Veterinary – Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, DVM

Information below is for pre-health advisement only. Students are responsible for verifying admissions information for their programs of interest. All information is subject to change.

Career Description:
Veterinarians play a major role in the healthcare of pets, livestock, and zoo, sporting, and laboratory animals. Some veterinarians use their skills to protect humans against diseases carried by animals and conduct clinical research on human and animal health problems. Others work in basic research, broadening the scope of fundamental theoretical knowledge, and in applied research, developing new ways to use knowledge. There is a growing need for vets with post-graduate education in particular specialties, such as molecular biology, laboratory animal medicine, toxicology, immunology, diagnostic pathology, or environmental medicine. The veterinary profession also is becoming more involved in aquaculture, comparative medical research, food production, and international disease control.

Basic Education Path to Career:

Matriculant Statistics:
- Average overall GPA of matriculants in 2015: 3.55
- Exam Required: GRE
  - Average Exam Score of matriculants for 2015:
    - Verbal Percentile: 65.7%
    - Quantitative Percentile: 58.1%
    - Writing Percentile: 55.8%
- To be competitive for this career, schools want to see at least 2 years of pre-vet semesters, which include multiple 3000/4000 level science courses before applying.
- Pre-vet semesters are: Semesters consisting of minimum 14-16 credit hours, with 8-11 hours of science courses. Science courses consist of biology, chemistry, mathematics and physics.

Required extra-curricular activities:
1) Building animal care/handling experience through volunteer work at a shelter or rescue
2) Consistent and Long Term shadowing with at least 1 veterinarian to gain experience and knowledge about the career you wish to pursue
3) At least 1 experience in each of the animal fields:
   i. Small Animal/Pet
   ii. Equine/Farm Animal
   iii. Exotic/Zoo/Avian

Recommended extra-curricular activities:
1) Involvement in a leadership building organization such as 4-H or FFA
2) Animal or Vet internships that build various animal related skill sets
3) At least 1 shadowing experience in each animal field
4) Research experience in any field
5) Leadership experience in either a club or university organization
6) Public Speaking coursework to show strong communication skills

Resources:
- Association of American Veterinary Medical College: www.avmc.org/
- For more information please contact the USF Division of Health Professions Advising at healthprofadvise@usf.edu