The Pre-Veterinary Path While At UH-Mānoa

Some guidelines to think about while journeying through an undergraduate degree at University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

Useful Resources:

Pre-Veterinary Program at UH, Mānoa
Email: prevetprogram@hawaii.edu
Website: [http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/hnfas/degrees/undergrad/preVet.html](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/hnfas/degrees/undergrad/preVet.html)

Pre-Veterinary Club at UH, Mānoa
Website: [http://manoa.hawaii.edu/rio/prevet/](http://manoa.hawaii.edu/rio/prevet/)

Pre-Veterinary Advisor at UH, Mānoa:
Dr. Vincent Douglas
Office: Ag Sci 314 E
[vincent@hawaii.edu](mailto:vincent@hawaii.edu)

Pre-Health/Pre-Law Advising at UH, Mānoa:
Website: [http://manoa.hawaii.edu/pac/](http://manoa.hawaii.edu/pac/)
Phone: (808) 956-4045

American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA):
Website: [http://www.aavmc.org/](http://www.aavmc.org/)

GRE
Website: [http://www.ets.org/gre/](http://www.ets.org/gre/)

Trying to get into Veterinary School is very challenging and rigorous path. Hopefully this pamphlet will provide you with useful guidelines to follow so that you can be successful at achieving your goal. Best of luck!
While At UHM

Keep these in mind:

1.) Grades, Grades, Grades!

Grades are one of the most important things for getting into veterinary school. You need to have and maintain a high GPA throughout your undergraduate career (or beyond). Although it is not the only thing veterinary schools look at, it holds a great importance in their decision process. Make your GPA as high as possible.

2.) Plan Your Courses

Try to plan out your undergraduate course load as soon as possible. It not only assures you that you will complete the necessary requirements before going to veterinary school (each veterinary school is different) but it is also important to spread the challenging classes out so you can do well and maintain the high GPA. Meeting with your advisor for your major as well as the Pre-veterinary advisor at UH is a good thing to do every semester.

3.) Animal/Laboratory Experience

It is necessary for veterinary schools to see that you are truly interested in veterinary medicine. This means volunteering or working for a veterinarian and/or in animal related areas. The more experience the better! Diversity in animal experience is also important. Veterinary schools want to see that you have seen different aspects of the veterinary field and know what you are getting yourself into. Working and volunteering is also a great way to get to know people/veterinarians that can write you a good recommendation letter.

Some examples of experience are:

- Laboratory experience
- Volunteering at the Zoo or Humane Society
- Participating in one of the Pre-veterinary Club’s activities
- Interning at the aquarium, Sea Life Park, or NOAA
- Working at a small animal clinic
- Participating in a dog walk
- Attending an animal related seminar such as those through the HVMA.

Keep an accurate and up-to-date resume or description of everything you do that is animal related! You will need this when you apply for veterinary school interview.

4.) Recommendations

To apply and get into veterinary school you must get three references. The requirement is normally “one recommendation must be from a science related academic source and one must be from a veterinarian. The third is of the applicant’s choice but should not be from a family member.”

The best way to get to know people for references is by seeing them often and over a significant amount of time. Examples include: Going to office hours, interning at a clinic, working for them. They should get to know who you are, what your goals are and how you are going to reach those goals.

5.) Explore the schools

You should figure out what veterinary schools you want to apply to as early as possible and start looking into what they offer. A good resource to find what each school has to offer is through the AVMA website (on the back of this pamphlet).

6.) GRE

This is the test that most veterinary schools accept though a few take the MCATs as well. Plan to take the GREs at least a year before applying to veterinary school. You may have to take the exam more than once and it is best to start early. Also think about taking a GRE preparatory class or buying a GRE study book so that you can do as well as possible.