

**University College Dublin
National University of Ireland, Dublin**



**Veterinary Medicine (MVB)
Graduate-Entry**

Guidelines for Applicants

Apply Via CAO – www.cao.ie

- **A signed copy of the UCD Supplementary Application form and all relevant supporting documents must be submitted to the CAO immediately following application.**

Exception: Transcripts for current degrees *only* will be accepted if received by CAO no later than 4 July. Documents received after this cannot be considered.

Introduction

There are 2 possible routes available for graduates wishing to enter Veterinary Medicine in UCD:

- A four-year programme, open to graduates with a degree in biological/biomedical sciences.
- A five-year programme, open for applicants who are graduates of any discipline and to those applying with a Leaving Certificate.

The aim of these entry routes is to provide educational opportunities to graduates who have made a mature decision to commit a lifetime to a demanding profession.

Application Procedure

There are two separate elements to the application process which must be completed:

Step 1: Apply for the appropriate course via the CAO

EU applicants¹ must apply online via www.cao.ie course code DN301 (four-year programme) or DN300 (five-year programme). Normal CAO closing date 5pm, 1 February.

One copy of the signed and completed UCD Supplementary Application Form plus all related documents (e.g. copies of Official transcript(s) etc.) must be sent to the CAO within 2 weeks of application.

N.B. Should you be successful in the assessment of your application, you will be required to submit an Official Transcript(s) of your degree(s) to UCD for verification before the offer will be made official.

Step 2: Apply to sit GAMSAT (All Applicants)

You will need to sit the Graduate Australian Medical School Admission Test (GAMSAT) to apply to Veterinary Medicine via the graduate-entry pathway. GAMSAT is a professionally designed and marked selection test developed by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) for medical schools offering graduate-entry programmes that are open to graduates of any discipline.

Registration is by online enrolment and the closing date is early February each year. The website address is www.gamsat-ie.org.

The GAMSAT test is held in late March each year in a number of venues in Ireland and abroad, please see the GAMSAT website for further details.

GAMSAT Preparation Material can be ordered from www.gamsat-ie.org.

- GAMSAT Practice Test
- GAMSAT Practice Questions
- GAMSAT Sample Questions

GAMSAT Preparation Materials can also be ordered from GAMSAT UK.
www.gamsatuk.org/

Please note that the onus lies with the applicant to make sure that all steps of the application procedure are completed within the relevant deadlines.

¹ Note for non-EU applicants: North American Applicants must apply via www.aavmc.org or Atlantic Bridge. All other Non-EU applicants must apply online at: www.ucd.ie/apply. For details of non-EU fees see www.ucd.ie/fees

Eligibility

The four-year graduate entry programme (DN301) is open to applicants who

- Hold/expect to hold an honours degree (NFQ Level 8) in a Biological/ Biomedical/ Animal Science discipline at the level of a 2.2 Honours or above, a Master's degree, or a PhD.
- Are EU applicants (i.e. not deemed 'overseas' applicants for purposes of fees)

The five-year graduate entry programme (DN300) is open to applicants who

- Hold/expect to hold an honours degree (NFQ Level 8) in any discipline at the level of a 2.2 Honours or above, a Master's degree, or a PhD
- Are EU applicants (i.e. not deemed 'overseas' applicants for purposes of fees)

In either case, if you are sitting final examinations in the current year, transcripts of your overall award must be forwarded to CAO by 4 July.

If you are unsure of which programme to apply to, please e-mail vetprogrammes@ucd.ie

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be selected for admissions on the basis of open competition using three criteria. These are:

- Basic eligibility
- Information included on the UCD Supplementary Application Form
- GAMSAT score which must be less than three years old at time of entry (e.g., for entry in September 2024, GAMSAT must have been taken since September 2021. Older GAMSAT scores will not be considered).

Applicants fulfilling basic eligibility requirements will be ranked on a combination of their GAMSAT score and a score for their UCD Supplementary Application Form.

Please note that applicants **may** be invited to attend for an interview to further discuss their application and facilitate a final decision on their application.

Instructions for completing the UCD Supplementary Application Form

The form is available in Microsoft Word on the [website](#).

You must use:

- A font size of 10 point or greater
- Only the space provided (no appendices will be accepted)

Fees

You should note that, as a graduate, you will be liable for annual fees for the duration of the course. Please see www.ucd.ie/fees for details.

Dates of Term

For academic term dates please see www.ucd.ie/students/keydates.htm

Grading of UCD Supplementary Application Form:

The UCD Supplementary Application Form will be graded by at least two separate assessors.

Assessment criteria will be weighted as indicated below:

	Criterion	Weighting (distribution of 100 points)	
1	<i>Degree Award</i>	20	
	2.2 degree		4 points
	2:1 degree		8 points
	1st degree		16 points
	Masters		16 points
	PhD		20 points
2a	<i>Training within the Biological Sciences:</i>	20	
	Leaving Certificate/A-level with 1 science subject		3 points
	Leaving Certificate/A-level with 2 science subjects		6 points
	Leaving Certificate/A-level with 3 science subjects		10 points
2b	Degree within Biological or Physical Sciences	3 points	
	Masters within Biological or Physical Sciences	6 points	
	PhD within Biological Sciences	10 points	
3	Commitment demonstrated by veterinary and other relevant experience. Days spent in various types of veterinary practice/institute	20	
4	Attainment of responsibility, leadership and achievement in extramural activities	20	
5	Publications and other academic honours.	20	

Please note:

- Points are derived from the highest attainment level, not incrementally from all attainment levels.
- The final evaluation of applications will take place in July. To be fair to all applicants, points will only be given for qualifications that have been awarded and submitted by 4 July of the current year.
- Offers will issue in CAO Round 0 in early August.