The College of Veterinary Medicine was authorized by the Florida Legislature in 1965 and opened its door to students in 1976. Florida’s College of Veterinary Medicine is concerned with the total health of all members of the animal kingdom— including man. Modern veterinarians serve the needs of the public in a variety of significant ways: prevention of disease in animals and humans, enhancement of animal agriculture and wildlife management, humane health care of animals, research on diseases of animals and provision of wholesome food.

**Goals**

- To educate veterinarians for Florida’s specific needs.
- To perform research on metabolic and infectious diseases of animals. These investigations will provide new knowledge concerning diseases of domestic animals, will assist in the control of devastating subtropical diseases that must be controlled in order to provide wholesome food for our nation and developing countries, and will provide insight into human diseases for which animal models exist.
- To provide a veterinary medical center necessary for training of interns, residents and graduate students, and for continuing education of practitioners.
- To provide a resource for dissemination of current information to veterinary practitioners, state and federal agricultural and public health agencies, and consumers of food and health services.
- To serve as a center where veterinary practitioners can consult with specialists and where animal patients can be referred for sophisticated diagnostic procedures. This will provide a service to practitioners and afford veterinary students access to more cases and a greater variety of disease entities.

**Curriculum**

The professional curriculum provides a nine-semester program consisting of a core curriculum and elective clinical experiences (clerkships). The core provides the body of knowledge and skills common to all veterinarians. The first four semesters concentrate primarily on the basic medical sciences. Additionally, students are introduced to physical diagnosis, radiology and clinical problems during the first year. The core also includes experience in each of the clinical areas (clerkships). The elective clerkships permit students to study in depth those aspects of both basic and clinical veterinary medical science most relevant to their interests and needs.

Three phases of study within the veterinary medical curriculum are based conceptually on the study of the normal animal (Phase I), the study of disease processes and therapy (Phase II), and clinical applications (Phase III). Phases I and II are organized on an organ system basis; each system is considered in turn, an approach that lends itself to the concept of comparative medicine. Phase I occupies the first two semesters of the curriculum; Phase II the second two semesters. After four semesters of study, the student enters rotations through the clinical clerkships of required or core clerkships and elective areas of concentration.

Students enrolled as full-time veterinary students participate in the professional degree program leading to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.). A total of 150 semester credits are required for graduation. Students with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.50 or above on courses in the professional curriculum are graduated with honors. A cumulative GPA of 3.75 or above is required for magna cum laude (high honors) recognition.

**Academic Policies and Procedures**

**Undergraduate Preparation**

Students intending to apply for admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine should plan to complete a bachelor’s degree. However, outstanding students may be admitted after only three years of pre-professional course work.

Sequencing of pre-professional course work should be planned carefully, preferably under the guidance of pre-professional advisers. The Office for Students and Instruction in this college welcomes inquiries of a general nature but semester-by-semester course scheduling should be monitored by the college offering the bachelor’s degree.

Pre-veterinary students may major in a program offered by any department or college but must complete the pre-professional requirements listed below. Applicants to the professional curriculum must present a minimum of 80 semester hours of college-level course work, exclusive of physical education and military training courses.

Credit for Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) or College Level Examination Programs (CLEP) is acceptable at the level identified in the academic advising section of this catalog.

**Admission**

Selection for admission to the College of Veterinary Medicine will be made by the dean based on recommendation of the faculty committee on admissions using the following criteria as the basis for selection:

- Residency – Highest priority is given to residents of Florida. Consideration will be given, however, to a limited number of non-Florida residents with exceptional qualifications. Application is limited to permanent residents of the United States.
- Academic Performance – Evidence of superior scholastic achievement.
- GRE Scores – Graduate Record Examination.
- Background and Experience – Knowledge of the veterinary medical profession. Some type of animal care experience is considered desirable.
- Extracurricular Activities – Achievements, leadership abilities and participation in community activities.
- Communication Skills – A statement from the applicant elaborating on the reasons for seeking admission.
- Personal interview.
- Competitiveness – In the case of repeated applications, there is no guarantee that an applicant who interviews one year will interview the next, or that pursuit of recommended experience and course work will guarantee success. The competitive quality of the applicant pool each year shapes the list of interviewees and successful candidates.

**When To Apply**

The College of Veterinary Medicine is a participant in the Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS). Applications are available after July 1 via the VMCAS Web site at [www.aavmc.org](http://www.aavmc.org). In addition to completing the VMCAS appli-
cation, applicants must also apply to UF. Requests are only accepted electronically via our college Web site at www.vetmed.ufl.edu/admissions. Upon completion of a request for a UF application, a secondary application for use in determining residency for tuition purposes will be mailed. The completed secondary application (including transcripts validating academic work through the end of the summer term) must be received in the Office for Students and Instruction by October 31.

Who May Apply
Application to the College of Veterinary Medicine is limited to citizens and permanent residents of the United States and will be accepted only from those applicants who have completed the preprofessional requirements, or who will complete them by the end of the spring term of the calendar year in which admission is sought.

Admission is granted only for the first semester of each school year and only on a full-time basis. A prescribed number of spaces is available for each class, and a formal application with supporting credentials is required for each applicant.

Further information relative to the admissions process is contained in the brochure Information for Applicants to the College of Veterinary Medicine. This may be obtained from the Office of the Dean for Students and Instruction, College of Veterinary Medicine, P.O. Box 100125, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32610-0125.