

# Sample Timeline for Pre-Veterinary Students\*



- 7 Year**
- CONTACT your pre-vet mentor to discuss veterinary school requirements
  - CONNECT through the Pre-Vet Canvas page
  - JOIN the Pre-Vet Club ---strongly suggested (all 4 years)
  - TAKE advantage of special speakers, field trips, etc. (all 4 years)
  - GAIN experience working for a veterinarian (shadow, volunteer, or paid)
  - CREATE a resume of high school clubs, sports, activities, jobs, and leadership
  - KEEP a log of all veterinary and animal experience (high school and college)
  - GRADES, GRADES, GRADES - develop strong study habits and set an excellent foundation now
  - GET tutors in chemistry, math or other courses if you need them!
  - MEET with pre-vet mentors regularly and COMMUNICATE with them prior to changing your schedule
  - APPLY for all scholarships available (all 4 years)

- Second Year**
- GRADES, GRADES, GRADES - maintain strong grades even with hefty course loads
  - MINIMIZE having any "W"s on your transcript
  - CONSIDER who will be writing your letters of recommendation: veterinarian, academic person, and person of your choice
  - CONTINUE to get experience with veterinarians and different types of animals (large, small, exotic, lab animal, etc.)
  - SEEK leadership roles in clubs and organizations
  - OBTAIN community service experience - working with people is important too!
  - INVESTIGATE vet schools of interest and note any additional course requirements you need (outside of your major)
  - COMPLETE your plan of study with a degree advisor!

- Third Year**
- GRADES, GRADES, GRADES - keep them up during rigorous upper-level coursework
  - CONTINUE with meaningful veterinary and animal experience, leadership, community service
  - THINK about gaining experience in different circumstances: veterinarians at horse or dog shows, racetracks, livestock expos, zoos, diagnostic labs, therapy, alternative medicine, etc.
  - CONTINUE to document all college activities - extracurriculars, achievements, research - for your application
  - DETERMINE if your chosen schools require the CASPER or GRE exams and WHEN you need to take them
  - TAKE Biochemistry 401G, and if needed Microbiology 308/309
  - CONSIDER your plan B if you do not get in to Vet School (re-apply? retake classes? switch gears?)

- Fourth Year**
- GRADES, GRADES, GRADES (average for accepted KY students is 3.5/4.0)
  - COMPLETE your VMCAS application and residency forms by announced deadline, including transcripts and residency requirements
  - REVIEW interview types and ATTEND mock interviews
  - CONTINUE rigorous coursework and FINISH STRONG in case you need to re-apply
  - GRADUATE!
  - CELEBRATE getting into vet school, or implement your Plan B
  - KEEP your Pre-vet mentors in the loop!

**\*This is not an all-inclusive checklist, but rather general guidance to help you organize your pre-vet pathway. It is each student's responsibility to stay informed about the specific requirements of veterinary programs of interest.**