Welcome

I am delighted that you are considering the University of Edinburgh to study veterinary medicine. I hope you find this guide useful when making what is, undoubtedly, a life-changing decision.

At Edinburgh, we are committed to offering you an outstanding higher educational experience; one we believe will shape your future beyond measure. We have a responsibility to ensure we provide you with the very best.

The School of Veterinary Medicine provides specialist teaching by academics who are at the forefront of their fields. Our research division is the Roslin Institute, which aims to enhance the lives of animals and humans through world-class research in animal biology.

Your educational experience at Edinburgh will be transformative. Our internationally accredited programme and diversity of learning experiences will set you apart with the latest knowledge, global perspectives, research-informed skills and well-practised expertise required for professional success.

As a future graduate, you can access a range of excellent careers and employability services. From dedicated support delivered at a local level to a broad range of internship options and the opportunity to engage with alumni internationally, we will equip and prepare you for a global employment market.

Good luck with your preparation towards fulfilling your dream of studying veterinary medicine. You will be warmly welcomed as part of our family.

Our dedicated admissions team is ready to support you in your applicant journey. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us; we will do all we can to help.

I wish you every success with your studies and hope to welcome you to Edinburgh in the near future.

Professor David Argyle
Head of School
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose us</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power of Three</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The School</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The University</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Campus</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Resources and Support</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Clinical Services</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your Student Experience</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edinburgh and Beyond</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine &amp; Surgery</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme Structure</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entry Requirements</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Process</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions Cycle</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ability, Health and Background</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Careers</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Profiles</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Programmes</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contacts</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAQs</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Established in 1823, one of the world's oldest veterinary schools

International Leader
in veterinary education, research and practice

96.4%
student satisfaction
(National Student Survey 2019)

Purpose-built modern campus nestled against the Pentland Hills Regional Park
Home to the renowned Roslin Institute, where Dolly the Sheep was created.

Part of the University of Edinburgh, in Scotland’s historic capital city.

Our accreditation allows our graduates to practise in the UK, North America, Europe, South Africa, Australasia and beyond.

1ST in UK for Veterinary Science (Guardian league Tables)

1ST in UK for Veterinary Science (Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide)

1ST in UK for Veterinary Science (Shanghai Rankings 2020)

6TH in the world for Veterinary Science (QS World Rankings 2020)
The Power of Three

The unique offering of excellence in teaching, research and clinical care make up the three pillars of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.

Teaching

We are proud to count among our staff some of the most distinguished veterinary professionals and academics in the world, and offer our students an exceptional teaching experience. Our National Student Survey score in 2019 was 96.4 per cent student satisfaction overall, with 98 per cent teaching satisfaction.

Our teaching takes place on a purpose-built campus, with top-of-the-range classroom, clinical, research and study facilities (see pages 12-13). You will learn in modern environments designed to fit your needs, including three working veterinary practices (see pages 15-17).
Research

Our world-class research division, the Roslin Institute, rose to international fame in 1996 when Ian Wilmut, Keith Campbell and colleagues created Dolly the Sheep, the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell. We undertake cutting-edge basic and translational science to tackle some of the most pressing issues in animal health and welfare, their implications for human health and the role of animals in the food chain.

We place a major emphasis on conducting high-quality research and attracting world-class talent. In the most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF), veterinary and agricultural research at the University of Edinburgh and Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC) was ranked as the most powerful in the UK. Three-quarters of our research was classified ‘world leading’ or ‘internationally excellent’.

Clinical Care

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies is home to three clinical practices with hospitals attached, each distinguished in its excellence and committed to providing the very best clinical care to patients.

Our clinical facilities offer patients and students alike an unparalleled experience owing to our staff, facilities and bench-to-bedside research.

Read more about our clinical practices on pages 15-17.
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, founded in 1823 by William Dick, is recognised as an international leader in veterinary education, research and practice, and is consistently ranked as one of the top schools in the United Kingdom and globally.

The School is a one-of-a-kind centre of excellence in clinical activity, teaching and research. Our purpose-built campus, set against the backdrop of the beautiful Pentland Hills Regional Park, is home to more 800 staff and almost 1,400 students, all of whom contribute to our exceptional community ethos.

The School comprises:

- The Roslin Institute
- The Hospital for Small Animals
- Equine Veterinary Services
- Farm Animal Services
- Easter Bush Pathology
- The Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education
- The Roslin Innovation Centre
- The Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Security

We represent the largest concentration of animal science-related expertise in Europe, impacting local, regional, national and international communities in terms of economic growth, the provision of clinical services and the advancement of scientific knowledge. All of these factors allow us to continue to attract the highest calibre of teaching staff, scientists and clinicians in order to foster and enhance our collaborative environment, which sustains and expands our links with partners and industry.

£100,000,000+

has been invested in the Easter Bush Campus.

Our notable vet alumni are founders of veterinary schools in:

Canada | USA | UK

Ireland and Australia
The University of Edinburgh

The University has been influencing the world since 1583. We have a long history of making a difference, but it isn’t one we take for granted. To this day, we strive to deliver excellence and help address tomorrow’s greatest challenges.

You can’t plan on changing the world without starting small. It takes an inquisitive mind and a curious nature. It takes a stimulating teacher with the passion and enthusiasm to light the fire of a subject in your mind. It takes the confidence to challenge and be challenged, instead of just accepting the status quo.

We believe everyone deserves an equal opportunity to study. We welcome students from all over the world, who represent diverse experiences, backgrounds and cultures.

For more than 400 years, our students and staff have been influencing and changing the world for the better. Now it’s your turn.

1583
The year the University of Edinburgh was founded

7,400+
International students from 160 countries

43,300+
Students

26,700+
Undergraduate students

Top sporting university in Scotland, with world-class facilities

30
Libraries

5
Galleries & Museums

200+
Student Societies
Our Campus

The Easter Bush Campus is a purpose-built home for veterinary teaching, research and practice. Set against the idyllic backdrop of the Pentland Hills Regional Park, the Campus lies seven miles south of the city centre. It is easily accessible by bus (see page 46) and has ample free car parking facilities.

For a virtual tour of the campus, visit: www.edin.ac/vet-ug-our-campus

The University of Edinburgh and the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies are committed to sustainability. With electric car charging points, hedgehog tunnels, recycling initiatives, an apiary for bees, allotments, shower facilities for bike commuters and bike safety checks, and a solar farm in development, we’re proud to call Easter Bush a sustainable campus.

Learn more: www.easterbush.mvm.ed.ac.uk
“The Easter Bush Campus made the decision very easy. The vastness of the campus and the many different buildings catering to all aspects of veterinary medicine was really quite something to take in.”

Robert Campbell, BVM&S student
Facilities

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies is a world-leader in veterinary education, research and clinical practice. Our students benefit from a modern campus with state-of-the-art facilities purpose-built for veterinary teaching and learning.

**Dissection Room**
Most practical anatomy lessons take place in the Dissection Room. It is a versatile space, with tables that can be moved around for group or individual study and screens for students to view closely what the lecturer is describing or demonstrating. The room is home to an extensive library of specimens, bones and skeletons, for use in class or individual study.

**Study Landscape**
The Study Landscape is a large space designed for individual and group study. It has interactive displays that enable students to support their learning and build familiarity with items such as animal models, medicine boxes, animal feeds and other items they may encounter in practice.

**Farm**
The School has a 240-cow dairy herd nearby at Langhill Farm, as well as a sheep flock at Easter Bush. Here, students will learn all aspects of looking after farm animals in a commercial farm environment, and prepare for work experience (Extra-Mural Studies) as part of the undergraduate veterinary course.
Clinical Skills Lab
The clinical skills lab facilitates the development of clinical skills with models, live animals and people. It is here that students, particularly in their early years, will learn the basics of animal handling, customer communication and clinical techniques.

Library
Our library provides students with quiet space for study and rooms to hire for quiet group work. It is supported by a specialist library staff and is home to many journals and books, in addition to document and poster printing facilities.

Clinical hospitals
Later-year students observe, treat and carry out clinical procedures under supervision in our clinical hospitals, learning from companion animal and specialist veterinary surgeons. Learn more about our hospitals on pages 15-17.

Post-mortem room
Featuring a viewing facility for students with a two-way intercom, the post-mortem room is designed to allow specimens of all sizes to be accommodated. It has powerful ceiling tracks to transport them to and from the dissection rooms, and links to changing facilities with lockers for the students. Here you will learn practical pathology, and can observe the complex and unusual post-mortems the School undertakes for veterinary centres, zoos, farms and private owners across Scotland and Northern England.

Lecture theatres and classrooms
Our lecture theatres have large whiteboards, inbuilt audio and projection screen facilities, in addition to charging points on the tables for electronic devices. We have numerous classrooms and study rooms to suit groups of all sizes, some designed for practical and some for theoretical study. All our lecture theatres and classrooms are linked to our lecture recording system, which enables students to review lectures online in their own time.
Learning resources and support

Student Support

Going to university can be a daunting experience, especially if moving overseas and/or away from friends and family. The School recognises this and provides strong student support services and fosters a close-knit community of students and staff.

We have a dedicated Student Support Officer on campus who is available to our students for any support issues and can offer help, guidance and someone to listen when needed. Students at the University of Edinburgh are supported by the Edinburgh University Students’ Association – see page 18 for more information. The School is also home to the Vet Students’ Council (VSC), made up of reps from all five years of the BVM&S programmes – by students, for students.

Each of our students belongs to one of 10 ‘Houses’ named after the Pentland Hills that surround the campus (Allermuir, Caerketton, Capelaw, Castlelaw, Turnhouse, Carnethy, Scald Law, West Kip, East Cairn and Spittal). Each house has a senior tutor who, with their team of staff, looks after students in their house as part of our award-winning student support system. In the William Dick Teaching Building, you can see the house banners, each with a different colour and designed by our students, hanging from the high banisters overlooking the foyer.

Learning resources

We offer dedicated study skills advice, through drop-in and individual bookable sessions. Typically, during these sessions, current methods will be reviewed and alternative strategies suggested. Often students find just small changes can make a big difference to their enjoyment and success at university.

Most lectures are recorded and made available to students online immediately, enabling enhanced knowledge and skill development, and more effective revision. We also offer workshops and other learning events where students can try out new skills and perfect their techniques.

VetPALS is our peer-assisted learning model, which provides student-to-student support systems. It enables senior students to facilitate discussion on specific topics with junior students, which has proven to be highly effective.

On joining the programme, each student will be assigned a personal tutor, who will support the development of their Personal and Professional Portfolio. Your Portfolio is a working record of your progress, containing evidence of all the professional skills you will develop throughout your degree.
Our Clinical services

The Hospital for Small Animals and Dick Vet General Practice

The Dick Vet provides routine and emergency care for dogs, cats, small mammals, birds and exotic animals. We are one of the most advanced facilities in Scotland, and our staff have won multiple awards for excellence in clinical care. Encompassing a referral hospital and a general practice, we are home to a fantastic array of specialist services—including specialist cardiology, ophthalmology, orthopaedic, soft tissue surgery, oncology, neurology, dermatology, internal medicine and exotics clinics together with Emergency and Critical care. These admitting disciplines are supported by diagnostic imaging, anaesthesia, interventional radiography and physiotherapy services.

Our people

Our referral veterinary clinical disciplines are led by RCVS, American or European College Diploma holders who are recognised Specialists in their field. R(D)SVS staff regularly give talks at both national and international congress level, are actively involved in their Specialty Colleges and are recognised experts in their fields amongst their peers. Our staff often act as External Examiners at other UK vet schools and universities.

Our facilities

Our facilities are top class, and enable us to diagnose and treat a wide range of cases. We have state-of-the-art MRI and CT scanners, and we use interventional radiography to perform minimally invasive surgeries. Our advanced radiotherapy suite enables us to deliver extremely targeted treatment to patients with cancer. We also have a plethysmography unit which enables us to assess the breathing of dogs with respiratory issues, such as French Bulldogs.

Our research

The School is involved in clinical research in many areas, and is home to a biobank (a revolutionary project investigating the genetic basis of common companion animal diseases). Our staff regularly publish work in peer-reviewed scientific journals, as well as publications in the veterinary press. We regularly supervise undergraduate students doing clinical research projects.

Our teaching

We are involved in teaching all aspects of the undergraduate BVM&S programmes, from animal husbandry and handling in Year 1 to clinical rotations in final year.

The School is an approved Resident training centre for the European College of Vet Surgery, European College of Vet Internal Medicine (subspecialties: oncology, cardiology, internal medicine) European College of Vet Ophthalmology, European College of Vet Neurology, European College of Vet Diagnostic Imaging, and the European College of Vet Anaesthesia and Analgesia.
Dick Vet Equine

The Dick Vet Equine Hospital is the most advanced equine hospital in Scotland, with more specialists under one roof than anywhere else in the country. It provides routine and emergency care for all equidae (horses, donkeys and mules) and surgical services for some other species including large exotic species, alpacas and farm animals.

We also operate a first opinion practice serving Edinburgh, the Lothians, parts of the Borders, Lanarkshire and Fife.

Our specialist services include soft tissue and orthopaedic surgery, dentistry, internal medicine, diagnostic imaging, poor performance, neurology, behaviour, ophthalmology, interventional cardiology, anaesthesia, specialist farriery, acupuncture, and physiotherapy to name but a few.

We are the Scottish training centre for the large animal rescue initiative, training and providing expertise to vets and the emergency services in casualty-centred rescue.

Our people

Our general practice is staffed by dedicated and experienced vets, and our referral veterinary clinical disciplines are led by RCVS or European College Diploma holders who are recognised Specialists in their field. Our team are internationally recognised as experts in their areas; many have led the development of their disciplines.

Our staff regularly present nationally and internationally, and are actively involved in their Specialty Colleges. They often act as External Examiners at other vet schools and universities, and are also heavily involved in training vets in low- and middle-income countries.

We provide consultation across the globe through a telemedicine platform, improving health and welfare for some of the world’s 100 million working equids. Telemedicine also enables us to support vets across the UK, including rural and remote parts of Scotland.

Our facilities

Our recently upgraded facilities include stabling for more than 35 horses, an intensive care unit, isolation facility, fully outfitted forge, and an impressive diagnostic and surgical facility with overhead viewing galleries where students and owners can interact with the surgical team remotely.

Our advanced imaging facilities are world class, with the only robotic X-ray system in Europe, access to two CT machines, gamma scintigraphy, ultrasound, standing MRI and high-field MRI in the new Large Animal Research and Imaging Facility (LARIF).

Our teaching

We are involved in teaching all aspects of the undergraduate BVM&S programmes, from animal husbandry and handling in Year 1 all the way through to clinical rotations in final year, and we run a selective rotation for students at the American Fondouk clinic in Morocco. Students experience equine clinical activities from outset, rotating through clinics and becoming key clinical team members by final year. This allows us to produce clinically excellent vets for all aspects of the profession.

We’ve developed unique teaching resources, including rescue, working equid and simulation-based training—enabling students to experience ‘real-life’ scenarios in a safe environment.

The School is an approved Resident training centre for the European College of Vet Surgery, European College of Equine Internal Medicine, European College of Vet Ophthalmology, European College of Vet Neurology, European College of Vet Diagnostic Imaging, and the European College of Vet Anaesthesia and Analgesia. Our staff are Fellows of the Higher Education Academy, and are regularly nominated for teaching awards.

Our research

We have a long track record in clinical and basic research. Our staff have led the development of our discipline in areas such as dentistry, respiratory medicine and surgery, endoscopy, cardiology and gastroenterology. Our recently established biobank aims to develop a valuable archive of material to further the welfare of equidae and support the one health agenda. Our staff regularly publish work in peer-reviewed scientific journals, as well as publications in the veterinary press.
Farm Animal Services

The R(D)SVS Farm Animal Practice operates a first opinion practice serving dairy, beef, sheep, pig and camelid farms in Edinburgh and the Lothians. We also operate referral services where vets in private practice can send in patients for specialist investigations and surgery, such as lame pedigree bulls. The Dairy Herd Health and Productivity Service (DHHPS) has provided specialist farm animal advisory services since 1977, focusing on nutritional monitoring and improvement of herd/flock health.

Our people

Our clinical staff have advanced postgraduate qualifications; either a PhD, RCVS Certificates, RCVS Advanced Practitioner status, Diploma in Bovine Reproduction, and RCVS or European College Diplomas. All our farm animal vets have Official Veterinarian status to undertake work for the government. Our staff are involved in specialist clinical services such as Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) Dairy Mastitis Control Plan, AHDB Dairy Mobility Mentor, Scottish BVD eradication scheme and BCVA Accredited Johne’s Veterinary Advisors. They regularly give talks at both national (Sheep Veterinary Society, British Cattle Veterinary Society, London Vet Show) and international (World Buiatrics Congress, International Sheep Veterinary Congress) level. They also undertake advisory work with overseas projects in India and Africa, and are regularly asked to be External Examiners at other UK vet schools and universities.

Our facilities

For work on local farms, we operate a fleet of vehicles with all the equipment needed by modern farm animal veterinary practitioners, such as transrectal ultrasound scanners for fertility examinations. Our Farm Animal Hospital contains facilities for housing cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, llamas and alpacas, so that our students can be taught examination and diagnostic techniques safely to enhance their learning experience. We also have isolation facilities to enable us to treat farm animals (including referral cases) so that they can be returned to their farm of origin.

The R(D)SVS has a 240-cow dairy herd at Langhill Farm and a 300-ewe sheep flock at Easter Bush, which are used extensively for teaching animal husbandry and clinical skills to our students.

Our teaching

We are involved in teaching all aspects of the undergraduate BVM&S course, from animal husbandry and handling in Year 1 all the way through to clinical rotations in final year. We regularly supervise undergraduate students doing clinical research projects on farms and farm animal veterinary practices. We also provide online Masters in Veterinary Science (MVetSci) Advanced Clinical Practice Production Animal Track Courses to teach clinical skills to qualified vets.

The School is an approved training centre of Residents for the European College of Bovine Health Management (ECBHM) and European College of Small Ruminant Health Management (ECSRHM). All farm animal staff are Fellows or Senior Fellows of the Higher Education Authority.

Our research

The Farm Animal section is involved in clinical research in cattle and sheep, with particular emphasis on parasitology, neonatal calf and lamb health, nutrition, animal welfare and advanced monitoring of animal health. Our staff regularly publish work in peer-reviewed scientific journals, as well as publications in the agricultural and veterinary press.
Your student experience

EUSA
As soon as you join the University, you’ll be welcomed into the Edinburgh University Students’ Association (EUSA), which works on your behalf to ensure you have the best possible experience during your time here.

EUSA is led by five elected students (sabbatical officers) and maintains a Student Council. You will be represented by elected college, school and programme representatives, and by Black and minority ethnic, disabled students’, LGBT+, and women’s officers. EUSA supports more than 290 student-led societies and volunteering groups, from the A Cappella and Business societies, to the Yoga and Zoology societies.

EUSA facilities include a world-class centre for student activities at the iconic Pleasance complex, which includes dance studios, a multipurpose performance space, TV and radio production studios and a café and bar. Their venues deliver award-winning food and drink and hundreds of events throughout the year; from language cafes to silent discos and from ceilidhs to food fairs.

DVSU, on-campus activities and support
The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies is also host to a variety of clubs and societies, and has its own Students’ Union, the DVSU.

The School hosts several events throughout the year where students and staff come together to celebrate. These range from the annual Pre-Burns Night supper to the Halloween party. These events are just one example of the many ways the School includes all its students and makes them feel more like a family.

Sports and fitness
The Easter Bush Campus is home to a fantastic gym, and students can attend a range of fitness classes on campus.

Whether you’re a recreational gym user or a performance athlete going for gold, the University of Edinburgh’s world-class sport and fitness offering caters for you. We’ve long been recognised as one of the UK’s leading sporting universities, consistently finishing in the top four of the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) rankings. Our central gym at the Pleasance is top of the range, and joins our campus gym facilities (including those at the Vet School), swimming pool, playing fields and outdoor pursuits centre at Loch Tay to form a comprehensive package of fitness facilities.

With more than 60 sports clubs made up of more than 200 teams, we offer something for everyone. Our clubs offer regular coaching, training, tips and competition, both locally and nationally, with opportunities to participate and/or compete most days of the week. We run Scotland’s largest intramural sports programme, offering informal leagues, tournaments and fun events, alongside a pioneering ‘EDex’ come and try programme in an array of sports.

“The best gym we’ve ever used.”

Dr Nick Gill
Head of Strength and Conditioning,
New Zealand All Blacks Rugby
Accommodation

We realise you need more than just a place to live. You need an environment in which you can thrive. That’s why we guarantee accommodation for as many new undergraduates as possible. If you’re from outside Edinburgh, intending to study for the full academic year, and apply by the deadline, our accommodation guarantee is open to you.

The University is an integral part of the city. You’ll be learning, and living, just a short walk or bus ride from the city centre of one of Europe’s most vibrant capitals. Our undergraduate accommodation is in the city centre, and typically includes:

- All heating, hot water and electricity costs
- Wi-fi in your study-bedroom and in common areas
- Contents insurance
- Secure bike storage
- Laundry facilities

Excellent transport links exist between student accommodation and the Easter Bush Campus – and student bus passes are subsidised. Once you accept your offer to study at the University of Edinburgh, our accommodation team will be in touch to provide you with details on what packages are available.

Semester dates for BVM&S students are slightly different. This will impact students in catered accommodation options where meals are served during regular term time.

BVM&S semester dates: [www.ed.ac.uk/vet/staff-students/students/semester-dates](http://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/staff-students/students/semester-dates)

University semester dates: [www.ed.ac.uk/semester-dates](http://www.ed.ac.uk/semester-dates)

Some of our students choose to find their own accommodation through private landlords. Rent varies, but you should make sure you compare to other rental prices and see the accommodation before signing or paying any money. Consider visiting the city before you move here, and look at bus routes to make sure your neighbourhood will offer easy access to the School.

For students completing the four-year Graduate Entry Programme (GEP), which has an earlier start date, University-owned flats are available from early August and cover the whole academic year. Located 10-15 minutes’ walk from the central University buildings and convenient for buses to Easter Bush, these flats are self-catered with single study bedrooms and shared facilities. Students also have the option to be placed over the summer in University catered accommodation before moving into Halls or private accommodation in September.

For the latest information on all accommodation matters, go to [www.accom.ed.ac.uk](http://www.accom.ed.ac.uk)
Welcome to the City of Edinburgh

Scotland’s inspiring capital will be the backdrop to your studies. One of Europe’s great cultural hubs and a stimulating place to study, Edinburgh is an irresistible blend of history, natural beauty and modern city life.

Sometimes known as ‘the Athens of the North’ because of its stunning, historic architecture, Edinburgh is home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites and was the world’s first UNESCO City of Literature.

Large enough to offer something for everyone, but small enough to feel like home, Edinburgh is a modern, sophisticated and beautiful European city with a diverse multicultural community.

Well known for its friendly people, its safe, green environment and its compact size, Edinburgh is easy to get around and get out of – wherever you are in the city you are never far from open countryside.

Edinburgh’s location is perfect for adventurers, with diverse and readily accessible opportunities from snowboarding to surfing. A single day could see you hillwalking in the morning, lazing on the beach in the afternoon, and enjoying the treasures of the medieval lanes or Michelin-starred restaurants by night.

In the summer months the pace of city life accelerates as Edinburgh’s world-famous annual festivals get under way. The city hosts 30 festivals each year, which attract almost four million visitors to the city, and many of them take place either on campus or near to the University, making for a vibrant addition to student life.

Around 100,000 students call Edinburgh home, giving the city a unique buzz and ensuring you’ll be in good company. The friends you meet, places you discover and the lasting memories you create will contribute as much to your university experience as your formal learning.

Edinburgh International Airport puts the rest of the world within reach – Paris is just an hour and a half away – with direct flights to most major cities in Europe and a host of destinations worldwide.

Within the UK, Edinburgh makes an ideal location from which to explore – London is just four hours away by train while a two-hour jaunt north puts you at the heart of the Scottish Highlands.

“Edinburgh is one of Europe’s most beautiful cities, draped across a series of rocky hills overlooking the sea”

Lonely Planet
From its Highlands and islands to its Lowland borders, Scotland is a country of breathtaking natural beauty. For a country of its size, there is surprising variety in Scotland’s terrain, from towering mountains to dense woodland glens. It has more than 6,000 miles of coastline, almost 800 offshore islands and more than 31,000 freshwater lochs. This is a country steeped in history yet firmly focused on the future – a modern, dynamic, European nation where the life sciences, creative industries, digital technology, energy and renewables, financial and business services and, yes, tourism now drive our economy.

Learn more: www.edin.ac/vet-ug-choose-us

“It is one of the most hauntingly beautiful places in the world.”

JK Rowling
Best-selling author and alumna of the University of Edinburgh
Part 2

The details

The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery

We offer two Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degrees.

The first, our main entry into the profession, is a five-year programme for students pursuing standard entry into undergraduate study. We also offer an accelerated, four-year graduate entry programme (GEP) for applicants with a relevant degree in biological or animal science.

Both programmes result in the qualification of Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, and enable graduates to register as veterinary surgeons.

The programmes merge after initial separation, to enable the cohort to study together. Following successful completion of the first year of the GEP programme, which has been specifically designed around the needs of graduate entrants*, students then join the third year of the BVM&S course, where students will have had two years of undergraduate-level training.

Veterinary medicine is first and foremost a scientific discipline, but wherever possible the science will be presented in the context of its clinical relevance, so you have a clear understanding of where it all leads.

We offer an integrated programme of study where you will be taught about large animals, small companion animals, exotics and wildlife. This style of degree allows you to broaden your understanding of different species, diversifies your career prospects and provides you with a level of flexibility to specialise at a later stage if you wish.

Our programme offers a wide range of stimulating teaching and learning methods designed to equip you with the confidence and skills for a fulfilling career in veterinary medicine. You will be taught by some of the UK’s most prominent veterinary scientists in an environment of cutting-edge veterinary research.

Studying veterinary medicine at Edinburgh will give you transferable skills such as effective communication, team building and an understanding of business management. Veterinary training also provides an outstanding background for those who wish to pursue a career in biomedical research, including both veterinary and human medicine.

Our long-standing combination of tradition and excellence in veterinary teaching benefits from a close-knit, collegial community of students. The BVM&S degree is the equivalent of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and has the same standing worldwide. Many of our graduates go on to work across the globe.

Extra-Mural Studies

Our programmes also include Extra-Mural Studies (EMS). This core element provides our students with an unrivalled opportunity to gain real-life work experience whilst studying.

Students must complete a minimum of 38 weeks’ EMS during their course, which should normally consist of 12 weeks of pre-clinical and 26 weeks of clinical placements.

EMS placements allow students to further practise their animal handling and clinical skills, as well as increasing

*The GEP year is tailored to cover key areas of integrated anatomy and physiology in a case-based format with additional courses on introductory pathology, infectious disease, animal husbandry and population medicine.
their confidence, increasing their work experience and providing valuable insight into the world of work.

Our students have taken part in some incredible EMS projects across the world. We have a team that supports our students during their EMS and provides guidance in finding appropriate placements. EMS opportunities are advertised on the student intranet, but in some cases, students find their own. We also have a number of partnerships across the world, providing our students with unique and rare opportunities to gain amazing work experience.

Our graduates are able to hit the ground running, having developed their day one competencies whilst on EMS placements during their degree.

Key Information (5 year programme)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine &amp; Surgery (Hons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCAS code:</td>
<td>D100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution Code:</td>
<td>E56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Mode:</td>
<td>Five years full-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Location:</td>
<td>Easter Bush Campus, Edinburgh EH25 9RG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The five-year Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degree will prepare you for a career as a veterinary professional. This is our main route into veterinary medicine.

Learn more:
www.edin.ac/vet-5

Key Programme Information (GEP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine &amp; Surgery (Hons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCAS code:</td>
<td>D102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution Code:</td>
<td>E56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Mode:</td>
<td>Four years full-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Location:</td>
<td>Easter Bush Campus, Edinburgh EH25 9RG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Learn more:
www.edin.ac/vet-4
Programme structure

The 5 Year BVM&S Programme

YEAR 1

The Animal Body
The Animal Body course is an integrated programme that covers the normal structure and function of the animal body and the mechanisms of molecular and cellular pathology, immunology, inflammation and repair and the general biology of pathogens.

Animal Life & Food Safety
This is an introductory course in the husbandry of farm and companion animals, animal welfare, veterinary public health and food safety.

Professional and Clinical Skills
The emphasis will be on establishing an understanding of basic professional attributes and behaviour, with a focus on self-appraisal, group working and study skills.

YEAR 2

The Animal Body
The major aim of the course is to achieve an integrated understanding of homeostasis. This knowledge and understanding of the normal animal serves as a basis for the study of veterinary medical and surgical problems in clinical years. Students will also integrate and consolidate the teaching of the previous Animal Body course.

Animal Life & Food Safety
The course comprises animal husbandry, animal nutrition, animal breeding and genetics and evidence-based veterinary medicine.

Student Research Component
Students develop and explore a topic of their own choice within a given theme. The course is intended to equip students with core skills that will be used in the student research component of third year and beyond.

Professional and Clinical Skills
The course develops personal and communication skills, with an emphasis on interpersonal skills as well as observation.

The University of Edinburgh uses the terminology ‘course’ and ‘module’ interchangeably to refer to the parts that make up a degree/programme.

The 4 Year BVM&S Graduate Entry Programme (GEP)

YEAR 1

The Animal Body (GEP)
This course focuses on integrated anatomy, physiology and biochemistry as they relate to the body systems in the normal animal. The course is taught using clinical cases in a blended learning format, with keynote lectures plus associated directed self-learning, small group work, practicals and tutorials to guide learning and understanding of the normal structure and function of the animal body.

Animal Life & Food Safety (GEP)
The course comprises animal husbandry, animal nutrition, animal welfare, animal breeding and genetics, evidence-based veterinary medicine and veterinary public health.

Professional and Clinical Skills
This course develops the theme of personal, interpersonal and communication skills, with an emphasis on client perspectives, the human-animal bond and clinical examination of the dog, horse and cow.
Veterinary Pathology
The course will focus on the principles and patterns of pathology using, where appropriate, examples of specific diseases for illustrative purposes. Students are exposed to practical examples of the disease processes taught in The Animal Body.

Clinical Foundation Course
The subject areas included are: Applied Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Diagnostic Imaging, Surgery, Anaesthesia and Critical Care, Introduction to Clinical Oncology and Evidence Based Veterinary Medicine.

Integrated Clinical Course - Dog and Cat
The course will consider diseases of the dog and cat only; covering the disorders of each body system, providing students with information on the aetiology, clinical presentation, diagnosis and treatment of each disorder.

Professional and Clinical Skills
This course develops the theme of personal, interpersonal, communication and clinical skills, with an emphasis on the clinical context and preparation for working in a clinical environment.

Student Research Component
Students will select a research project to work on over the next two years as their second student-selected component.

Integrated Clinical Courses
- Farm Animal
- Equine
- Exotics

These courses will cover the aetiology, pathogenesis, clinical signs, diagnosis and treatment of the common diseases and disorders that occur in the common farm animal species in the UK, in horses, and in laboratory and exotic animals.

Veterinary Public Health
The course builds on concepts around the importance of safe food and public health, and the role of animal welfare. The course covers principles of safe food production and the involvement of food hygiene authorities/legislation at the national and international level.

Professional and Clinical Skills
This course develops the theme of personal, interpersonal, communication and clinical skills, with an emphasis on the clinical context and preparation for working in a clinical environment.

Final Year Rotations
Here students will build upon previous knowledge and hone their skills through rotations in our clinical and support services. This is split into core rotations in all species, followed by selective rotations in areas of interest.

Student Research Component
The onus is on you to set up your project. Your project should be equivalent to approximately six weeks’ clinical EMS. The experience will allow you to gain insight to and in-depth knowledge of a specific area of veterinary medicine, whilst having the responsibility for planning, implementing and evaluating your project activities.

Both programmes involve taking a number of courses each year and each degree’s curriculum is constantly reviewed and improved.

For more detailed information on our modules, please refer to our online course guides:
www.drps.ed.ac.uk/20-21/dpt/utclivms.htm
Entry requirements

Admission to BVM&S programmes at the University of Edinburgh is based on the following criteria, which should be gained at the first attempt and in one sitting. This means that you must achieve your results during the same time period, and we do not accept resits. We normally only accept two applications from any one candidate and do not normally offer deferred places.

English Language Requirements

If English is not your first language, you will need to meet the University’s required standard of English. Below is a list of some of the typical English language qualifications we accept. If you have an alternative qualification not listed below, please contact our admission team (see page 42).

- IELTS Academic module overall 7.0 with 7.0 in each component
- TOEFL-iBT 100 or above with 23 in each section
- IGCSE English (First language) Grade B
- Cambridge English: Advanced & Proficiency overall 185 with 185 in each component
- Pearson Test of English (Academic): Total 67 with at least 67 in each Communicative Skills section Trinity ISE: ISE III with a pass in all four components

Work Experience

We do not request specific types of work experience or state days/weeks required, as it depends to some extent on the opportunities available to you. The broader your experience the better, but you should not gain experience to the detriment of your academic studies. You should, however, gain both veterinary practice and animal work experience.

Types of work experience could include:

- Seeing veterinary practice, both large and small animal
- Livestock farms - dairy and lambing
- Other animal establishments, such as zoos, kennels, catteries, wildlife centres, pig farms, poultry farms and stables
- A day at an abattoir/slaughterhouse
- Experience gained in veterinary or medical laboratories to help you appreciate the scientific basis of veterinary medicine

Please note: These are suggestions. This is not a checklist and achieving them all is not a requirement.

You should provide detailed information on your practical experience (number of days/weeks spent and species worked with) in the appropriate section of the UCAS or VMCAS (North American graduates) application.

You should be aware that we can only take into account work already undertaken and not work planned. You may receive an offer that is conditional on your gaining further specified work experience.
Work Experience Summary (WES)

UCAS candidates only: All candidates applying via UCAS are required to complete and return a Work Experience Summary (WES) prior to the deadline of 22 October. The WES form will be sent to you via email by the University of Edinburgh upon receiving your UCAS application form.

Non-Academic Achievements and Interests

Your personal statement and references give us an idea of your skills, achievements and motivation, which are important factors in assessing your application. This could feature:

- Social involvement
- School responsibilities
- Leadership
- Organisational abilities
- Interests and hobbies
- Cultural, sporting, musical, vocational and voluntary achievements

Covid-19

We appreciate that these are unprecedented times, and that due to the Covid-19 pandemic your examinations, final grades, assessments and work experience may have been disrupted. This may result in you not meeting our entry requirements. In such cases, we would advise you to contact our Admissions Team to discuss your situation in more detail - see page 42 for contact details.

Important information about work experience and the Coronavirus pandemic

We are aware that some applicants may currently be unable to complete work experience due to the restrictions imposed by Covid-19. The situation is continually changing and when the picture becomes clearer, we will publish further guidelines relating to work experience and any other changes to our admissions process for 2021 entry on our website.

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/admissions

In the meantime, we would recommend that applicants embark on their own online research into areas where they have been unable to gain practical experience to boost their knowledge and understanding of the veterinary profession.
Five-year programme

Applications without evidence of Physics to at least GCSE or National 5, Intermediate 2 or Higher (or equivalent) will not normally be considered.

**SQA Highers and Advanced Highers**

Candidates are required to take a sixth year and undertake Advanced Highers.

AAAAB Five Highers including Chemistry (A), Biology (A) and either Mathematics or Physics to be achieved by the end of S5. If Biology has not been studied in S5, it should be taken in S6 to Higher level.

BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and another science subject. If possible Advanced Higher Biology, as this will be beneficial for the first year of the degree.

If Physics has not previously been studied to Standard Grade or Higher level, it should be studied in S6 to either Standard Grade, National 5, Intermediate 2 or Higher level.

We are aware that some Scottish schools may not be able to offer as many Advanced Higher subjects as in previous years. If this is the case, we urge any pupils (or parents/carers/guidance teachers) interested in studying veterinary medicine at Edinburgh to get in touch with us directly by emailing vetug@ed.ac.uk.

**A-levels**

Three A-levels: AAA in Chemistry, Biology and one other subject approved for entry to the veterinary degree programme. Please refer to the current list of University-approved subjects at A-level considered for entry to the BVM&S via the link below.

University-approved subjects: [www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entryrequirements/ruk/approved-subjects](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entryrequirements/ruk/approved-subjects)

If Physics has not been studied to A-level, a good pass at GCSE is required.

We do not accept General Studies or Critical Thinking as a third A-Level subject.

We regret that an A grade cannot balance out a C grade, and A* grades are treated the same as A grades in your application.

**Cambridge Pre-U Diploma**

D3, D3, D3 (or a combination of D3 and A-level grade A) in Chemistry, Biology and one other University-approved subject.

**International Baccalaureate (IB)**

The minimum entry requirement is 38 points. This must include a minimum of 666 in Higher level Chemistry, Biology, and one other subject. If Physics does not form part of the IB Diploma, competency in this subject must be demonstrated at a lower level (GCSE or equivalent).

**Graduates**

A 2:1 Honours Degree (or equivalent) in an appropriate science subject. Candidates with a non-science degree will be considered provided they have gained high grades in the science A-levels (or equivalent) in Chemistry and Biology.

Please note that all candidates applying for the BVM&S as a second degree (including graduates from the UK, EU, EEA) are considered at the International fees rate.

The Admissions Committee regrets that it cannot consider ONC, HNC, HND or part-degree qualifications as equivalent to an Upper Second-Class Honours degree for entry requirement purposes.

**Mature students**

The Admissions Committee aims to select mature candidates from a variety of backgrounds to further enhance the diversity of the intake. Although mature applicants receive consideration, there are no exemptions for entry onto the degree. In order to be considered you would, therefore, have to achieve the normal minimum entry requirements. Normally candidates must attain these grades in the one sitting and at the first attempt. However, if you are not able to study full-time (if, for example, you are continuing to work) you would not necessarily be expected to gain the grades in one sitting but you would need to attain them at the first attempt.

Mature students are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office providing further information on both high school and further education examination results to discuss their qualifications on an individual basis prior to making a formal application.
North American Pre-Veterinary courses
US and Canadian candidates with two years of a pre-vet will be considered for the five-year BVM&S programme. An overall GPA of 3.4 (4-point scale) is expected.

EU and International Entry Requirements
If your qualifications are not listed above, please refer to the below web page, which provides specific information and advice, including entry requirements, for prospective students by country. If you require further support and assistance regarding your qualification contact our admissions team (contact details on page 42).

Undergraduate entry requirements by country:
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/country

Learn more:
www.edin.ac/vet-ug-interviews

Minimum Entry Requirements
We believe everyone deserves an equal opportunity to study at Edinburgh. We are committed to widening access to higher education and admitting the very best students, who demonstrate the potential to benefit from, and contribute to, the academic experience we offer. This means that no student is admitted on the basis of grades alone. We use data from a number of sources, along with information on the UCAS application, to identify applicants who qualify for additional consideration in our admissions process—widening access applicants. To check if you qualify for widening access consideration, visit our online checker: admission-checker.is.ed.ac.uk

To view our minimum entry requirements, visit our website:
www.edin.ac/vet-5-access-minimums

Important information about the Coronavirus pandemic
We understand that your exams may have been cancelled or postponed due to Covid-19. If you receive a final grade based on your overall performance but subsequently choose to sit your final exams when possible, this will not count as a resit. We will therefore consider your predicted or achieved exam results when reviewing your application.

Four-year programme

An Upper Second-Class Honours degree or (equivalent) or an overall GPA of 3.4 (4 point scale) in an appropriate Biological or Animal Science subject is the minimum requirement.

Candidates must achieve high grades (minimum grade C or equivalent) in the following subjects:
- Biology/Zoology
- Physics
- Biochemistry
- Organic and Inorganic Chemistry
- Mathematics/Statistics

In addition, gaining high grades (minimum grade C or equivalent) in the following subjects would strengthen an application for the GEP:
- Genetics
- Microbiology
- Cell Biology

VMCAS candidates require scores from their Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test. GRE scores should be submitted to the School directly using 0917 (institution code) and 0617 (department code).

Learn more:
www.edin.ac/vet-4-requirements

Important information about the Coronavirus pandemic
We understand that some institutions have transitioned to a pass/fail grading system due to Covid-19. We will accept this when assessing your application and we will look closely at your overall performance in the science subjects.
The application process

All applications for admission should be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS): www.ucas.com

North American graduate applicants may choose to apply through the Veterinary Medical Colleges Admissions System (VMCAS): www.aavmc.org

Application Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 September*</td>
<td>VMCAS application deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 October</td>
<td>For VMCAS applications only, deadline for GRE scores (0917 institution code, 0617 department code)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 October</td>
<td>UCAS application deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 October</td>
<td>WES submission deadline (UCAS Applicants only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 October</td>
<td>Deadline for submitting degree transcripts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* for 2021 entry.

Late Applications

If you miss the UCAS and VMCAS veterinary medicine application deadlines, we may still be able to consider your application for the Graduate Entry Programme if there are still places available. For further information, please contact the Admissions Team (see page 42 for contact details).

Please refer to pages 32-33 for key dates throughout the application process.

Work Experience Summary - UCAS only

All UCAS candidates are required to complete and return a Work Experience Summary form (WES) to the Admissions Team prior to the deadline of 22 October. Please note that applications submitted without a WES form will be considered incomplete.

Additional Tests

Please note: the following tests are not required for candidates applying to the BVM&S at the University of Edinburgh:

- BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT)
- UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT)
- Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
- Veterinary College Admission Test (VCAT)

Health Questionnaire

All applicants with an Unconditional Firm offer will be required to complete the health questionnaire prior to entry onto the programme. This is regardless of whether a disability or health condition was declared on application or not, and enrolment is subject to Health Clearance.

Interview

All applicants will be required to attend a multiple mini interview (MMI). These are normally arranged between December and March each year. The aim of our selection interviews is to measure aptitude as part of a holistic assessment of candidates.

Learn more: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/5-year-programme edvetinterviews
What Happens Next?
Successful applicants will receive an offer of a place by the end of March. Please note that if your offer advises you to gain additional work experience this is not a condition of the offer, but simply a recommendation in order to fully prepare you for starting the degree.

Once you have accepted the offer you will be matched with a student buddy via email. If an international or Graduate Entry Programme applicant holds a conditional offer based on results in pending examinations, they must send us an official transcript by mail or email, as soon as the results become available. All successful international and Graduate Entry Programme applicants will need to accept the offer to study and pay a non-refundable deposit of £1,500 by 10 May.

UK and EU students should reply to their offers by the deadline stated in their UCAS Track.

Immigration
A Tier 4 Student Visa is required to enter the UK as an international student. You are issued with a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) number once you have accepted your offer and have met all conditions. A CAS allows you to start your visa application.

You can apply 3 months prior to the start date of the course. You should apply for a visa as soon as you receive the CAS as it is a busy time of year for the UK Border Agency.

Included in the overall cost of your visa is the Immigration Healthcare Surcharge (IHS), which allows you to access medical care while in the UK.

If applying online or through the premium service centre, you can pay the surcharge as part of the application or when you book an appointment.

If applying by post, you must pay the surcharge online before you send your application – you will need to include the IHS reference number on your application form.

Paid work - veterinary medicine is a very demanding programme but many of our students work alongside it. We encourage students to learn to manage their time alongside their studies before taking on any part-time work. The Tier 4 visa will allow students to work up to 20 hours per week, but the University recommends no more than 15.

For further information and guidance, you can refer to our website: www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/immigration

Healthcare
Once students arrive in Edinburgh, it is important to find a family doctor (General Practitioner or GP) as soon as possible. Once you have found a GP, you should contact the doctor’s practice to make an appointment to register as a National Health Service (NHS) patient.

The University Health Centre provides comprehensive medical care for those who wish to register as patients of the practice, and who live within the practice area. The practice is located at the Richard Verney Health Centre at 6 Bristo Square. However, you can register at any practice that accepts NHS patients.

For more information see: www.ed.ac.uk/students/new-students/health-insurance/nhs-treatment
Admissions cycle

**You**
- Decide to apply

**November**
- Admissions Committee evaluate applications:
  - Academic background
  - Academic reference (including predictions)
  - Relevant work experience
  - Extracurricular activities
  - Personal Statement

**December**
- Admissions Committee decide on candidates to be called for interview
- All short-listed candidates will receive an invitation to interview in electronic format
- Candidate interviews will start
- Decide on offers
- Send out details of our electronic offer pack to all successful candidates

- **15 September**
  - VMCAS application deadline

- **15 November**
  - Partnership application deadline

- **15 October**
  - UCAS application deadline

- **22 October**
  - Submit Work Experience Summary by 22 October (UCAS only)
  - Upload or send all academic transcripts (UCAS graduate and overseas candidates)

- **December**
  - Regularly check your email account and the My Details section on the University’s EUCLID portal and respond to any requests for information/action to take (UCAS candidates only)
  - Regularly check your email and respond to any requests for information/action to take (VMCAS candidates)
  - Attend interview

* for 2021 entry.
March
- Informed of our decision
- Respond to our decision
- If an overseas candidate, arrange for a tour and visit to the School (optional)

May
- Informed of your decision
- Overseas and Graduate candidates only
  - Make arrangements to pay the £1,500 deposit to secure your place
  - Complete and return your financial guarantee form by 10 May

June
- All candidates
  - Receive results and confirm offer
  - Continue to send out information on starting at Edinburgh including details on Induction events and Certificate for Acceptance of Studies (CAS) for visa purposes
  - Complete and return your confidential Health Questionnaire

August/September
- Welcome new students!

Payment
- May
  - Overseas and Graduate candidates only
    - Make arrangements to pay the £1,500 deposit to secure your place
    - Complete and return your financial guarantee form by 10 May

Prepare
- June
  - Meet all the conditions of your offer
  - Ensure you complete and return your Confidential Health Questionnaire directly to the Occupational Health Unit
  - Join the Facebook groups for August or September starts
  - Regularly check email for information and updates from the School
  - Prepare to start the programme (August or September)
Differences in ability, health and background

Applicants with Disabilities, Health Problems and Allergies

The University and School are committed to encouraging and supporting applicants with disabilities, health problems and allergies. Veterinary medicine is a practical subject and students must be able to handle and examine all animals safely and humanely, and to ensure the safety of themselves and involved personnel. Veterinary training is very demanding, emotionally and physically.

If you have health problems or a disability that may have an impact on your ability to cope with the programme, work with animals or carry out any other practical procedures, you should refer to guidance available from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RVCS) and the School’s Guidance for Applicants with Disability and Health Problems.

If you would like to discuss any issues or to seek clarification, please contact the BVM&S Admissions Team (see page 42).

Further information on our Admissions Policy is available here: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/vet/studying/bachelor-vet-medicine/overview

Health Questionnaire prior to entry to the BVM&S

We are committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for disabled students and those with health conditions. One way in which this can be achieved is to find out more about you and your requirements as early as possible. We must also be assured that we can help you practise safely in training and employment.

Candidates holding an Unconditional Firm offer with us will be required to complete a Confidential Health Questionnaire, signed by a GP/medical practitioner and stamped with a practice stamp, and return it to the Occupational Health Unit where Occupational Health professionals will assess the Health Questionnaire.

Further information is available here: www.edin.ac/vet-ug-health-questionnaire

Widening Access (UK)

The University of Edinburgh is committed to widening access and welcomes applications from students with diverse backgrounds. We recognise that not everyone has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their full academic potential from their school or college qualifications alone. For this reason, we aim to identify applicants who could benefit from additional consideration in the admissions process. This is known as widening access. Further information about the University’s Widening Access policy: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applying/selection/widening-access

We support LEAPS, REACH and the ‘Access to the Professions’ initiatives, which seek to encourage and support applications from those at an educational or social disadvantage. www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/access-edinburgh/high-school-students

You can find out more about the University’s Widening Access team and the project and events they are involved with here: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/access-edinburgh

Committed to Care Experience

We welcome applications from students who are care leavers or who have a background in care. The University has made a commitment through our Widening Access policy to guarantee an invitation to interview to any care-experienced applicant who meets the minimum entry requirements, which are lower than our standard entry requirements. In addition, prospective students who identify themselves as having been in care in their UCAS application are contacted to provide them with information about the support systems available to them at the University.
Careers

On graduation, the majority of vets start their careers in general practice, although many will continue with further studies.

Practice could be companion animal (pets), farm animal, equine (horses) or ‘mixed’. You might also get the opportunity to work with exotic animals that are kept as pets, in zoos or in the wild. Work in the veterinary profession is highly rewarding, but also very demanding.

There are career opportunities in a number of areas:

**General Practice**

The veterinary surgeon is responsible for the prevention of disease and for the medical and surgical treatment of animals including household pets, zoo animals, farm animals and horses. Opportunities exist in practices that specialise in small animals, food-producing animals, equine work or in mixed practices dealing with both small and large animals. Many veterinary surgeons working in practice choose to further their knowledge by studying for additional qualifications.

**Veterinary Teaching and Research**

Veterinary researchers play a vital role in advancing our understanding of diseases. Research in veterinary sciences enhances the health, welfare and usefulness of both food producing and companion animals. It safeguards the public from diseases spread from animals in food and by other means. By comparative investigations, it helps us understand and manage human disease, for example in cancer, genetics, reproduction and infections. Research is undertaken at university veterinary schools and at research institutes, departments financed by Government, in laboratories and by private enterprise. Many careers in research span the interface between human and veterinary medicine.

93% of graduates in work or further study 6 months after graduation - DiscoverUni.gov.uk

**Government Service**

Numerous opportunities exist within the public sector. Veterinary surgeons are involved in protecting public health in government departments and agencies such as the State Veterinary Service, the Food Standards Agency, the Meat Hygiene Service, the Veterinary Laboratories Agency and the Veterinary Medicines Directorate. The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs employs vets to monitor animal health and to prevent the spread of diseases.

**Other Opportunities**

Other opportunities exist in commerce and industry such as in pharmaceutical companies, in international and overseas organisations, and in consultancies and charities. The veterinarian’s broad scientific training is also of value in areas such as wildlife and environmental conservation.

Learn more about the University’s Career Services: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/careers

**Work in the UK as an International Student**

Students on Tier 4 visas can remain in the UK for four months after their programme ends. Should they wish to remain and practise in the UK, students will need to have an offer of employment and thereafter apply for a Tier 2 skilled worker visa. This can be done up to 3 months prior to completion of studies, or at any time after this whilst their Tier 4 visa remains valid. If applying prior to graduation, the University can provide a supporting letter to confirm the student has completed all exams and coursework. For more information on career prospects please contact our Careers Service. For information about visa options for working in the UK after studies please contact our Student Immigration Service.

Careers Service: www.ed.ac.uk/careers

Student Immigration Service: www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/immigration/working-in-the-uk/after-studies/tier-2
Student profiles

Our student body is truly international, made up of exceptional and committed individuals from around the globe. Here, some of our students share their stories with you.

I always wanted to travel the world growing up. When I began to look for veterinary schools, I realized studying abroad would offer me the chance to see more of the world while still studying at a prestigious university.

After comparing tuition fees for vet schools in the States to the tuition fees here, I found here to be a less expensive option. The university’s high ranking and the access to the beautiful Scottish Highlands were enough to convince me to submit my application.

My favourite aspect of the vet degree has actually been the EMS. From lambing in rural countryside in Wales to scrubbing into surgeries in the school’s hospital, I have gained some great experience in a variety of fields!

The clubs and societies are great. There is a club or society for almost anything you can think of. I am involved with quite a few: climbing club, snow sports society, mountaineers, canoe club (more white water kayaking), roller hockey and badminton. Through these, I have seen a huge amount of Scotland and made some incredible friends!
Being Scottish, I knew I had two of the best vet schools in the world to choose from in Scotland. My sister, who is 3 years older than me, had studied in Glasgow so I knew the city well. However, going to Edinburgh on my interview day out at the Easter Bush Campus made the decision very easy. The vastness of the campus and the many different buildings catering to all aspects of veterinary medicine was really quite something to take in.

My mum pulls me up on it every time I accidently call Edinburgh home, but it really has become my home away from home! It’s a beautiful city that many of my international friends are now wanting to make their home once they graduate – so that says it all really!

I really enjoy the practicals as I learn so much more from them than lectures. If you’re prepared well for a practical and covered the content needed then you can go in and get so much out of a 3 hour class where all the notes from the lecture suddenly make sense when you see it in a live one tonne horse in front of you or a dog dissection or a client communication class. For me, it’s the best way to learn and engage. We get around 10 hours of practicals a week, if not more, so there is a big emphasis of practical-based teaching on the BVM&S course.

The BVM&S programme really starts to pick up in the clinical years (3,4 & 5) where the focus shifts from cellular and systems level into clinical scenarios and the sick pet. It’s at this point where the vet school workload picks up tremendously but for good reason, as they want you to be as well prepared as possible for any situation that could come your way in the real world of clinical veterinary practice. The lectures, practicals, tutorials and self-study all have a case-based function to them and this is crucial in getting students to think more like clinicians and less like undergraduates.

Through my research, I knew that the Edinburgh Vet School had a great exotics department. I was interested in exotic and zoo animals, and that was one of the reasons I applied here. I also wanted to live in a city that was not as busy and populated as Hong Kong, so I chose Edinburgh.

[During my studies] I’ve gotten a chance to go on an exchange with Hokkaido University, where I spent 2 weeks travelling with a few Japanese students around Hokkaido, visiting nature reserves, zoos and a rehabilitation centre. I also went to Glasgow University over a weekend for a zoological symposium, and learnt a lot from people working in the zoo and conservation field, which I found really interesting.

EMS has allowed me to gain more hands-on experience outside of my studies, as well as utilise the information I have learnt. I learn better when I am out and about trying to apply my knowledge rather than sitting down with a book and a pen, so EMS has helped me remember more of my studies.

I’m nervous as well as excited for my rotations in final year. I’ve learnt so much over the past 4 years and really want to put my knowledge into practice as soon as I can.
Money

Tuition Fees

The annual tuition fee for the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degree is fixed for the full duration of the course. All graduate and overseas candidates are considered on a full-fees basis only.

For up-to-date tuition fee information, refer to the following website: www.ed.ac.uk/tuition-fees/find/undergraduate

Payment of Fees

At Edinburgh, we recognise that students need flexibility when paying fees. We provide a range of payment options to suit everyone. The fee can either be paid in full, or spread over manageable instalments by Direct Debit.

For more information refer to the Payment Options website: www.ed.ac.uk/finance/students/fees

Scholarships

The University offers a number of scholarships for students who are nationals of countries outside of the EU. The School also offers two scholarships for overseas students beginning their studies on the BVM&S. Each scholarship is worth £5,000 per year and is tenable for the duration of their degree programme, subject to satisfactory progress.

Further details are available on the Scholarships and Student Funding Service website: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate

Living Costs

We estimate students will need approximately £750 per month for living costs, including room and board. In addition to these expenses, you will also need to consider initial, annual and miscellaneous costs (deposits, bedding, textbooks, insurance, travel, etc).

The most up-to-date information on estimated living costs is available on the University website: www.ed.ac.uk/students/new-students/finances/student-living-costs

- Living costs in Edinburgh are comparable to many major cities in the world
- The International Office can offer advice about how to budget
- Consider the cost of accommodation and daily living expenses as well as the cost of tuition fees
- Planning a budget will depend on the type of accommodation selected and spending habits
- Food costs will vary, but will account for a significant part of the budget.

Additional Costs

In addition to any tuition fees charged, additional costs include specialised equipment and lab coats (estimated at £150), locker deposits (£15) and transportation costs to Easter Bush Campus. If using public transport from the city centre, this will be approximately £560 per year, which will be subsidised by the School proportionally in line with year of study.

Federal Loans

Eligible students can apply for US Government Student Loans. The University of Edinburgh is an approved Title IV institution for the purpose of administering these loans. Our School Code is G06839, which sometimes appears as 006839.

Visit our website for more information: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/financial-support/student-loans/usa

For further information on US Loans you can contact the Financial Aid Office on studentfunding@ed.ac.uk
Canadian Student Loans

The University of Edinburgh is a recognised institution for the purpose of certifying Canadian Student Loan applications. Our Student Funding Services team will be able to help students complete their loan applications by certifying and confirming their student status on the relevant documentation provided by the Canadian Government. Please note that the University of Edinburgh’s Institutional Code is PUAR.

For details on eligibility and how to apply for a loan, please visit our website:
www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/financial-support/student-loans/canadian

Alternatively contact our Financial Aid Office at studentfunding@ed.ac.uk

Bank Accounts

It is very useful to open a bank account once you arrive in Edinburgh, but this process is not normally available prior to arrival, unless an overseas bank branch has a relationship with a UK bank. Typically, this process can start once you have moved into your accommodation.

To assist you in opening an account, the University can provide you with a Bank Introductory Letter and provide proof of your accommodation in Edinburgh.

If you are staying in University accommodation and have checked in, you can download and print a copy of your letter from your MyEd portal. You will need this, as well as other documents, when you attend your first bank appointment to open your account.

If you are moving into private accommodation, you will need to apply for a Bank Introduction Letter online.

For more information please visit the website:
www.ed.ac.uk/students/new-students/finances/banking

Funding for UK/EU Students

Scottish and EU nationals are entitled to apply to the Student Award Agency for Scotland to cover their tuition fees for their full period of study if they start in 2021.

England-domiciled students can apply to Student Finance England for a tuition fee loan up to the full cost of their programme of study which they only start to pay back once they are earning more than £25,000 a year.

Welsh applicants can apply to Student Finance Wales and Northern Irish applicants can apply to Student Finance Northern Ireland. Access Awards are also available and are non-repayable and based on criteria such as income, background and personal circumstances, and in some cases geographical area.

For more details see:
www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate/uk-eu

University graduates applying to the BVM&S

Please note that any university graduate undertaking the BVM&S degree as a further qualification will be considered on a full fee basis regardless of nationality or domicile and to include UK and EU applicants. For information on the latest fee rates please visit our website:
www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/undergraduate/tuition-fees
Other programmes

Study Abroad Science Pathway with Veterinary Medicine Experience

Key Programme Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course title:</th>
<th>Study Abroad Science Pathway with Veterinary Medicine Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Code:</td>
<td>VESC07001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Mode:</td>
<td>½ day a week, for 10 weeks, Sep-Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Location:</td>
<td>Edinburgh (various)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Learn more: [www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/study-abroad](http://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/study-abroad)

We have teamed up with the University’s College of Science and Engineering to provide students pursuing a science major undergraduate programme at another institution with a unique and challenging opportunity. By attending a limited number of sessions, you can experience our research, teaching, clinical and farm facilities first-hand.

During your time at the Vet School, you will be able to gain intensive veterinary work experience at the world-renowned Easter Bush Campus, which incorporates the Roslin Institute, Equine, Farm, Small and Exotic Animal Practices, School of Veterinary Medicine teaching facilities, the University farms and the Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Security.

Who is this programme for?

This pathway is designed for students who wish to study veterinary medicine after graduating.

To be considered for the Study Abroad Science Pathway with Veterinary Medicine Experience, you must be an international undergraduate student, studying a Science/Animal Science major undergraduate degree at your home institution. There are only 20 places available each year, so register your interest as soon as possible to take part in this experience.

Accreditation

Your time at Edinburgh may count towards your final degree at your home institution for the modules you undertake at the College of Science and Engineering. However, there are no credits involved in the veterinary rotation at Easter Bush; this is simply an opportunity for you to gain work experience, network and work with some of the best researchers and clinicians in the field.

At the end of your period of study in Edinburgh, you will receive a transcript for the modules you have taken, and this will be translated into courses taken and grades achieved.

Entry Requirements

- A good academic record (US students should have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.0 or over on 4-point scale).
- A good academic reference from your home institution
- You will need a good level of English. If you are a non-native speaker, you should meet the standard requirements for all international undergraduate students.

For full details of courses available and how to apply, please refer to information on study abroad: [www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/study-abroad](http://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/study-abroad)
Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

The University of Edinburgh is part of the Coursera consortium and offers a number of exciting MOOCs for prospective students or the general public. Free short online courses, called Massive Open Online Courses or MOOCs, are presented by top universities from all over the world.

At the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, we offer three MOOCs, which will provide you with an insight into what to expect of our programme of study and teaching.

Our MOOCs are as follows:

**EDIVET: Do you have what it takes to be a veterinarian?**

This course provides a basic overview of what is involved in the first year of a veterinary medicine degree. Over five weeks, the course covers information on the profession’s past, present and future, as well as an introduction to body systems, basic animal care, and veterinary professional and clinical skills.

**Animal Behaviour and Welfare**

This course allows learners to develop an understanding of some of the main welfare issues that animals have to cope with, as well as gaining an insight into the behavioural needs and emotions of dogs, cats, farmed animals and captive wildlife.

**The Truth About Cats and Dogs**

What is your cat revealing to you when she purrs? What is your dog expressing when he yawns or wags his tail? Understanding your cat or dog’s behaviour and the way they communicate with you will enable you to better understand their needs and strengthen your relationship with them.

**Chicken Behaviour and Welfare**

This course looks at the behavioural and physiological indicators that can be used to assess welfare in chickens kept in hobby flocks through to commercial farms. The focus is primarily on laying hens and meat chickens (broilers) although many of the principles are relevant to other types of poultry.

For more information visit: [www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/moocs-overview](http://www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/moocs-overview)
Contacts

**Head of School/Dean**
Professor David Argyle

**Directors**
Veterinary Teaching: Professor Susan Rhind
Veterinary Admissions: Dr Gurå Bergkvist
Student Affairs: Dr Geoff Pearson
Postgraduate Studies: Professor Colin Farquharson

**BVM&S Admissions Team**
Telephone: +44 (0)131 651 7305
Fax: +44 (0)131 650 6585
Email: vetug@ed.ac.uk
Web: www.ed.ac.uk/vet

**Follow us**
www.facebook.com/DickVetAdmissions
www.twitter.com/EdinburghVets
www.instagram.com/thedickvet

**Student Fees and Funding**
+44 (0)131 650 2230
www.ed.ac.uk/tuition-fees/contact/form

**UCAS**
+44 (0)871 4680468
enquiries@ucas.ac.uk
www.ucas.com
www.twitter.com/ucas_online

**Edinburgh Global**
+44 (0)131 650 4296
enquiries.international@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/international-office

**Scholarships and Funding**
+44 (0)131 651 4070
scholarships@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding
www.twitter.com/UoEStudentFunds

**Other Contacts**

**Accommodation Services**
+44 (0)131 651 2042
accom.allocations@ed.ac.uk
www.accom.ed.ac.uk

**Student Disability Service**
+44 (0)131 650 6828
disability.service@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/student-disability-service

**Edinburgh University Students’ Association (EUSA)**
+44 (0)131 650 2656
advice@eusa.ed.ac.uk
www.eusa.ed.ac.uk
www.twitter.com/EUSA

Please note: Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this brochure is correct at the time of publication; however, staffing may change and you may not encounter those people featured in this publication during your studies.
FAQs

We have provided on these pages the answers to common questions that cannot be found within this brochure.

**What impact will Coronavirus (Covid-19) have on my application?**

For the latest information, please visit edin.ac/covid-19 or contact us - see page 42.

**Can I take a subject early?**

In order to be considered you must take your exams in one sitting and at the first attempt. However, if you are undertaking Curriculum for Excellence, early subjects may be considered (see SQA Highers Academic requirements, page 25).

**I have missed out on getting the grades required. Can I still apply?**

Unfortunately, if you have not made the grades you will not be considered, as the programme is very competitive.

**I have been ill or have had problems while studying. What do I do?**

Your School must inform the exam board as soon as possible. We are unable to consider extenuating circumstances put forward after exam results are registered.

**Will I get a place if I meet the requirements?**

Not necessarily. The process is competitive and we rely on application and interview strength to select students.

**Can I apply part-way through my degree?**

Contact us to discuss – see page 42.

**Can I access the University’s general admissions policies?**

Yes – www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/admissions-advice/admissions-policy

**I have missed the deadline – can I still apply?**

Yes, we can consider late applications from international or graduate candidates. Contact us to discuss – see page 42.

**Is there a minimum or maximum age limit?**

No.

**Do other universities see where I have applied?**

No, not until you have been made offers and decided which you wish to accept, if any.

**Can I amend my application after the deadline?**

Not usually. We do not accept changes to personal statements or references after the deadline. However, if you believe there is a factual error in your personal data, please contact us to discuss – see page 42.

**How many schools can I apply to?**

UCAS allows you four vet and one non-vet choice. We recommend you use all of your choices.

**Do I need to send references for work experience gained?**

No, you just need to complete your WES form prior to the deadline of 22 October.

**I do not have any veterinary/animal work experience. Can I still apply?**

You are still eligible, but we look for significant career exploration, so you should provide strong evidence you've researched the career and understand what it entails.

**How much detail should I go into on my personal statement about work experience?**

We are looking for brief details on the type and duration to add to your personal statement. This would then be supported by your WES form. Please bear in mind other schools may have other requirements.
What else do you look for in an application?

We look for evidence of career exploration, non-academic achievements and interests such as social involvement, school responsibilities, leadership, cultural, sporting, musical, vocational and voluntary.

Do I need to include every non-academic achievement I’ve gained?

No, but you should select those that demonstrate high skill, attainment and variety. We look for well-rounded individuals. As well as aligned experience, we look for evidence that you can wind down and relax outside of your work or studies.

Can my referee mention my non-academic achievements?

If they are in a position to do so, they may mention your other achievements.

Are there specific achievements you value, such as the Duke of Edinburgh award?

No, we look for evidence of what you feel you’ve gained from your achievements and your commitment to them, rather than specific achievements.

I am applying as a graduate candidate; should I apply to D100 and D102?

No, we will automatically consider you for both.

Can I contact a current student?

Incoming students are paired with a student mentor once they have been made an offer at Edinburgh.

I am an international student - can I do some of my EMS back home?

Yes – currently only two weeks each for both Animal Husbandry and Clinical EMS must be completed in the UK.

Can I intercalate during my programme?

If you have a special interest, you can choose to complete a BSc (Hons) Veterinary Science after your second or subsequent years. The programme consists of a year of advanced study in one of the following: biochemistry, neuroscience, microbiology & infectious diseases or zoology. You may, with permission, attend intercalated degree courses at the other UK Veterinary establishments and/or in other parts of the University. For exceptional candidates, there is also the alternative possibility of a one-year MSc by research after the third year, and even the possibility of doing an intercalated three-year PhD. You can also enrol on one of our prestigious taught MSc programmes which include Animal Welfare and Behaviour, Infectious Diseases, Conservation Medicine, Equine Science or One Health. Contact us to discuss – see page 42.

We hope that the information in this brochure provides you with everything that you need to know when considering us for your undergraduate studies. However, if you have read this brochure and cannot find the answer to your questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us using the details on page 42.
Transport

The Easter Bush Campus is located seven miles to the south of the centre of Edinburgh. Students can apply for a subsidised bus pass to help offset the cost of travel. The main methods that students use to come to the campus are:

- **Bus** - Lothian buses runs regular services several times an hour.
- **Bike** - we have a secure bike shed, showers and changing facilities and the University supports a number of schemes to help people cycle to and from the campus.
- **Car** - some students choose to drive and are able to apply for a free student car park pass.
Lothian Buses Services X15, 37, X47 and 67 service the Easter Bush Campus.

Further information on these services can be found at: www.lothianbuses.co.uk
The Power of Three

The unique offering of Excellence in Teaching, Research and Clinical Care make up the three pillars of The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.

This publication contains information for students planning to start university in 2021. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (June 2020). However, since this information is subject to change, please check the University’s website for the latest updates: www.ed.ac.uk

The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336.