

Student American Veterinary Medical Association

SAVMA

2018-2019 GUIDE

YOUR FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS



 **SAVMA**™



what is
SAVMA?

Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA)

The Student American Veterinary Medical Association (SAVMA) was created in 1969 as the national organization for veterinary students, in order to foster communication between individual chapters. Currently, SAVMA is comprised of:

- 36 Student Chapters
 - » 30 in the U.S.
 - » 1 in Canada
 - » 2 in the Caribbean
 - » 3 in the United Kingdom
- 1 Student Associate organization in the Caribbean

In total SAVMA represents over 16,000 veterinary student members and its mission is to support, empower, and inspire all veterinary students in improving their lives, education and career, along with securing a better future for our profession through collaboration with our parent organization, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA).

How SAVMA Works

SAVMA is led by an Executive Board (EB) and a House of Delegates (HOD), consisting of two representatives from each of the 36 student chapters, 3 satellite campuses and 1 associate organization. Elections are held locally for delegate positions. Students interested in running should reach out to their local SAVMA chapter board. The HOD is the legislative body of SAVMA and represents the voice of its student members. They meet twice a year – at the AVMA Convention and the SAVMA Symposium. The EB is made up of the national SAVMA officers that are elected by the HOD. Delegates can run for officer positions after they have attended at least 1 HOD meeting.

Learn more about SAVMA at avma.org/savma

For a complete listing of the numerous benefits of SAVMA membership, visit avma.org/savma

Student Chapters and Student Associate Organizations

Local student chapters are organizations representing student members at a college of veterinary medicine accredited or approved by the Council on Education. Student Associate organizations represent student members at non-accredited schools.

Eligible students may become members of SAVMA if they are full-time students of veterinary medicine who are enrolled in a program of study leading to a professional veterinary degree to be granted by their college. This includes veterinary students from across the globe.

Find a complete listing of all Student Chapters and Associate organizations at avma.org/savma

Local SAVMA chapters provide numerous benefits, some may include:

- Lectures and other education experiences
- Camaraderie among fellow veterinary students
- Travel grants and additional travel opportunities
- Networking events
- Local volunteer and community experience
- Discounts on merchandise and medical supplies
- Leadership development opportunities
- Opportunity to be the voice of veterinary students/represent your college, and much more!

Reach out to your local SAVMA Chapter President to confirm the benefits offered at your chapter or organization.

Why join the Student AVMA (SAVMA)?

Your school's Chapter or Associate organization is your link to all the privileges and resources available in SAVMA, including:

- Opportunities to gain additional professional knowledge and an understanding of professional ethics and conduct
- Access to organizations representing specialized areas of interest
- SAVMA helps improve communication between the local student organizations and gives a national voice to veterinary students around the world
- SAVMA members gain a higher degree of professionalism and help the public acquire a broader knowledge of the veterinary profession
- All SAVMA members who graduate in good standing with their local organization receive AVMA Recent Grad benefits, including complimentary AVMA membership upon graduation

Join today at avma.org/savma

What is the AVMA and what does it do?

The American Veterinary Medical Association is the professional organization for veterinarians. It is a not-for-profit professional association that serves as a collective voice for its more than 91,000 member veterinarians and the U.S. veterinary profession. The AVMA's vision is to be the trusted leader in protecting, promoting and advancing a strong, unified veterinary profession that meets the needs of society. Its mission is to lead the profession by advocating for its members and advancing the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.

Learn more at avma.org

**Join SAVMA today
at avma.org/savma**



benefits of SAVMA MEMBERSHIP



Journal of the AVMA (JAVMA) and the American Journal of Veterinary Research (AJVR)

- Students receive free access to download the JAVMA app for your Apple or Android smartphone or tablet, along with free access to the online archive of all JAVMA articles dating back to 2000.
- Additionally, students receive reduced subscription rates to the print version of the JAVMA and AJVR for \$40 each annually. That's a savings of at least \$200 per year, per journal. Purchase a journal subscription by logging onto the SAVMA dues website and adding one to your cart today.

Visit avma.org/javma

AVMA Member Edge Program

The AVMA Member Edge program gives SAVMA members expanded access to exclusive offers, discounts and other rewards. This program is a benefit with your SAVMA membership and requires no additional cost to participate.

With Member Edge, you'll find savings on many of the products, services and solutions you use every day, in the following categories:

- Hotel and Travel
- Business Products and Services
- Financial Solutions
- ID and Insurance Protection
- Entertainment and Gifts
- Auto Purchase and Leasing

From movie tickets, theme parks, apparel and hotels, to office supplies, ID protection and more, Member Edge provides valuable benefits to AVMA members, alongside products and services you already rely on from the AVMA.

To access these and other Member Edge offerings, visit avma.org/memberedge

For a complete listing of the numerous benefits of SAVMA membership, visit avma.org/savma

Advocating for the Profession

AVMA Governmental Relations Division (GRD)

The GRD advocates the AVMA's policies and positions on federal legislative and regulatory issues that influence animal and human health and advance the veterinary medical profession, including federal student loan policy. Get involved with GRD. Find out more at avma.org/advocacy

AVMA Congressional Advocacy Network

Concerned about student debt? SAVMA and the AVMA advocate on behalf of veterinarians and veterinary students through the AVMA Congressional Advocacy Network. Learn more and sign up at avmacan.avma.org

SAVMA Awards, Competitions and Scholarships

Numerous awards and scholarship opportunities are available for student members in a variety of categories. Learn more at avma.org/savma

- Animal Welfare/Human Animal Bond
- Education and Professional Development
- Governmental Affairs
- Integrative Communications and Diversity
- International Veterinary Experience Opportunities
- Public Health and Community Outreach
- Wellness Program Support
- SAVMA Symposium, IVSA Symposium and AVMA Convention Travel Grants
- Visit *The Vet Gazette* to read about all the great things vet students are doing, and possibly earn a stipend by sharing your experiences at thevetgazette.com

Recent Graduate Benefits including free AVMA membership!

Student Chapters and Student Associate members in good standing who meet their SAVMA chapter or associate organization requirements and have paid membership dues for all years in veterinary school at the time of graduation will be granted automatic membership to the AVMA upon graduation at no cost.

This means:

- No application to file and no AVMA Member dues to pay for the remainder of the year of graduation (approximate \$165 value)
- Two additional years of 50% reduced AVMA recent-graduate membership dues (\$165 versus \$330 in 2017) to help lessen the financial burden placed upon recent grads
- Free registration to the AVMA Convention the year you graduate (over \$500 value)
- Credit for one free registration to the AVMA Annual Convention valid within the next five years following graduation (over \$500 value)
- Access to the members-only section of the AVMA website, including an invitation to the Early Career Online Community starting in January of your graduation year, at avma.org/recentgrad



American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF)

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation (AVMF) is the charitable arm of the AVMA. For more than 50 years, the AVMF has been dedicated to our mission of developing resources to advance the science and practice of veterinary medicine to improve animal and human health.

The AVMF provides scholarships and grants that demonstrate our investment in the education of veterinary students. In addition to the scholarships listed below, the AVMF assists the AVMA in awarding research grants to veterinary students.

Scholarships include:

- Merck/MSD Scholarship
- Auxiliary to the AVMA Legacy Scholarship
- AVMA/AVMF Scholarship for Military Veterans
- AVMF/ Winn Feline Foundation Scholarship
- Harold Wetterberg Foundation Scholarship
- Additional Scholarships Found on **AVMF.org**

Visit **AVMF.org** to learn more about these opportunities and to link to additional veterinary student scholarships offered by other schools and organizations.

AVMA PLIT

For over 50 years, the AVMA PLIT has been supporting veterinarians and students with professional liability, personal lines, and business insurance solutions designed for and by veterinarians. With us, you will also have experienced veterinarians by your side, protecting you through it all.

The PLIT is honored to sponsor the liability insurance you need while you are in veterinary school. As a key SAVMA member benefit, coverage is at no cost to you. Student liability protects you during your clinical experiences (externships, preceptorships, part-time or volunteer work, even during your first year).

To receive coverage, current SAVMA members can apply online at **avmaplit.com/students** (SAVMA Member ID required).

For information or help visit **avmaplit.com/students** or call 800.228.7548, opt. 2.

Follow us on Facebook: @avmaplitstudents

AVMA LIFE Trust

AVMA Life Trust provides personal insurance products designed by Veterinarians for Veterinarians. For over 60 years we have provided Veterinarian Inspired Coverage.

Because we believe in our products, AVMA Life Trust provides every SAVMA member with a no cost \$25,000 Student Life Insurance policy. We encourage you to register online at **AVMAlife.org** to update your beneficiary.

Additional student coverage for SAVMA members:

- **Student Basic Protection***: Includes a \$300 Rabies Prophylaxis Benefit, Disability, and Life Insurance, no underwriting.
- **Graduate Guarantee***: Benefit to graduating Veterinary students includes Life, Disability and more, no underwriting.
- **Supplemental Disability for Educational Expense Obligations***: A disability policy to help repay student loans if you suffer a covered total disability.
- **In School Student Loans**: Our partnership with Credible allows you to get multiple offers for private loans with only one application. No cost to apply.
- **Student Debt Refinancing**: Our partnership with Credible allows you to get multiple offers for refinancing to a private loan with only one application. No cost to apply.
- **Hospital Indemnity**: Helps offset costs of in-patient or out-patient medical care. Includes Pregnancy and Emergency Care Benefits.
- **Dental/Vision**: Immediate coverage for many services.
- **Medical Exchange**

**These programs are underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company (New York, NY 10010)*

For information or help, contact your school agent, visit **avmalife.com** or call **800.621.6360**.

Benefits of SAVMA membership | 9





events and
OPPORTUNITIES

SAVMA Symposium

SAVMA membership includes an invitation to the SAVMA Symposium held each year in March. SAVMA Symposium is designed to expose students to areas of veterinary medicine that are not usually covered in their regular curricula, and promote networking among future colleagues.

Join over 1,000 students for three days to:

- Attend lectures and interactive labs that supplement your school’s curriculum
- Meet and compete with other veterinary schools in academic and athletic events
- Network with future colleagues and friends

Upcoming Symposia include:



March 9-11, 2019

savmasymposium2019.com



Cornell University

March 14–16, 2020

AVMA Convention

Vet students receive FREE advanced registration to the AVMA Convention held July/August each year. Student attendees gain professional knowledge, have access to outstanding scientific and practice management sessions and network with practicing veterinarians and AVMA leadership.

Learn more at avmaconvention.org

Upcoming AVMA Conventions:

- Washington, D.C..... August 2-6, 2019
- San Diego July 31–August 4, 2020
- Minneapolis..... July 30–Aug 3, 2021
- Philadelphia July 29–Aug 2, 2022

AVMA Externship Opportunities

AVMA GRD Externship in Washington, D.C.

Application Deadline: October 12, 2018

- Ten \$1,200 stipends for the 4-week program funded by the AVMA
- Open to all members of the Student AVMA who have completed two years of veterinary school
- Students should show interest in public policy and want to help advance the AVMA legislative and regulatory agenda
- Meet with veterinarians currently serving in a variety of roles for the United States government and advance your profession with legislators and staffers on Capitol Hill

Visit externsonthehill.com or call **800.321.1473**

AVMA Student Externship Stipend

Application Deadline: January 18, 2019

- Up to fifteen \$1,000 stipends will be awarded in Spring 2019 funded by the AVMA
- Open to all current members of the Student AVMA who have completed their first year
- To apply, the student must have secured an externship in a nonclinical or food supply veterinary practice

Visit avma.org/externships or call **224.213.5455**

AVMA Headquarters Externship in Schaumburg, IL

Application Deadline: January 18, 2019

- Up to ten \$2,250–\$3,000 stipends will be awarded in 2019 for a 3–4 week program funded by the AVMA
- Open to all current members of the Student AVMA
- Developed for students who would like to explore the opportunities in organized veterinary medicine by working with different divisions of the AVMA Headquarters in Schaumburg, IL

Visit avma.org/externships or call **800.248.2862, ext. 6693**

AVMA Student Externship Locator

Need help finding an externship that fits your interests? Search through hundreds of externship possibilities that help build your knowledge within veterinary medicine. The Student Externship Locator is a resource of the AVMA's Veterinary Career Center. View externships by Location or Special Interest at avma.org/vccexternships

The AVMA offers vast opportunities for students looking for hands-on working experience.





additional
RESOURCES

SAVMA Directories

Find other Student Chapters through the online map of Student Chapters and also connect with your SAVMA Executive Board members, local SAVMA Chapter President and SAVMA Delegates. SAVMA organizational documents, committee web pages and historical information can also be found online at avma.org/savma

SAVMA International Exchange Opportunities

As a member of SAVMA, you are automatically a member of the International Veterinary Student Association (IVSA). Being a member of IVSA allows you to expand your educational knowledge by participating in an international exchange opportunity. Learn more at avma.org/internationalexchange

SAVMA Wellness Initiative

Taking care of yourself in vet school is important. The habits you develop as a veterinary student will influence your habits as a veterinarian. Check out the AVMA wellbeing resources at avma.org/wellbeing. Be on the lookout for programing and funding opportunities for wellness events from the SAVMA Wellness Committee.

AVMA Veterinary Career Center (VCC)

The veterinary profession's most extensive online employment resource!

- Browse through hundreds of current open positions
- Post your resume, making it available to hundreds of employers
- Set up personalized e-mail notifications for e-mail alerts to new jobs that meet your criteria

The AVMA VCC team is ready to answer your questions about your career!

Visit avma.org/vcc or call **800.248.2862, ext. 6679**

Connect with SAVMA @studentAVMA



My Veterinary Life

My Veterinary Life is a dedicated microsite for students and recent graduates. Navigate your transition from student to veterinarian, nurture your personal wellbeing, and establish strong financial habits. We are committed to be by your side for guidance, direction and support every step of the way, from your first-year through graduation and all the milestones as you establish your veterinary career.

Browse the collection of resources at myveterinarylife.com

The screenshot shows the My Veterinary Life website. At the top, there is a green header with the AVMA logo and navigation links for 'CURRENT STUDENT', 'NEW VETERINARIAN', and 'RISING PROFESSIONAL'. Below the header, there is a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: 'HOME > CURRENT STUDENT > YOUR CAREER'. The main navigation bar includes 'Your Career', 'Your Wellbeing', and 'Your Financial Health'. The central content area features a large image of a smiling woman with glasses and a dark top. Text overlaying the image reads: 'Knowledge to help you—on campus and off'. Below this, a smaller text block states: 'Starting your career isn't just about finding a job. It's determining how exactly you'd like to practice, developing the skills that are crucial to a successful career and even just passing the NAVLE. This section will aid you in all those topics, among many others.' Below the image, there are several content blocks: 'Career Choices for Veterinarians' with a sub-header 'Clinical practice is just one of the many paths you can take in your veterinary career. Take a moment to explore all of the available career opportunities.'; 'Veterinary Career Center Webinars' with a sub-header 'Get to know the veterinary profession. From forensics to epidemiology, there is more than one place to use your veterinary skills in this wonderful profession.'; 'Exploring Career Options for Veterinarians' with a sub-header 'Check out an extensive list of possible veterinary career options. Whatever career path you choose, the information provided here is a place to begin your journey.'; 'A CLOSER LOOK: How to Find Veterinary Related Jobs within the Federal Government' with a sub-header 'Do you want to explore federal government career options? Here's the complete guide to working for the government as a veterinarian.'; and 'Beyond Private Practice...' with a sub-header 'Check out the 3-minute video that shows you the huge range of career possibilities that you can do with your veterinary medicine degree.' At the bottom, there is a green bar for 'Externships, Internships & Fellowships' with a sub-header 'Get hands-on experience or additional on-the-job training with an externship, internship or fellowship.'

veterinarian's OATH

Being admitted to the profession of veterinary medicine, I solemnly swear to use my scientific knowledge and skills for the benefit of society through the protection of animal health and welfare, the prevention and relief of animal suffering, the conservation of animal resources, the promotion of public health, and the advancement of medical knowledge.

I will practice my profession conscientiously, with dignity, and in keeping with the principles of veterinary medical ethics.

I accept as a lifelong obligation the continual improvement of my professional knowledge and competence.

Approved by the HOD, 1954; Revision approved by the HOD, 1969;
Revision approved by the Executive Board 1999, 2010



avma.org/savma