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| ***What?*** | Vet Up! is a federally funded pipeline program is housed at the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine (PVM). This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $3.2 million. While not a requirement, students with an interest in a veterinary shortage area will receive admission preference, including food production and safety, food animal practice, rural practice, and public health.Vet Up! Champions is a career exploration program geared toward underserved students interested in exploring the veterinary medical field and its related professions. Students can have any level of interest in pursuing a career in this field, as this program’s intention is to assist in making a well-informed decision. Students will learn directly from PVM faculty and staff via virtual learning sessions, as well as other experts, regarding important topics in the field; various careers, disciplines, and work settings; the educational paths to these professions; professional development topics; and personal wellness. Participants will also gain hands-on opportunities, tours of PVM’s teaching hospitals, and more during a summer campus visit. |
| ***Who?*** | This program is for underserved students who are high school juniors or seniors, college freshmen or sophomores, and adult nontraditional students who have not previously earned a bachelor’s degree for the 2025-2026 academic year.Each cohort consists of 26 students, with one cohort selected to participate each year. Due to the specific number of participants, a competitive admissions process it utilized to select which individuals receive a seat in each cohort. **To receive consideration for admission to the program, applicants must meet the eligibility requirements listed on page 2.** |
| ***Where?*** | Participants will log on to a web conferencing service once to twice monthly to attend one-hour learning sessions. A two-day campus visit (not including travel days) will take place on the campus of Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. |
| ***When?*** | **Application deadline:** November 14, 2025 at 11:59pm ET**Programming dates & times:** January to December 2026*Twice-monthly virtual learning sessions take place on the first & third Wednesday of each month at 4:00 – 5:00pm ET. Participants must have availability to attend most, if not all, of these sessions live to interact with presenters.***Campus visit dates:** June 29-30, 2026 (not including travel days) |
| ***Cost?*** | Programming is cost-free, with stipends to offset the expenses related to the campus visit in the summer. A travel stipend is provided for reimbursement of the cost of travel up to $375. Minors at the time of the visit must be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone, who will also be provided with a travel stipend for reimbursement of the cost of travel up to $375. Lodging is provided in the form of a hotel room. Minors will room with their chaperone, while all other participants will share a room with one other participant. Participants will also receive a daily expense stipend of $60/day for a total of $120 to cover miscellaneous expenses. Parents/chaperones for minors do not receive a daily expense stipend. |

**Eligibility Criteria**

As a federally funded program supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), applicants must meet eligibility requirements to receive consideration for admission to the program. This ensures the program is purposefully supporting the goals that the grant intends to impact.

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| **Yes / No** | **Eligibility Criteria** |
|  | **Are you a U.S. citizen, a non-citizen national, or a foreign national in possession of a visa permitting permanent residence in the United States?** |
|  | **Are you considered an underserved student in the veterinary medical field?**To achieve this, you must identify as or with **at least TWO** of the following:* A first-generation college student.

*Neither parent has earned a bachelor’s degree or higher.** From a rural background.

*Predominant childhood home is/was in a sparsely populated area designated as rural by the USDA.** Low-income.

*Has been free/reduced price lunch or Pell Grant eligible. Can also be achieved by falling at or below the household income listed on our website’s Eligibility tab using the household’s 2023 federal tax return information.** Attending or graduated from a high school that meets at least one of the following:
	+ ≥ 50% of enrolled students are eligible for free/reduced price lunch.
	+ < 60% of seniors receive a high school diploma.
	+ < 60% of graduates go on to college the first year after graduation.

*If you only meet one other criterion listed above & need to meet this one to gain eligibility, you may request assistance in checking your high school’s statistics by emailing* ***vetup@purdue.edu****. Include your high school’s name, city, and state.* |
|  | **For the 2025-2026 academic year, are you a high school junior or senior, an undergraduate freshman or sophomore, or an adult non-traditional student who has not previously earned a bachelor’s degree?** |
|  | **Are you currently enrolled as a student in high school or college?** |
|  | **Do you have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale?***College freshmen should use their high school GPA.* |
|  | **Do you have some level of interest in a career as a veterinarian, veterinary nurse, or another related profession?** |
|  | **Are you an equity-minded individual who values, includes, and respects other individuals of diverse backgrounds?** |
| á | If you can place a “yes” in ALL the above boxes, then you are eligible to apply and receive consideration for admission to the 2026 cohort for the Vet Up! Champions program. For questions regarding eligibility, please contact **vetup@purdue.edu**. Applicants who are not eligible will not receive admission consideration, so application submission is not encouraged from ineligible individuals. |

**Application Requirements & Instructions**

Please use the following addresses for application and material submission, using the instructions found for each below:

* **By Email**

VetUp@purdue.edu

* **By Mail**

 Office of Engagement

 Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine

 Lynn Hall, Room 2133

 625 Harrison Street

 West Lafayette, IN 47906-2026

**Completed application & all materials listed below must be received by November 14, 2025 at**

**11:59pm ET to receive admission consideration for the 2026 Vet Up! Champions cohort.**

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| * Application
* Completed applications are to be emailed or mailed using the addresses listed above.
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| * Official Transcripts
* All transcripts must be **official** and sent **directly** from the institution to the Vet Up! program.
* Official transcripts may be sent electronically or by mail using the addresses listed above, but must be in hand by the application deadline.
* Required transcripts include the following:
	+ **For High School Students & College Freshmen…**
* Official Transcripts from ALL high schools attended.
* If any college credit has been earned as a high school student, official transcripts are to be sent from the college/university from which the credit was granted.\*
* **For College Sophomores…**
* Official Transcripts from ALL colleges/universities from which college credit has been earned.\*
* **For Adult Non-Traditional Students…**
* Official Transcripts from ALL high schools attended.
* Official Transcripts from ALL colleges/universities from which college credit has been earned.\*

*\* Includes dual credit courses from high school, community college courses, distance learning courses, etc. Even if a course transferred to your home institution, transcripts are needed from each original credit-granting institution.* |
| * Current Class List (Fall Term)
* Unless transcripts include courses for the current term showing you are enrolled, a copy of your schedule or course enrollment will also need to be submitted by email or mail using the addresses listed above.
 |
| * Reference
* A reference is required from one evaluator: a counselor/advisor, teacher, or veterinary professional. The evaluator must submit their materials directly to the program and can be mailed or emailed to the addresses listed above.
	+ A reference must include **both** of the following:
* A reference letter.
* A completed evaluation form. This form is specific to the program and can be found [**here**](https://vet.purdue.edu/vetup/champions.php).
 |

**Application**

This application must be typed or handwritten in print (no cursive). If submitting an electronic copy, please *Save As* with the applicant’s name in the file name: “First Name Initial. Last Name Vet Up! Champions Application for 2026 Cohort.”

Example: “J. Doe Vet Up! Champions Application for 2026 Cohort”

**Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity/affirmative action university.**

**If you have trouble accessing this document because of a disability, please contact PVM Web Communications at****vetwebteam@purdue.edu****.**

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| **PERSONAL INFORMATION & ELIGIBLITY CRITERIA** |
| **BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION** |
| First Name |  |
| Middle Name |  |
| Last Name |  |
| Gender or Sex |  |
| Preferred Pronoun (He/She/They) |  |
| Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year) |  |
| **CONTACT INFORMATION** |
| Email Address |  |
| Phone Number |  |
| Postal Address |  |
| **CITIZENSHIP STATUS** |
| Citizenship (check one) | [ ]  U.S. Citizen [ ]  Permanent Resident, Number: [ ]  Non-Resident Alien |
| State of Residence |  |

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| **RACE/ETHNICITY** |
| Are you of Hispanic/Latinx origin? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No  |
| Race (check ALL that apply) | [ ]  African American (Black)[ ]  American Indian/Alaskan Native[ ]  Asian American[ ]  Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander[ ]  White[ ]  Other, please describe:  |
| **OTHER INFORMATION** |
| Are you/will you be a first-generation college student?*Neither parent/legal guardian has completed a bachelor’s degree or higher.* | [ ]  No [ ]  Yes |
| Parent/Legal Guardian 1 | [ ]  No College [ ]  Some College [ ]  B.S./B.A. Degree [ ]  M.S. Degree [ ]  Ph.D. Degree [ ]  Other Degree: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Parent/Legal Guardian 2 | [ ]  No College [ ]  Some College [ ]  B.S./B.A. Degree [ ]  M.S. Degree [ ]  Ph.D. Degree [ ]  Other Degree: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| High School: have you been eligible for free/reduced price lunches?College: have you ever been offered a Federal Pell Grant? | [ ]  No [ ]  Yes |
| Your Military Status | [ ]  Active Military [ ]  Veteran [ ]  No Military Service  |
| Have you ever been disciplined for student conduct violations?*(probation, dismissal, suspension)* | [ ]  No [ ]  Yes, **explain**:  |
| Have you ever been disciplined for academic performance?*(academic probation, dismissal, suspension)* | [ ]  No [ ]  Yes, **explain**:  |
| Have you ever been convicted of a…… felony?… misdemeanor? | [ ]  No [ ]  Yes[ ]  No [ ]  Yes |

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| **BACKGROUND AND INTERESTS** |
| Describe the geographical area where you were raised. | [ ]  Rural [ ]  Urban [ ]  Suburban  |
| Describe the geographical area where you would like to live and work. | [ ]  Rural [ ]  Urban [ ]  Suburban  |
| Select ALL the veterinary medical career path(s) and species that most interest you.*Veterinary shortage areas are listed in* ***bold****.* | [ ]  Small Animal Practice (Cats & Dogs)[ ]  Exotic Animal Practice (Reptiles, Amphibians, Birds, Pocket  Pets)[ ]  Zoo Medicine and/or Wildlife Conservation[ ]  Equine Practice[ ]  **Food Animal Practice (Swine, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle,**  **Poultry, Sheep, Goats)**[ ]  Shelter Medicine Practice[ ]  Laboratory Animal Medicine (Rodents, Rabbits, Primates, etc.)[ ]  **Food Safety/ Food Security**[ ]  Veterinary Pathology[ ]  Veterinary Nursing[ ]  Research[ ]  Academia[ ]  **Government: Public Health, Regulatory/Preventative**  **Medicine**[ ]  Military[ ]  Pet Food Industry/Pharmaceutical Industry[ ]  Private Practice [ ]  **Rural Practice** [ ]  Other, please specify:  |

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| **ACADEMIC HISTORY**Please complete the following information for ALL high schools and colleges attended. |
| **HIGH SCHOOL** |
| **High School Attended/Attending:** |
| High School Name |  |
| High School Dates of Attendance |  |
| High School Postal Address |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours |  |
| Cumulative GPA and grading scale |  |
| Current Year in High School | [ ]  Freshman [ ]  Sophomore [ ]  Junior [ ]  Senior [ ]  N/A (High School Graduate) |
| Expected or Actual Graduation Date (Month/Year) |  |
| **Additional High School Attended (if applicable):** |
| High School Name |  |
| High School Dates of Attendance |  |
| High School Postal Address |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours |  |
| Cumulative GPA and Grading Scale |  |

***Insert page and copy & paste table to include additional high schools, if needed.***

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| **COLLEGE** |
| **College/University Currently Attending (if applicable):** |
| College/University Name |  |
| Dates of Attendance |  |
| College/University Postal Address |  |
| Major/Minor |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours Completed |  |
| Cumulative GPA and Grading Scale |  |
| Current Year in College Based on Credits Completed | [ ]  Freshman [ ]  Sophomore [ ]  Junior [ ]  Senior |
| Expected Graduation (Month/Year) |  |
| Degree Sought | [ ]  Associate degree [ ]  Bachelor’s degree[ ]  None (non-degree seeking, only taking prerequisite courses for  application to veterinary school or another program)[ ]  Other, please specify:  |
| **Additional College/University (if applicable):** |
| College/University Name |  |
| Dates of Attendance |  |
| College/University Postal Address |  |
| Major/Minor |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours Completed |  |
| Cumulative GPA and Grading Scale |  |

***Insert page and copy & paste table to include additional colleges, if needed.***

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| **POST-COLLEGE PLANS & PREVIOUS DVM APPLICATIONS *(COLLEGE STUDENTS ONLY)*** |
| Have you ever applied to veterinary school—a DVM/VMD degree program at a school or college of veterinary medicine?*Does not apply to early admission/ assurance programs.* | [ ]  No [ ]  Yes  |
| If yes, please list which DVM/VMD degree programs you applied to and indicate if you were accepted or not. |  |
| If you have NOT yet applied to a DVM program, do you plan on applying to an early admission/ assurance program to gain early, conditional admission to a school or college of veterinary medicine?*May include intent to apply to the Vet Up! College Early Admission Program in the future, if invited.* | [ ]  No [ ]  Yes |
| If yes, please name these programs for which you plan to apply in the future. |  |

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| **EXPERIENCES** |
| List past and current experiences in the following categories, **listing the most recent first**:* **Animal Experience:** experiences with animals where a veterinarian is NOT present most of the time. Includes kennel assisting, walking dogs for a shelter, 4-H & FFA projects, farm & ranch experiences, pet sitting, etc. For personal pets, only include hours actively engaged: training classes, competition events, and medical care.
* **Veterinary Experience:** time spent working alongside a veterinarian that provided realistic insight into the everyday life of a veterinary practitioner and your suitability for the profession.
* **Research Experience:** participation in the gathering, entering, analyzing, or writing-up of data for research purposes. May be in a laboratory or in the field. May include assisting a faculty member, graduate student, etc. with their research. Even if animals or veterinarians are involved, all research should be entered in this category.
* **Paid Employment:** any paid work not categorized as animal, veterinary, or research experience.
* **Extracurricular Activities:** an activity that falls outside the realm of the normal academic curriculum: sports/intramurals, clubs, fraternities/sororities, honor societies, committees, community activities, social activities, certifications, hobbies, etc.

***Descriptions:*** *provide context such as who, what, when, where, and why, if needed. Include details about your role, tasks completed, responsibilities, skills gained, things you learned, etc.***You are encouraged to enter all your significant experiences for high school and college (if applicable). The application may not have space for all these experiences as it is now. Insert additional pages and copy & paste the appropriate tables if space is needed to add more experiences than space currently allows.\*** |

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| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE** |
| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #1** |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | [ ]  Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #2** |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | [ ]  Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #3** |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | [ ]  Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #4** |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | [ ]  Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE** |
| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #1** |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #2** |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #3** |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #4** |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE** |
| **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE #1** |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Location (Lab Name; Sponsoring Agency, Organization, or University) |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,Phone Number and/or Email Address | [ ]  Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE #2** |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Location (Lab Name; Sponsoring Agency, Organization, or University) |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,Phone Number and/or Email Address | [ ]  Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | [ ]  Volunteer [ ]  Paid Employment [ ]  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **PAID EMPLOYEMENT** |
| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #1** |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year: During the Summer:  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |
| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #2** |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year: During the Summer:  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |

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| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #3** |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year: During the Summer:  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |
| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #4** |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year: During the Summer:  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |

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| **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** |
| **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #1** |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| High School, College, or Both?*Check ALL that apply.* | [ ]  High School [ ]  College  |
| Total Hours |   |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable(include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |
| **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #2** |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| High School, College, or Both?*Check ALL that apply.* | [ ]  High School [ ]  College  |
| Total Hours |   |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable(include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |

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| **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #3** |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| High School, College, or Both?*Check ALL that apply.* | [ ]  High School [ ]  College  |
| Total Hours |   |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable(include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |
| **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #4** |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| High School, College, or Both?*Check ALL that apply.* | [ ]  High School [ ]  College  |
| Total Hours |   |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable(include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |

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| **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #5** |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| High School, College, or Both?*Check ALL that apply.* | [ ]  High School [ ]  College  |
| Total Hours |   |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable(include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |
| **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #6** |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| High School, College, or Both?*Check ALL that apply.* | [ ]  High School [ ]  College  |
| Total Hours |   |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable(include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |

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| **AWARDS & HONORS** |
| **AWARD/HONOR #1** |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **AWARD/HONOR #2** |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **AWARD/HONOR #3** |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |

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| **AWARD/HONOR #4** |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **AWARD/HONOR #5** |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **AWARD/HONOR #6** |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |

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| **ESSAYS** |
| **ESSAY #1****Describe how your identity has been informed by your life experiences and how these experiences have motivated you to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.** ***300-word limit*** |
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| **ESSAY #2****Describe how you expect participation in Vet Up! Champions will benefit you in attaining the next level of your education and ultimately your career goals.** ***300-word limit*** |
|  |