

DOCTOR OF VETERINARY MEDICINE DEGREE PROGRAM



ROSS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

ABOUT THIS PROGRAM

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine's DVM program is your gateway to new worlds, species, and connections. From day one, our AVMA* accredited program will provide you with the essential knowledge, skills, technical expertise, and attitudes of a DVM. At our technologically advanced campus in St. Kitts, you will be challenged by our seven-semester accelerated preclinical curriculum that integrates unique research opportunities, classroom study, and hands-on clinical experience, preparing you for your final year of clinical training at one of RUSVM's affiliated veterinary schools. Our faculty have outstanding credentials in teaching and research and share a passion for educating the veterinarians of tomorrow.

Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine is your opportunity to study abroad and then return to the U.S. or remain abroad for your clinical year at one of our AVMA-accredited clinical partners. This extensive network of affiliations makes it possible for our students to receive superior education while completing their clinical training. Our roster of affiliated institutions includes many of the top veterinary schools in the world.

THE PATH TO VETERINARY LICENSURE		
SEMESTERS 1-7 Preclinical Studies St. Kitts Campus 28 Months	SEMESTERS 8-10 Clinical Training At a RUSVM-affiliated veterinary hospital 45 Weeks	Earn your Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Degree LICENSURE North American Veterinary Licensing Examination® (NAVLE)

PRECLINICAL CURRICULUM

SEMESTERS 1 & 2

The first two semesters of instruction focus on the basic biomedical sciences to provide students with an understanding of the structure and function of the healthy animal.

SEMESTERS 3 & 4

Focus on pathobiology in preparation for later clinical courses in medicine, surgery, anesthesia, theriogenology and diagnostic imaging.

SEMESTERS 5, 6 & 7

Diseases are studied in detail and disease management is introduced with surgery and medicine of small and large animal species. During these semesters—the final ones on the RUSVM campus in St. Kitts—students gain hands-on experience in diagnosis and treatment of medical and surgical diseases in large and small animals.

CLINICAL CURRICULUM

SEMESTERS 8-10

Upon completion of the preclinical curriculum, students return to the US, Canada, or remain abroad and begin three semesters in core, elective and externship rotations at a RUSVM clinical affiliate.

CORE CLINICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

Small animal medicine, small animal surgery, anesthesiology, emergency medicine, diagnostic imaging, Diagnostic services (clinical pathology and morphologic pathology), large animal medicine.

ELECTIVE CLINICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

May include, but are not limited to, theriogenology, neurology, dermatology, cardiology, emergency medicine, critical care, behavior, exotics, wildlife or zoological medicine, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, laboratory animal medicine or others as offered by the affiliate programs.

PRECLINICAL CURRICULUM

SEMESTER 1	Veterinary Professional Foundations I Essential Veterinary Skills A Microscopic Anatomy and Embryology with Laboratory Gross Anatomy I with Laboratory Principles of Infectious Disease Physiology I Principles of Veterinary Research
SEMESTER 2	Essential Veterinary Skills B Gross Anatomy II with Laboratory Physiology II Immunology Parasitology with Laboratory Case-Based Studies I
SEMESTER 3	Essential Veterinary Skills C Applied Animal Nutrition Pathology I with Laboratory Bacteriology and Mycology with Laboratory Virology Case-Based Studies II
SEMESTER 4	Essential Veterinary Skills D Case-Based Studies III: Mechanisms of Disease Pathology II with Laboratory Clinical Pathology with Laboratory Applied Animal Nutrition Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology
SEMESTER 5	Essential Veterinary Skills E Toxicology Diagnostic Imaging with Laboratory Anesthesiology with Laboratory Small Animal Medicine I
SEMESTER 6	Essential Veterinary Skills F Avian and Exotic Medicine Small Animal Surgery Surgery Laboratory I Small Animal Medicine II Large Animal Medicine I
SEMESTER 7	Theriogenology with Laboratory Introduction to Clinics Large Animal Medicine II Large Animal Surgery Surgery Laboratory II Veterinary Professional Foundations II Essential Veterinary Skills G Licensing Exam Preparation

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ON CURRICULUM PLEASE VISIT:
VETERINARY.ROSSU.EDU/DVM-PROGRAM/CURRICULUM

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Our curriculum is aligned to meet the 9 competencies set forth by the AVMA*:

- Comprehensive patient diagnosis
- Comprehensive treatment plan
- Basic surgical skills
- Basic medical skills and case management
- Basic anesthesia, pain management and welfare skills
- Basic emergency and intensive care management skills
- Health promotion, disease prevention, biosecurity, zoonosis, and food safety
- Communications and ethical conduct skills and knowledge
- Critical analysis of new information and research findings relevant to veterinary medicine

CAREERS AS A DVM

Students earn their DVM degree upon successful completion of the preclinical and clinical curriculum and by passing the NAVLE, which is a requirement for licensure for all veterinary students in the US and Canada. Once you complete veterinary medical school and earn your DVM, your first goal will be to start practicing veterinary medicine, or pursue additional training in a specialty area with an internship. An internship is the first step in specialty training leading to board certification. Following an internship, a residency application may be submitted for further study in a particular discipline. Completion of a residency program is a prequalification for specialty board certification.

Earning your DVM from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine offers you much more than a path to animal practice. It unlocks a much larger world of far-reaching career opportunities in veterinary medicine that impact animal, human, and environmental health. Whether it's working in a small practice, continuing your training in a specialized internship or residency leading to board certification, working in research or academia, or becoming a practitioner in the public sector, you can find veterinary career options that fit your interests.

For additional information please visit: rossu.edu/veterinary-school/gainful-employment.htm

RUSVM APPROVALS AND ACCREDITATION

- Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine is accredited by the St. Christopher & Nevis Accreditation Board, Ministry of Education to confer the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine on its students who successfully complete the course of study. The status of accreditation was renewed following submission of a self-study report and a site visit for a period of five years, effective July 1, 2017. [About the St. Kitts-Nevis Accreditation Board](#)
- Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine confers a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree, which is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE), 1931 N. Meacham Road, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL 60173, Tel: 800.248.2862. For more information please visit <https://www.avma.org/education/accreditation-veterinary-colleges>
- For additional information, please visit <https://veterinary.rossu.edu/about/accreditation>

GRADUATE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

A requirement for licensure in the United States is passing the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination® (NAVLE). Information on this examination is available at the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners® (NBVME) website at www.nbvme.org.

In order to become licensed as a veterinarian in the United States, a student graduating from an American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA-COE) accredited program must pass the NAVLE and meet the requirements of the state/territory they wish to practice. Each state has different requirements. To view the requirements of each state's veterinary medical board, please refer to the American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) website at www.aavsb.org and then click on the Board and Agency Directory link.

In order to become licensed as a veterinarian in Canada, a student graduating from an AVMA-COE accredited program must pass the NAVLE. Additional information on becoming licensed in Canada is available at <https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/resources/examining-board-summary>

RUSVM DVM graduates may be eligible to practice veterinary medicine in other international locations. Check the country specific veterinary regulatory information for international licensure information.



*Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine confers a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree, which is accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education (AVMA COE), 1931 N. Meacham Road, Suite 100, Schaumburg, IL 60173, Tel: 800.248.2862. For more information please visit www.avma.org/education/accreditation-veterinary-colleges. The AVMA COE uses defined standards to evaluate veterinary medical education programs, including facilities, clinical resources, curriculum, faculty, student outcomes and research programs. The standards are interpreted and applied by the AVMA COE-accredited veterinary medical education programs in relation to its mission.