The Faculty of Veterinary & Agricultural Sciences selects students into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program in two ways:

- selection of graduates of an undergraduate science or agriculture degree, or approved equivalent from the University of Melbourne or another university (i.e. ‘Graduate Selection’ or ‘Normal Entry’)
- selection of students enrolled in the Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Melbourne and who have completed prescribed prerequisite subjects (i.e. ‘Undergraduate Selection’)

Both domestic students and international students are selected through these entry routes.

**Definitions:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjusted Science Grade Point Average</td>
<td>Refer to Section 1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Supported Place</td>
<td>A university place where the Commonwealth Government makes a contribution towards the cost of tuition fees (known as Commonwealth support) and the student is liable for the remainder of the fees (known as the student contribution amount).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conditional Offer</td>
<td>An offer conditional on certain requirements being satisfied. e.g. A conditional offer can be made for admission into the DVM for a second year science student, whereby the condition is that the student completes a prescribed study plan in their final year of the BSc (i.e. the Veterinary Bioscience specialisation).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee Place</td>
<td>A university place where the student pays the full tuition fee per subject. Domestic students (Australian citizens and permanent humanitarian visa holders) are able to access FEE-HELP to assist in the payment of all or part of the student’s tuition fees. Limits apply to maximum amount that can be borrowed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Access Melbourne</td>
<td>A program approved by the Board that is intended to provide access to graduate courses for applicants of high potential whose personal circumstances have had a sustained adverse effect on their academic achievement at undergraduate level, or who are members of a specified group known to be under-represented in higher education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Selection</td>
<td>Also known as ‘Normal Entry’. Selection of applicants who are or who are about to be science or agriculture graduates for admission into the DVM in the next start year intake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Grade Point Average</td>
<td>Refer to Section 1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science subject</td>
<td>Refer to Section 1.2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Selection</td>
<td>Selection of applicants who are currently undergraduate BSc students who will have completed VETS20014 Foundations of Animal Health 1, VETS20015 Foundations of Animal Health 2, and biochemistry prior to the selection process. These applicants are considered in the selection process at the start of their third year of the BSc for admission into the DVM at the completion of their BSc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Veterinary Bioscience               | The specialisation of the Animal Health and Disease major of the Bachelor of Science that is only available to successful applicants following Undergraduate Selection. While the technical definition of this specialisation in the Faculty of Science is 50 points at Level 3, the requirement for
progression to the DVM is that 75 points of veterinary science subjects at Level 3 are completed. Students would also have completed the required 25 points at Level 2 (i.e. Foundations of Animal Health 1 & 2) and also the biochemistry prerequisite.

1. Overall selection procedures

1.1 Adjusted Science Grade Point Average

Applicants for the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine will be ranked for selection based on their Adjusted Science Grade Point Average (ASGPA). The ASGPA is obtained by taking the Science Grade Point Average (a number between 0 and 100, defined in Section 1.2 below) and adding additional points as appropriate for

- completion of further study (i.e. an honours year, as an additional year of study) in a related science field
- completion of a higher degree (for example, a research MSc or a PhD) in a related science field
- a submitted personal statement
- a submitted Graduate Access Melbourne application

1.2 Science Grade Point Average

1.2.1 Graduate Selection

The Science Grade Point Average (Science GPA) is calculated on the basis of the applicant’s results in all final year level and penultimate year level science subjects of their completed science-based undergraduate degree (excluding the honours year), weighted 3:1 towards the final year level subjects.

Where results are expressed as a percentage on a graduate applicant’s academic transcript, the Science GPA is calculated by averaging all penultimate year level marks and multiplying by 0.25 and averaging all final year level marks and multiplying by 0.75. The two figures are then added together and the final result expressed as a percentage.

In computing each of the final year and penultimate year scores, subject results are allocated relative weighting according to their credit point values.

For graduates of a Bachelor of Agriculture degree, all subjects completed in the final year level and penultimate year level of the degree will be included.

See 1.2.3 for Results not expressed as percentages.

1.2.2 Undergraduate Selection

For current University of Melbourne students only. The Science GPA is calculated on the basis of the applicant’s results in all second and first year level science subjects of their Bachelor of Science, weighted 3:1 towards the second year level subjects.

The Science GPA is calculated by averaging all Level 1 marks and multiplying by 0.25 and averaging all Level 2 (and, if completed, Level 3 marks) and multiplying by 0.75. The two figures are then added together and the final result expressed as a percentage.

1.2.3 Results not expressed as percentages

Many institutions do not report results for individual subjects, or overall grade point averages, on scales from 0 to 100. The Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences follows the same practice as that used by the University of Melbourne in ranking applicants for graduate research scholarships: scores reported on other
scales are converted to nominal percentages. This is illustrated here for the case when subject scores are reported as whole numbers on a scale from 0 to 4 and no indication is given on the transcript concerning mark ranges which correspond to this grade. It is not accepted that a subject score of 4 on such a scale should correspond to 100%. A perfect score of 4 in this case is converted to 92%, which in the University of Melbourne context would be a very high H1 result.

(H1 grades at the University of Melbourne correspond to percentage grades between 80 and 100, with percentage scores between 80 and 90 more abundant than scores between 90 and 100).

To compute the applicant’s nominal percentage score across all final-year science subjects, the individual subject marks on a whole-number scale from 0 to 4 are averaged. This average is then divided by 4 and subsequently multiplied by 92. A similar procedure is used to compute the penultimate year nominal percentage score.

NB. Only science subjects are included in the calculations (see 1.2.6)

1.2.4 Range of marks

The Faculty of Veterinary & Agricultural Sciences follows the same practice as the Graduate Research Scholarships Committee (GRSC).

If grades only (i.e. without numeric marks) are included on a transcript and these represent marks within a range, the lowest mark on the range is assumed.

For example:

An applicant achieves an ‘A’, where the mark range of A is “between 80 – 100”. The assumed mark for the GPA calculation will be 80.

If additional official information (e.g. from the Academic Registrar of the institution) is submitted that indicates an applicant’s specific numeric marks for completed subjects, that information will be used to determine an applicant’s SGPA.

1.2.5 Cumulative GPA

For applicants where a cumulative course GPA appears on a transcript, the Science GPA will be recalculated to only include results for science subjects at final year level and penultimate year level.

1.2.6 Definition of a science subject

A science subject is defined as a subject dealing with the scientific basis of physical or biological sciences, but not including social sciences such as sociology, human behaviour, history of science, economics, philosophy (including philosophy of science), and anthropology. This list is indicative and not comprehensive.

Potential applicants should contact the Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences for advice.

For graduates of a Bachelor of Agriculture degree, all subjects completed in the final level and penultimate level of the degree will be considered science subjects for the purpose of determining a SGPA.

The Selection Committee will determine the status of a subject as science or not.

1.2.7 Incomplete studies

Results for subjects completed as part of tertiary courses other than a completed undergraduate science or agriculture degree will not be included in the calculation of a SGPA.

1.2.8 Holders of multiple undergraduate degrees

For applicants who have completed more than one undergraduate science or agriculture degree, the subject results in the most recently completed degree will contribute to the Science GPA.
1.3 **Personal statement**

Applicants for graduate selection and undergraduate selection must submit a written statement explaining their interest in pursuing a career in the veterinary profession.

Personal statements should be no more than 500 words and include the contact details of referees (phone, email address, geographical location, position/role and relationship to the applicant). The statement is to fit on one single A4 page with a minimum 10 point font. Additional documentation submitted as part of the personal statement will not be considered by the personal statement assessing working group.

This statement should:

- Demonstrate long standing interest in and commitment to animal health, production and welfare. This might include such details as membership of clubs or societies, work experience (paid or unpaid) in veterinary practices or related enterprises (for example, research laboratories), animal shelters or animal welfare organisations, and participation in relevant community activities.

- Demonstrate experience (paid or unpaid) with animals including such activities as pet ownership, experience with animals in primary production (for example on farms, or in intensive animal industries), and/or participation in care animals of animal welfare organisations, or other relevant activities.

- Provide evidence of any relevant research experience, including any publications authored by the applicant.

- Provide contact details of no less than two and no more than three referees who can attest to the accuracy of the personal statement and the applicant’s interest and commitment to the veterinary profession and aptitude for study of veterinary science. These referees may include veterinarians, farmers, employers or supervisors. This information must include the referee’s name, title and work address, email address and telephone number and a statement of their relationship with the applicant. An applicant must ensure that all of the listed referees are aware that the applicant has applied for the DVM course.

- Document all work experience relevant to veterinary science including dates during which the work experience was obtained, the supervisor’s name, address and contact details (including telephone and email).

1.3.1 Consideration of a personal statement can add up to 4 points to a Science GPA.

1.4 **Graduate Access Melbourne (GAM) applications**

The University of Melbourne is committed to supporting excellence and potential in all sectors of the community.

Graduate Access Melbourne aims to minimise financial barriers and broaden access to graduate study for students whose personal circumstances have had a sustained adverse effect on their academic achievement at undergraduate level, or who are a member of a specified group known to be under-represented in higher education.

Refer to the Graduate Access Melbourne website for more information: [http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/pathways/graduate-access-melbourne](http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/pathways/graduate-access-melbourne)

1.4.1 Graduate Access Melbourne applies only to domestic applicants. While the formal program of the University specifically relates to applicants for Commonwealth Supported Places, the Selection Committee will also accept and consider GAM applicants for applicants applying for Australian Fee places.

1.4.2 Domestic applicants applying for Graduate Selection may lodge a GAM application.

1.4.3 Bachelor of Science students applying for Undergraduate Selection may also lodge a GAM application. While these applicants will not be graduates at the time of selection, the Selection Committee will take their GAM application and supporting documents...
into consideration when considering their application for the DVM at the end of their second year of the Bachelor of Science.

1.4.4 The consideration of a GAM application can add up to 10 points to a Science GPA.

1.5 Interviews

The Selection Committee will schedule interviews with applicants when it considers that such interviews are needed to differentiate between comparable selectable applicants. At its discretion, the Selection Committee may also interview some applicants to verify information provided in the application, to seek clarification around the applicant’s personal statement or, for Graduate Access Melbourne applicants, to assist with the assessment of the application.

2 Undergraduate Selection (University of Melbourne undergraduate students only)

School leavers can enter the Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Melbourne and apply for admission to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine towards the end of their second year of full time study, provided they have completed or are enrolled in the prerequisite Level 1 and Level 2 subjects.

These students apply for the start year intake of the DVM in the year following their expected completion of the Bachelor of Science.

Successful applicants will receive a conditional offer of admission to the DVM for the start year intake of the DVM in the year following their expected completion of the Bachelor of Science. The offer will be conditional on their enrolment into and successful completion of all subjects in the Veterinary Bioscience specialisation of the Animal Health and Disease major and completion of their Bachelor of Science course at the end of the year preceding the start year intake for the DVM.

Students who satisfy these conditions can therefore formally accept and enrol into the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program with 100 points credit (one year of study), leaving three years of study in the DVM.

An offer of a commencing place in the DVM is specific to the nominated start year intake and cannot be deferred.

2.1 Ranking based on academic results

Applicants will initially be ranked on the basis of their results in all of the first and second year level science subjects of their Bachelor of Science, weighted 75:25 towards the Level 2 subjects. (The weighted average score will be expressed on a percentage scale.)

Breadth subjects will not be included in the calculation of a Science GPA but students must have achieved at least a passing grade (greater than or equal to 50%) in breadth subjects, and be on track to graduate with the BSc at the end of the following year, to be considered for entry to the Veterinary Bioscience specialisation.

Refer to section 1.2 for additional details on ranking.

2.3 Special arrangements – mid-year entry BSc students

The following arrangements are only applicable to mid-year entry students who have completed one and a half years’ study in the Bachelor of Science at the University of Melbourne at the time of undergraduate selection into the DVM.

Where mid-year commencing students still have subjects to complete in the summer semester immediately following the December selection round (to complete their 2nd year Science requirements), they may be made a conditional offer of approval to enrol in the veterinary bioscience specialisation.

- To be eligible these students must have completed or be enrolled in all the prerequisite Level 1 and Level 2 subjects.
• The offer is conditional on the successful completion of those subjects prior to the start of semester 1 and provided that not more than one of the summer subjects to be completed is a science subject.

Students who enter the BSc at the University of Melbourne with credit from other institutions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

2.4. Guaranteed entry to the DVM

The Faculty of Veterinary & Agricultural Sciences has received approval to offer guaranteed entry to the Veterinary Bioscience specialisation of the Animal Health & Disease major in the BSc (with guaranteed progression to DVM) for high-achieving school leavers as follows:

For a Commonwealth supported place:

• achieve an ATAR (or equivalent) of 98.5 or higher (in the final year of schooling in Australia); commence a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Melbourne following completion of schooling; and complete first and second year science with the appropriate prerequisite subjects with a minimum H2B (70%) average in both Level 1 science subjects and Level 2 science subjects.

For a fee place (International Fee place or Australian Fee place):

• achieve an ATAR (or equivalent) of 95.0 or higher; commence a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Melbourne following completion of schooling; and complete first and second year science with the appropriate prerequisite subjects with a minimum H2B (70%) average in both Level 1 science subjects and Level 2 science subjects.

N.B. The guaranteed entry pathway for a Commonwealth Supported Place is limited to students who are Australian Citizens or Permanent Residents at the time of commencement of the Bachelor of Science degree at the University.

2.4.1 Applicants for AF and CS places

The guarantee of an Australian Fee place will not influence consideration of an applicant’s application for a Commonwealth Supported place. Applicants with a guarantee of an AF place will be considered for a CSP without regard to their offer of an AF place.

The applications are considered separately. Any offer has an offer lapse date. An applicant is unlikely to know the final status of their CSP application prior to the lapse date for their AF offer.

The guaranteed entry pathway is only applicable to eligible applicants who submit a timely and complete course application. Also, if an eligible domestic applicant does not apply for an AF place, he or she will not be offered an AF place.

2.4.1 Chancellor’s Scholars

Chancellor’s Scholars will be guaranteed admission into the DVM via the Veterinary Bioscience specialisation as stipulated in the conditions of that award, and subject to completion within the Bachelor of Science of the prerequisites for the Veterinary Bioscience specialisation.

3 Graduate Selection (i.e. ‘Normal Entry’ - including graduates of the University of Melbourne)

Graduates or final year students of science-based undergraduate degrees or a Bachelor of Agriculture of at least 3 years full time equivalent study may apply for admission to the four year Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. Students must complete a science-based undergraduate degree or a Bachelor of Agriculture degree at the University of Melbourne or another institution, before entering the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program. To be eligible for entry graduates must have successfully completed at least one semester of study in biochemistry and one semester of study in cellular or general biology (see below).
An offer of a commencing place in the DVM is specific to the nominated start year intake and cannot be deferred.

3.1 Eligible science degrees

Science-based undergraduate degrees and majors that are appropriate for graduate entry to the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine include, but are not limited to: Agriculture, Biochemistry, Biomedicine, Biotechnology, Cell Biology, Dentistry, Domestic Animal Science, Ecology and Conservation Science, Forensic Science, Genetics, Marine Science, Medicine, Microbiology, Nutrition, Pharmacology, Pharmacy (some courses*), Physiology, Physiotherapy, Veterinary Bioscience, Veterinary Medicine and Zoology. This list is indicative only and a range of other science-based degrees might also be appropriate for entry to the DVM. Potential applicants with degrees other than those listed above should contact Faculty of Veterinary & Agricultural Sciences for advice before submitting an application.

Degrees in homeopathy, acupuncture, Chinese medicine or alternative or complementary medicine are not considered science degrees for the purposes of selection into the DVM. Degrees in the history and/or philosophy of science are not considered science degrees for the purposes of selection into the DVM.

*Potential applicants should contact the Faculty of Veterinary & Agricultural Sciences for advice.

3.2 Biochemistry and Biology prerequisites

Applicants who did not study at the University of Melbourne must demonstrate that the biology (general or cellular) and biochemistry subjects they have completed match those taken by students from the University of Melbourne to fulfil prerequisite requirements of the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine.

These subjects are:

Biology (one of the following)
- BIOL1004 Biology of Cells & Organisms
- BIOL10005 Genetics & the Evolution of Life
- BIOL10001 Biology of Australian Flora and Fauna

Biochemistry (one of the following)
- BCMB20002 Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
- VETS20016 Biochemistry in Animal Systems
- BIOM20001 Molecular and Cellular Biomedicine

The Selection Committee will decide on the comparability of biology and biochemistry subjects studied at other institutions or as part of a Community Access Program (CAP).

As a guide, the biochemistry subjects offered by the University of Melbourne have a strong chemistry foundation. To have satisfied this prerequisite at another institution, the subject description would need to indicate the syllabus building upon a chemistry foundation.

A list of approved biochemistry subjects at other institutions deemed to be equivalent to biochemistry at the University of Melbourne is available at:
http://sc.mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/prerequisites

3.3 Ranking based on academic results

Applicants will initially be ranked on the basis of their results in all of the final year level and penultimate year level science subjects of their completed science-based undergraduate degree weighted 3:1 towards performance in final year level subjects. (The weighted average score will be expressed on a percentage scale.)

Refer to section 1.2 for additional details on ranking.
3.4 Honours graduates and applicants who have completed further study in a science discipline after completion of an undergraduate degree.

3.4.1 For applicants who have attained as their highest qualification an Honours degree, one point will be added to the Science GPA. To be eligible for this point adjustment an applicant must provide explicit and unambiguous information that the completed Honours program is an additional year of study, and not an embedded program within an undergraduate degree.

3.4.2 For applicants who have attained as their highest qualification a Masters degree by coursework of less than 1.5 years duration (equivalent full time study), 1 point will be added to the Science GPA.

3.4.3 For applicants who have attained as their highest qualification a Masters degree by research or a Masters degree by coursework of 1.5 years or more duration (equivalent full time study), 2 points will be added to the Science GPA.

3.4.4 For applicants who have attained as their highest qualification a PhD degree, 4 points will be added to the Science GPA.

3.4.5 The maximum additional points awarded for further study is 4.

3.4.6 Completion of another undergraduate degree, a graduate diploma or certificate, a postgraduate diploma or certificate is not considered further study for the purpose of eligibility for any points adjustment to the Science GPA.

3.4.7 No points will be added for completion of further studies in non-science disciplines.

3.5 English language requirements for the DVM

Applicants must satisfy the University of Melbourne criteria for proficiency in the English language.

Applicants for whom English is not a first language can use TOEFL, IELTS or Pearson Test of English (academic tests) to meet the University's English language requirements. Applicants must satisfy the requirements in one sitting and within the 24 months preceding application.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IELTS* (academic English only)</th>
<th>TOEFL (paper based test)*</th>
<th>TOEFL (internet based test)*</th>
<th>Pearson Test of English (Academic)</th>
<th>Cambridge English: Advanced/ Certificate of Advanced English (CAE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.0 (written 7.0 with no band less than 6.0)</td>
<td>600 + TWE 5.0</td>
<td>94 + Writing 27; Speaking 18; Reading 13; Listening 13</td>
<td>65 &amp; written communicative skill of 65 and no other communicative skill below 50</td>
<td>CAE score of 67 or more. No less than Good in Writing and Borderline in each other skill</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Required scores must be achieved from a single test report, even if a student sat for multiple TOEFL or IELTS tests.

Other ways to satisfy the English language requirements are described at: http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/entry-requirements/language-requirements

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