

CAAM Veterinary Education Database

Section II: THE STUDENTS

Part A: Key Quantitative Indicators

a. **Mean Admission scores** for *new* (not repeating) first-year students during each of the past three years. State the examinations or other methods used and summarise in the table.

Examination/ Criteria	Current.....	1 Year Prior	2 Years Prior

b. **Mean premedical GPA** for *new* (not repeating) first-year students during each of the past three years. State how the GPA is calculated and place the mean in the table.

Current Year.....		1 Yr Prior		2 Yrs Prior	

c. For each of the last three years, the number of admissions applications considered by the admissions committee, applicants interviewed, offers of admission issued, student acceptances and entries for their first year of study.

	Current	1 Year Prior	2 Years Prior
Applications			
Interviews			
Offers made			
Acceptances			
Entrants			

d. For the most recent academic year, the percentage of first-year students and of all students in the following categories – national, regional, extra regional. National refers to a country sponsoring the school and/or in which the school is located. Region refers to non-nationals but from CARICOM countries. (CAAM Annual Veterinary Questionnaire 6)

	Nationals %	Regional %	Extra-regional %
First-year			
All Students			

e. Gender distribution (percentage) in the first-year class and in the total veterinary school enrolment.

(CAAM Annual Veterinary Questionnaire 7)

	Female %	Male %
First-year		
All Students		

f. For the most recent year the percentage by gender and ethnicity of the national students admitted. Give the most recent census data. (CAAM Annual Veterinary Questionnaire 8)

Year	Black (African) %	East Indian %	White %	Mixed %	Other %	Census yr
Female						
Male						
Census (year)						100%

g. For the three most recent academic years, the percentage of first-year students and percentage of all students who withdrew or were dismissed from the veterinary school. (CAAM Annual Veterinary Questionnaire 10)

	Past Year	1 Year Prior	2 Years Prior
First-year			
Total			

h. For the past three academic years, total tuition and fees for entering national, regional and extra regional students and the percent of institution scholarship students in those years. (CAAM Annual Veterinary Questionnaire 14)

	Current Year	1 Year Prior	2 Years Prior
National			
Regional			
Extra-regional			
Transfer and Elective			
Total tuition & fees			
Percent Scholarships			

Part B: Narrative Data and Tables

VS-1 *Students studying to be veterinarians should acquire a broad education, including the humanities and social sciences.*

An undergraduate degree or an adequate level in the sciences is necessary for entrance into veterinary school. A general education that includes the social sciences, arts and languages is increasingly important for the development of professional competencies outside of the scientific knowledge domain.

VS-2 *Entry requirements should be restricted to those deemed essential preparation for completing the veterinary school curriculum.*

a. List all university/college/post basic courses or subjects required for admission.

b. Identify any courses outside of the fields of mathematics, physical sciences, and life sciences that are recommended but not required for admission to veterinary school.

VS-3 *The faculty of each school must develop criteria and procedures for the selection of students that are readily available to potential applicants and to their collegiate advisors.*

Briefly describe the process of the student selection, beginning with receipt of the application forms and proceeding through screening/interview procedures, tender of acceptance offer, and matriculation. Cite the criteria for selection and indicate how they are published and disseminated.

VS-4 *The final responsibility for selecting students to be admitted for veterinary studies must reside with a duly constituted faculty committee.*

Persons or groups external to the veterinary school may assist in the evaluation of applicants but should not have decision-making authority.

a. Briefly describe the size and composition of the admission's committee, how members are chosen, and how long they serve. Who makes the final decision about admissions? Describe the circumstances surrounding any committee decisions or recommendations that have been overruled or rejected since the last full accreditation survey.

b. If there are combined professional degree programmes describe the role of the veterinary school admissions committee in admissions decisions and interviewing of candidates for those programmes.

VS-5 *The veterinary school should have a pool of applicants sufficiently large and possessing the published qualifications to fill its entering class.*

The size of the entering class and of the student body as a whole should be determined not only by the number of qualified applicants, but also the adequacy of critical resources:

- *Finances.*
- *Size of the faculty and the variety of academic fields they represent.*
- *Library and information systems resources.*
- *Number and size of classrooms, student laboratories, and clinical training sites and facilities.*
- *Animal numbers and variety.*
- *Student services.*
- *Instructional equipment.*
- *Space for the faculty.*

Class size considerations should also include:

- *The need to share resources to educate graduate students or other students within the university.*
- *The size and variety of graduate education programmes.*
- *Responsibilities for continuing education programmes, animal care, research, the size of the community and the sensibility of individual clients.*

a. Number of students enrolled in each academic year of the curriculum. If there are separate campuses list each separately. (CAAM Annual Veterinary Questionnaire 4,5)

First Year	Second Year	Third Year	Fourth Year	Fifth year	Total

b. If appropriate, provide similar tables of enrollment by year for the following categories: (1) veterinary students in a decelerated curriculum, (2) students in a combined baccalaureate-DVM. programme, and (3) students in each joint degree programme (e.g., DVM.-Ph.D.).

c. If students in combined baccalaureate-.DVM. programmes or joint degree programmes are not drawn from the same pool as regular veterinary students, briefly describe the size and characteristics of the applicant pools for each such programme.

d. Describe the considerations which determine the number of students offered admission. Give any quantitative data/ratios used for such factors as stated above, e.g. Faculty/student ratios; teaching beds/student.

VS-6 *Veterinary schools must select students who possess the intelligence, integrity, and personal and emotional characteristics necessary for them to become effective veterinarians in the social as well as the scientific sense.*

VS-7 *The selection of individual students must not be influenced by political or financial factors.*

See also Part A, items (a.) and (b.) in this section of the database.

Briefly describe the methods used to document and evaluate non-academic personal or professional attributes of veterinary school applicants. If a standard form is used for interviewing candidates, supply a copy of the form and describe how it is used.

VS-8 *The veterinary school should have policies and practices ensuring the gender, racial, cultural, and economic diversity of its students.*

The standard requires that the school's student body exhibit diversity in the dimensions noted. The extent of diversity needed will depend on the school's missions, goals, and educational objectives, expectations of the community in which it operates, and its implied or explicit social contract at the national level.

a. Describe any initiatives designed to facilitate the achievement of institutional goals for student diversity. Include copies of policies, if any, that specifically address the gender, racial, cultural, and economic diversity of the student body.

See also Part A, items (e.) and (f.) in this section of the database.

VS-9 *Each school must develop and publish technical standards for admission of handicapped applicants.*

Provide a copy of any technical standards that have been developed for the admission of handicapped applicants. (Appendix)

VS-10 *The institution's catalogue or equivalent informational materials must describe the requirements for the professional degree and all associated joint degree programmes; provide the most recent academic calendar for each curricular option, and describe all required courses and clerkships offered by the school.*

A veterinary school's publications, advertising, and student recruitment should present a balanced and accurate representation of the mission and objectives of the programme.

VS-11 *The school's catalogue or informational materials must enumerate the school's criteria for selecting students, and describe the admissions process.*

Provide a copy of the current veterinary school bulletin or catalogue. If there is no longer a print version of the catalogue, indicate the web site URL for the corresponding material, and include a printed copy of the relevant web pages. (Appendix)

VS-12 *Institutional resources to accommodate the requirements of any visiting and transfer students must not significantly diminish the resources available to existing enrolled students.*

Complete the following table for each of the past three academic years:

Number of:	Last Year	1- Year Prior	2- Years Prior
Students transferring into second year			
Students transferring into third year			
Students transferring into fourth year			
Visiting students taking clerkships required for your veterinary students			
Visiting students taking elective courses			

VS-13 *Transfer students must demonstrate achievements in pre-veterinary or appropriate equivalent education comparable to those of students in the class that they join.*

VS-14 *Prior course work taken by students who are accepted for transfer or admission to advanced standing must be compatible with the programme to be entered.*

a. Describe the process of selecting students for admission to advanced standing or transfer.

b. If any transfer or advanced standing students were admitted for the current academic year, complete the following table:

	Mean Under-graduate GPA	Mean Score of admission criteria	Number of Nationals	Number of Regional students	Number of extra-regional students
Year- 2 transfers					
Second-year class					
Year- 3 transfers					
Third-year class					
Year- 4 transfers					
Fourth-year class					

See also Part A sections (a.), (b.), (d.) and (h.)

VS-15 *Transfer students should not be accepted into the final year of the programme except under rare circumstances.*

If the school has admitted one or more transfer students to the final year of the programme during any of the past three academic years, describe the circumstances.

VS-16 *The accepting school should verify the credentials of visiting students, formally register and maintain a complete roster of such students, approve their assignments, and provide evaluations to their parent schools.*

Registration of visiting students allows the school accepting them to establish protocols or requirements for health records, immunisations, exposure to infectious agents or environmental hazards, insurance, and liability protection comparable to those of their own enrolled students.

VS-17 *Students visiting from other schools for clerkships and electives must possess qualifications equivalent to students they will join in these experiences.*

a. How do you verify credentials and grant approval for students from other schools to take clerkships or electives at your institution?

b. Who is responsible for maintaining an accurate, current roster of visiting students? Describe the information included in the roster, and how it is used.

VS-18 *The system of academic advising for students must integrate the efforts of faculty members, course directors, and student affairs' officers with the school's counselling and tutorial services.*

a. Describe your academic advisory system for the students. Describe any programmes designed to assist potentially high-risk entering students in adapting to the demands of veterinary school.

b. Complete the following table for the most recently concluded academic year:

Number of Students Who:	Class Year					Total
	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	
Withdrew or were dismissed						
Transferred to another veterinary school						
Repeated the entire academic year						
Repeated one or more required courses						
Moved to a decelerated curriculum						
Took a leave of absence due to academic problems						
Took a leave of absence for academic enrichment (including research or joint degree programmes)						
Took a leave of absence for personal reasons						
Total						

c. What percentage of students who experience academic difficulty (repetition of all or part of the year move to a decelerated curriculum, leave of absence due to academic problems) typically continue to do so after remedial action has been taken? Summarize the most common reasons for academic difficulty.

VS-19 *There must be a system to assist students in career choice and application to internship and postgraduate programmes, and to guide students in choosing elective courses.*

Describe your system for career and junior staff counselling. Who provides guidance for students in their choice of electives?

VS-20 *If students are permitted to take electives at other institutions, there should be a system centralized in the dean's office to review students' proposed extramural programmes prior to approval and to ensure the return of a performance appraisal by the host programme.*

How are extramural electives screened prior to allowing students to enroll? Describe your system of collecting performance appraisals for students taking electives outside your institution.

VS-21 *The process of applying for internship or graduate programmes should not disrupt the general veterinary education of the students.*

a. List the principal components of your system of evaluation that are employed in construction of the formal Veterinary Student Performance Evaluation ("Dean's letter").

b. How does the school handle potential scheduling conflicts in required academic activities (e.g., final-year courses or electives, examinations) and internship/residency interviews?

VS-22 *The school must provide students with effective financial aid and debt management counselling.*

In providing financial aid services and debt management counselling, schools should pay close attention and alert students to the impact of non-educational debt on their cumulative indebtedness.

a. Provide the name, title and date of appointment for the financial aid director.

b. What other student groups are served by the financial aid office? How many staff members are available specifically to assist veterinary students?

c. Summarize the financial aid counselling and services provided to veterinary students.

VS-23 *Each school must have an effective system of personal counselling for its students that includes programmes to promote the well-being of students and facilitate their adjustment to the physical and emotional demands of veterinary school.*

a. Describe the system for personal counselling of students and comment on its accessibility, confidentiality, and effectiveness.

b. Briefly summarize any programmes designed to facilitate students' adjustment to the physical and emotional demands of veterinary school.

VS-24 *Students must have access to confidential counselling and health services. No confidential report may be used in the academic evaluation or promotion of students receiving those services.*

Describe the mechanisms available to ensure confidentiality in counselling services, and to avoid perceived conflicts of interest in the academic and student support roles of those who provide such services.

VS-25 *Health services / insurance must be available to all students, and all students must have access to disability insurance and to preventive and therapeutic health services.*

a. Are health and disability insurance available for all students and their dependents? If yes, briefly describe the scope of benefits and premium costs. Who pays the premium? If health insurance is not offered, what provisions are made to provide health care for students?

b. Describe the system for preventive and therapeutic health services and health education for students.

VS-26 Veterinary schools should follow national guidelines in determining appropriate immunisations for veterinary students.

The school should follow guidelines issued by the country's ministry of health in the location of their training or elective programme.

Briefly describe your student immunisation policies and procedures.

VS-27 Schools must have policies addressing student exposure to infectious and environmental hazards.

The policies should include:

- *education of students about methods of prevention and control of cross infection, in animals and humans;*
- *the procedures for care and treatment after exposure, including definition of financial responsibility; and*
- *the effects of infectious and environmental disease or disability on student learning activities.*

All registered students (including visiting students) need to be informed of these policies before undertaking educational activities that would place them or clients at risk.

a. Describe institutional policies regarding student exposure to infectious and environmental hazards, including the following:

- education of students about methods of prevention

- procedures for care and treatment after exposure, including definition of financial responsibility

- effects of infectious and/or environmental disease or disability on student educational activities

b. Briefly summarize any protocols relating to exposure to contaminated body fluids, infectious disease screening and follow-up,

c. In the course of their education, when are students briefed on policies and procedures for prevention of and exposure to infectious diseases, especially from contaminated body fluids?

VS-28 *In the admissions process and throughout veterinary school, there should be no discrimination on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, age, race, religion, or creed.*

Describe any circumstances where veterinary school applicants or students are given differential consideration on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, age, race, creed, or religion.

VS-29 *The school must define and publicise the standards of conduct for the teacher-learner relationship, and develop written policies for addressing violations of those standards.*

The standards of conduct may originate from other sources such as the parent university. Mechanisms for reporting violations of these standards, such as incidents of harassment or abuse, should assure that they can be registered by the student and investigated without fear of retaliation.

The policies should specify mechanisms for the prompt handling of such complaints, and promote educational activities aimed at preventing inappropriate behaviour.

a. Supply a copy of any formal statement of the standards of conduct expected in the teacher-learner relationship.

b. Provide a copy of any formal or informal policies and procedures for handling allegations of student mistreatment, including avenues for reporting such incidents and mechanisms for investigating them. What evidence is there to indicate the effectiveness of such policies?

c. Describe educational programmes provided by the school or other university officials to avoid or prevent student mistreatment.

VS-30 *The school must publicise to all faculty and students its standards and procedures for the evaluation, advancement, and graduation of its students and for disciplinary action.*

Attach a copy of the school's standards and procedures for the evaluation, advancement, and graduation of students, and the procedures for disciplinary action. How are these standards and procedures publicised to faculty members and students?

VS-31 *There must be a fair and formal process for taking any action that adversely affects the status of a student.*

The process should include timely notice of the impending action, disclosure of the evidence on which the action would be based, an opportunity for the student to respond, and an opportunity to appeal any adverse decision related to promotion, graduation, or dismissal.

Summarize the due process protections in place when taking an adverse academic action involving a veterinary student, including appeal opportunities.

VS-32 *Student records must be confidential and available only to members of the faculty and administration with a need to know, unless released by the student or as otherwise governed by laws concerning confidentiality.*

Describe the general content of the student record files. Where are student records maintained? Who, other than the student, is authorized to examine or review such records?

VS-33 *Students must be allowed to review and challenge their records.*

a. Describe the procedure students must follow in order to review or challenge their records.

b. Does each required course and clerkship provide students with an opportunity to review their performance, and if necessary appeal an examination or course grade?

c. Are failing grades expunged from a student's record if deficiencies are satisfactorily remediated? How are grades in repeating or remedial courses considered in computing a student's grade point average?

VS-34 *A school should ensure that students have adequate study space, lounge areas, and personal lockers or other secure storage facilities.*

a. Describe the quantity, quality, and accessibility of student study space, lounge, and relaxation areas. Do veterinary students share such space or facilities with other student groups?

b. What storage facilities are available for students' personal possessions and valuables (e.g., microscopes, computing equipment)?

END OF SECTION II