So...You Want to Be a Vet?

Want more information? Contact Us!

**Pre-Vet Program:**
prevetprogram@hawaii.edu

**Pre-Vet Club at UH Mānoa**
Website: [http://www2.hawaii.edu/~prevet/](http://www2.hawaii.edu/~prevet/)

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**CTAHR (College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources)**
Web: [www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/acad](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/acad)

**Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences**
Web: [www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/hnfas](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/hnfas)
Email: hnfas@ctahr.hawaii.edu

**Pre-Health/Pre-Law Advising Office**

**Office of Admissions and Records University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa**
2600 Campus Road
Honolulu, HI 96822 USA
Phone: (808) 956-8975
Fax: (808) 956-4148
Email: ar-info@hawaii.edu
Web: [http://manoa.hawaii.edu/admissions/](http://manoa.hawaii.edu/admissions/)

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**Frequently Asked Questions**

How do I become part of the Pre-Veterinary program?
- Your first step should be to contact us (at the Pre-Veterinary program email address on the back of the brochure).

What opportunities will I have at UH Mānoa?
- Hawaii itself makes it easy for each student to gain experience with a wide range of animals. UH also has strong affiliations with outside organizations that make internships available to students, giving them the hands-on animal experience they need for veterinary school.

Is it hard to get into veterinary school?
- Due to the large number of applicants and the small number of schools, veterinary school is very difficult to get into. UH Mānoa understands this, and has provided its students with a full-fledged staff, advisors, interactive clubs, and a well-rounded curriculum to assist students on their path to veterinary school.

How long does it take to become a veterinarian?
- Typically, it will take you 4 years to earn a Bachelor’s degree, and an additional 4 years to earn your DVM. It is possible to go on the veterinary school without a bachelor’s, as long as all the prerequisites are complete.

What type of grades does it take to get into veterinary school?
- The best grades you can manage, but the average GPA of those accepted is 3.6 (on a 4.0 scale).

Is there a veterinary school on the island?
- There is no veterinary school in Hawai‘i. But, WICHE (Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education) is a program that offers in-state tuition for Hawai‘i residents attending professional schools in certain western mainland states.

Want more information?
Contact Us!
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

**Here and Now...**

Your high school career is winding down and you are in the last couple years of your lower education. You may have already given some thought to your future, but now is when the real planning begins. Do you excel in science? Do you have an interest in animals, large or small and have concern for their general well-being? ….If you answered yes to any or all of these questions, you should consider the path of veterinary medicine.

In considering veterinary medicine, you should know that it is not just a matter of saying out loud, “I want to be a veterinarian!” It means a lot of hard work and ambition, but work that will be well rewarded if you decide that this is what you really want.

Even though you are still in high school, there are some things you can do to prepare yourself for your future.

1. Get good grades. This is very important
2. Get involved in your school (clubs, organizations, leadership positions) Stand out!
3. Get involved in your community. Volunteer!

**What to look forward to...**

In college, life will change a great deal, and it will hit you very fast, but it is important to stay focused. While in high school you should do some research on what requirements you need to meet in college in order to get into veterinary school. This way, as you are choosing classes and signing up for activities you know what to do; advisors are always there to help, but you are your own best advocate and are ultimately responsible for and affected by the outcome.

1. Get good grades. Even more important
2. Do your research
3. Get involved with college and community alike

**University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa...**

The University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is just the college to achieve all your goals.

- UH offers a wide variety of majors and hands-on experiences
- One-on-one conversations in an elite mentoring program with outstanding veterinarians and researchers
- Gain hands-on experience, great research opportunities with renowned and recognized researchers
- Small classes and easy to know professors
- Gain experiences as part of the Pre-Veterinary Club

**Possible Majors**

Veterinary schools do not require a specific major. Any major is possible, but these are the most common:

- Animal Science
- Biology (Marine and Microbiology)
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry

Animal science is a great major out of these because it offers the most variety of animal-related courses and experiences from studying anatomy to caring inseminating pigs. The animal science curriculum is structured around veterinary school requirements.

**Where to look for some guidance...**

When researching veterinary medicine as a possible career path, check out these websites for more information!

- [http://www.aavmc.org](http://www.aavmc.org)
  The Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges is a good source to learn about what requirements must be met for vet school.
- [http://manoa.hawaii.edu/rio/prevet/](http://manoa.hawaii.edu/rio/prevet/)
  This is the University of Hawai‘i own pre-veterinary medicine club. Use this site to get an idea of what you can do at UH to assist in your goals. Make sure to contact them if you have any questions or concerns! Join once you enroll at UH.
- [http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site)
  CTAHR (College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources) is the home of the Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences (HNFAS) Department. The Animal Sciences major is in HNFAS.