How to apply
For full-time study you must apply through the Universities & Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). See ucas.com.
As a vet you will be responsible for the prevention of disease and for the medical and surgical treatment of animals, including household pets, zoo animals, farm animals and horses.

Purpose and goals

The BVMS programme is based on integration of clinical and scientific subject areas and is delivered using a range of teaching methods including centred active learning approaches. The spiral core structure means that you will continually progress through the programme, each time with increasing clinical focus. In conjunction, there is a vertical theme of professional and clinical skills development to help you acquire the personal qualities and skills you will need in professional environments. Through individual, team-working and student-centred active learning approaches, you will develop the skills required for lifelong independent learning.

Foundation phase (years 1 and 2)

In the first two years of the programme you will acquire fundamental knowledge and develop the skills and attitudes on which future professional practice is based. During this initial phase, you will relate the anatomy and physiology of the body systems to health and disease, and practice, as well as looking at the underlying cellular process involved. You will gain an insight into common husbandry practice and animal breeding and how these affect the animals we care for. Your professional training starts at the beginning of year 1 as you begin classes in fundamental animal-handling techniques, learn skills such as suturing, and develop your communication skills, building a solid foundation in the art of history taking, clinical examination and clinical reasoning.

At the end of the foundation phase you will have a sound working knowledge of healthy domestic animals, with an introduction to the mechanisms of disease. You will be developing independent learning strategies and you will have developed the fundamental personal skills you will require as you move towards learning based more in professional environments.

Clinical phase (years 3 and 4)

The aim of the clinical phase is to build on the foundation phase to provide a broad training in key areas of veterinary professional practice, with a focus on common and important problems and presentations encountered in veterinary work. Realistic scenarios and cases form the basis for integrating clinical aspects of veterinary practice with disease investigation and control measures. The approach emphasises the role of clinical reasoning and planning and you will continue to develop the practical skills and attitudes required to work in the clinical environment. The University and take a greater responsibility for your learning.

At the end of the clinical phase, you will have developed independent learning strategies and the necessary skills and become an active participant of the professional phase clinical team.

Professional phase (year 5)

In your final year there are no lectures and the primary emphasis is on small-group involvement in clinical activity, covering the common species of domestic animals. During this time you will be involved in all aspects of work in our busy hospitals and you will also gain first-hand experience of practices linked to the veterinary school. Though this year of the programme is structured so that you will receive clinical experience in core clinical areas, there is also the opportunity to focus on personal interests or explore the breadth of opportunities in the veterinary profession by choosing a ‘selective’ experience. Selectives may be used to gain experience in niche veterinary activities (such as wildlife, zoo and exotics) or to gain in-depth clinical experience related to core subjects.

Special features

In common with all veterinary students in the UK, you will be required to undertake extra-mural studies (EMS) during your vacation time (total duration determined by the RCVS). This encompasses time wherein you gain experience of the management and handling of domestic animals. Upon completion of this preclinical EMS you have to undertake clinical EMS, during which you gain experiential working in veterinary professional environments. Satisfactory completion of the EMS requirements set by the RCVS is a requirement for graduation.

The intercalated degree programme represents an opportunity for BVMS students following their second or third year to take either one or two years out of the BVMS programme and study for an additional degree programme (both at Bachelor – BSc, BSc Vet Sci (Hons) – and Masters levels – MSc, MRes or MVPh), after which you then re-enter the BVMS programme.

Our international links

Study abroad opportunities are available in all years. There is an active involvement by students in extra-mural studies (see special features). There are also opportunities to study abroad as an integral part of the BVMS programme.

We have approved status from the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), which enables you to have opportunities in the veterinary profession by choosing a ‘selective’ experience. Selectives may be used to gain experience in niche veterinary activities (such as wildlife, zoo and exotics) or to gain in-depth clinical experience related to core subjects.

Support for NAVLE

The National Board of Veterinary Examiners has established a single common examination for veterinary medical licensure in the United States known as the North American Veterinary Medical Licensing Examination (NAVLE). The NAVLE is offered twice a year – in November/December and April. All final year students are given support with preparing for the NAVLE examination. For further information on state requirements for licensure, see www.avma.org/ProfessionalDevelopment/Education/ForeignPages/ECFVG-state-boards.aspx.

Summary of entry requirements for Veterinary Medicine & Surgery

**SQA Higher Entry Requirements (by end of S6)**

- AAAA Higher at end of S5 + BB Advanced Higher

**SQA Higher Adjusted Entry Requirements** (by end of S6)

- AAAB Higher at end of S5 + BB Advanced Higher

**A-level Standard Entry Requirements**

- AAA: Additional requirements: A-Levels Chemistry and Biology (third science A-level recommended), GCSE English at Grade B or 5. Practical experience. Interview.

**IB Standard Entry Requirements**

- 38 (6,6,6 HL)
  - Additional requirements: HL subjects Chemistry and Biology, ST English and Physics or Mathematics at 6. Practical experience. Interview.
  - For detailed entry requirements see glasgow.ac.uk/ ug/veterinarymedicine.

**Careers prospects**

As a graduate of Veterinary Medicine at Glasgow, you can register as a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (MRCVS). Along with the University’s accreditation by the AVMA, this means that our graduates can choose to work anywhere in the world, and the global opportunities are endless. The majority of registered veterinary surgeons in the United Kingdom are in general practice, which may be small animal, farm animal, equine or mixed. Our graduates are also employed in government service, dealing with investigation, control and eradication of important diseases. Others are actively engaged in food hygiene or in university teaching and research.

Applying

All applications must be received by UCAS by 15 October. If applying to the BVMS programme you must limit your choice to four veterinary schools only. If you apply to more than four veterinary schools, your application will not be forwarded to institutions by UCAS. The University is unable to offer applicants deferred entry. For further information on the admissions process, see glasgow.ac.uk/vet/whystudyatglasgow.

Interviews

Candidates are considered for admission to the BVMS programme will normally be subject to an interview process.

Garscube campus

Our Veterinary Medicine students are based at our Garscube campus.

Practical experience requirements

In addition to the academic standard, evidence of motivation is required. It is essential that applicants to the veterinary programme have at least one week with a veterinary surgeon and have had hands on experience with farm animals.

The School of Veterinary Medicine runs a requisite widening participation programme for the recruitment and support of under-represented groups of students; see glasgow.ac.uk/study/vet.

Links to other useful information

- glasgow.ac.uk/schools/vet
- glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees
- glasgow.ac.uk/myglasgow/accommodation
- glasgow.ac.uk/myglasgow/disability
- glasgow.ac.uk/myglasgow/senateoffice/policies/calendar
- glasgow.ac.uk/myglasgow/registry
- glasgow.ac.uk/myglasgow/withdrawal
- glasgow.ac.uk/international/support/livinginuk/costofliving
- glasgow.ac.uk/undergraduate/fees/policies/refund

Why choose Glasgow?

The University is one of seven Vet Schools in the UK and ranked 1st in the UK (Complete University Guide 2021) and 2nd in the UK (The Times & Sunday Times Good University Guide 2020).

* See glasgow.ac.uk/ug/veterinarymedicine/ vet-admissions@glasgow.ac.uk