvey, Administrative Associate
(909) 469-5343

dharvey@westernu.edu

For questions regarding Student Clubs and Organizations:

Christy Ho, Director of University Student Relations
(909) 469-5616

hoc@westernu.edu

For questions regarding Fitness Clubs:

Jessica Kersey, Assistant Director of Student Affairs
(909) 706-3517

jkersey@westernu.edu

For questions regarding Housing:

Jared Abdus-Shakoor, Student Affairs Assistant
(909) 469-5340

jabdusshakoor@westernu.edu

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE STUDENT SERVICES

For specific questions relating to Veterinary Medicine Curriculum:

Nicole Jimenez
(909) 469-3470

njimenez@westernu.edu

LEARNING ENHANCEMENT/ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Dagmar Cofer, Director

dcofer@westernu.edu

LAPTOP COMPUTER TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For laptop computer assistance

techsupport@westernu.edu