DVM/MS or DVM/PhD Program

A combined degree program is offered jointly by the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine and the Graduate School. This program is designed to provide research training to highly qualified and strongly motivated students who wish to pursue academic and research careers in the biomedical sciences. Students typically are able to meet the requirements of the DVM/MS degree in four to five years and the DVM/PhD degree in six to seven years. Applicants must be admitted to the Graduate School following acceptance into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. To be eligible for Graduate School, the veterinary student must hold a baccalaureate degree, or equivalent credits, and possess an outstanding undergraduate record. Application to the Graduate School must be made through one of the academic departments of the College of Veterinary Medicine (Basic Medical Sciences, Veterinary Clinical Sciences, and Comparative Pathobiology) or a department in another college. Subsequent course registration is the responsibility of the student, his/her major professor, and the academic department.

Students have a wide choice of research training opportunities. Areas of research strength in the PVM include infectious disease and immunology, cancer, neuroscience, and tissue engineering and orthopedics. Students may also pursue interdisciplinary programs through the School of Biomedical Engineering or other departments.

A research training program is tailored to the background and career goals of the individual student. Veterinary students typically enter the MS or PhD program during the first two years of the veterinary medical program. They will select a major professor and an advisory committee. The student and his/her advisory committee will prepare a plan of study early in the program. The plan of study can include a maximum of nine credit hours of DVM courses.

Graduate study may be scheduled during the summers after Year 1 and Year 2 of veterinary college. Students in the DVM/MS or DVM/PhD program may enroll in the non-practice track of the DVM program to enable them to complete some research during the fourth year of the DVM program. The student will typically complete the research program following receipt of the DVM degree. Students with prior graduate research training are encouraged to apply to the combined degree program. They may be able to complete their PhD as they finish their DVM.

For further information regarding the DVM/MS or DVM/PhD program, address inquiries to the PVM Associate Dean for Academic Affairs or Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs.

rev. 1/13