YOUR PATH TO BECOMING A VET  
(CK JULY 2017)

These pages are intended as a guide for students who would like to move into veterinary medicine after finishing their degree in DIT.

Courses in Ireland

Study Abroad

Useful links

COURSES IN IRELAND

In Ireland, there is only one institution where you can study Veterinary.

UCD: DN 301. A 4-year graduate entry route with an average intake of 5. Apply through CAO and complete UCD Veterinary Medicine application form including degree transcripts. GAMSAT required tests. GAMSAT Ireland 2017 will be held on Wednesday 13th September 2017. This will be the only opportunity to sit GAMSAT Ireland in 2017.

The fee to sit GAMSAT Ireland 2017 is €325.00

Registrations will close on 1.00pm GMT Friday 4th August 2017. Late registrations are accepted until 1.00pm GMT 14th August 2017 on payment of a late fee of €70 in addition to the registration fee of €325.00

It is advised that candidates download and read the Information Booklet prior to registering.

Am I eligible?

You are eligible if you:

- Hold an honours degree (NQAI Level 8) with a 2.2 Honours or above in a Biological/Biomedical/Animal Science discipline OR a Master’s degree, OR a PhD in a relevant area of biological science by June 2017
- Are considered as EU applicants (i.e. not deemed ‘overseas’ applicants for purposes of fees)

UCD also have a 5-year programme, DN 300 and application is also through the CAO.

You are eligible if you;

- Hold an honours degree (NQAI Level 8) with a 2.2 Honours or above OR a Master’s degree, OR a PhD in any discipline by June 2017.
- Are considered as EU applicants (i.e. not ‘deemed ‘overseas’ applicants for purposes of fees)
STUDY ABROAD

It is possible to train abroad and then work in Ireland. However, according to the Veterinary Council of Ireland (VCI): It is a legal requirement and, therefore, essential that you register with the Veterinary Council prior to engaging in any type of Veterinary work in Ireland.

Please check with the VCI website to ensure the degree you are studying is accepted.

UK

Applications are through UCAS. The deadline for applications is 6th September 2017 (for 2018 entry). Some UK institutions use a pre-entrance test BMAT.

The following institutions have a graduate-entry 4-year course (application through UCAS):

The University of Edinburgh: Entry requirements include a minimum of a 2:1 honours degree or equivalent, normally in a Biological or Animal Science subject. Applicants should have undertaken relevant practical experience. Interview.

Royal Veterinary College London: degree in a biological sciences-based subject (minimum upper second class honours). A minimum of 2 weeks prior work experience in each of: veterinary practice and in other animal environments. BMAT required. Completed work experience questionnaire must be received by 15th October. Transcripts required. Interview.

For a full list of accredited courses see the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons website (end of page).

UK institutions interview candidates and your personal statement is extremely important. All look for relevant work experience. Tips for personal statements include: reasons for choosing Veterinary, work experience, team & leadership experience, and other information e.g, what you enjoy doing.

According to the University of Edinburgh, work experience is vital: In addition to the academic requirements we recommend that students gain as much practical experience as possible. This should include seeing veterinary practice, both large and small animal if possible, and spending time on livestock farms (dairying and lambing are particularly useful) and other animal establishments such as zoos, kennels, catteries, wildlife centres and stables. Experience gained in veterinary or biomedical research laboratories is also encouraged to help student understanding of the scientific basis of veterinary medicine. Specific details of your practical experience needs to be clearly stated in your personal statement on your UCAS application.

As part of your application through UCAS, you also need to provide an academic reference - if you are not finished your degree it is essential that your expected results are included in the reference.

Europe & USA

The Veterinary Council of Ireland recognise a number of European qualifications for registration in Ireland. These qualifications are listed by country on their website.

The AVMA Council on Education (COE) accredits US educational programs. The AVMA COE assures that minimum standards in veterinary medical education are met by all AVMA-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine, and that students enrolled in those colleges receive an education which will prepare them for entry-level positions in the profession.
Also [http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/) for the complete list of accredited online Veterinary Colleges and Universities

**USEFUL LINKS**

**Careers Information**

[Vet Careers Videos on Youtube](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/)
3-4 minute series of videos about working as a Vet (produced by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons)

[Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/)
Includes Veterinary Careers information and college listing

[British Veterinary Association](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/)
Job vacancies and Careers advice pages, includes FAQ's on working with animals.

[Federation of Veterinarians of Europe](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/)

**Further study**

[Veterinary Council of Ireland](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/)
Recognition of courses and membership information.

[American Veterinary Medical Association](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/) (AVMA)
Lists accredited courses in the USA.

[Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges](http://www.veterinarianedu.org/avma-accreditation/) (AAVMC)
Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS) - apply for courses in veterinary medicine in USA and Canada.

The Career Development Centre offers advice and information in good faith and based on the best information available to it. The Service does not accept any responsibility for any decisions made by individuals based on such advice or information. The Career Development Centre does not take responsibility for the contents of any sites linked to from its pages.

**Please check with individual universities before applying for courses.**

We would like to thank our colleagues in the NUIG Career Development Centre for kindly sharing this information with us.