Adventures in Veterinary Medicine 2014
High School Application Instructions

We recommend you print these instructions prior to filling out your online application. Refer back to these instructions as needed during the online application process.

**Application Deadline**
We begin accepting online applications on November 1, 2013. Early application is advised as our sessions are extremely competitive with a limited number of spaces available. High School Residential Sessions are the most popular, and files must be completed no later than mid-February. The Admission Committee begins to review completed files in late February/early March, and continues the review process until all spaces are filled for each session.

Part of AVM’s goal is to familiarize high school students with the application process for college and vet school. We encourage students to complete our application and follow up themselves once the application has been submitted. If parents have questions about the program, we will be happy to answer them; however, our main contact should be directly with the students themselves—not their parents. This is important and gives us an opportunity to get to know each applicant prior to our selection and admission process.

**REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS**

☑️ **Application Form**
Please complete all sections of the application form. Use of proper grammar, including correct spelling and capitalization, is important. Please be sure to provide us with your (the applicant’s/student’s) email address as most correspondence will be via email.

We strongly encourage applicants who live within commuting distance to apply for the High School Day Session. The High School Residential Sessions are extremely competitive and seats are limited in availability. Since applications are submitted from students worldwide, preference for the residential sessions is given to qualified applicants who are from outside the local area.

☑️ **Activities List**
The application includes a place for you to outline your high school activities, outside activities, work/volunteer experiences, special interests, and hobbies.
☑ Paid or Volunteer Experience
This form is **mandatory** and must be completed by all applicants. Please list your animal related experiences on this form, including research. Animal related experience is necessary for a competitive application. You may list any paid or volunteer experiences, which can include the care, knowledge, and experience you have gained working with animals, including your own. You may include pet sitting, dog walking, etc.

☑ Essay
Please write a one-page typed essay telling us about yourself and your interests in science, medicine, and animals. This essay is an opportunity for you to tell us why you would like to attend Adventures in Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Limit your essay to 650 words, Times New Roman, 12 point font. Spelling and grammar count! Your name and the session to which you are applying should be printed clearly at the top of the page.

☑ Resume or CV
Not required by high school applicants. (College and Adult applicants only).

☑ Evaluations
Two letters of evaluation are required. *It is not necessary to wait for your letters of recommendation in order to submit your application.* One letter must be written by a teacher, faculty member, advisor, or guidance counselor. The second letter should be written by an individual who can comment on your interest in animals and in veterinary medicine. This letter may be submitted by a work/volunteer supervisor; veterinarian with whom you have shadowed, volunteered, or worked; or another teacher or faculty member.

We prefer to have letters of evaluation submitted through our online application process. You may register up to 3 evaluators online.* Letters can also be mailed directly to our office from the evaluator. The letter must be signed and on letterhead. **Letters from family members and/or personal or family friends cannot be accepted.**

* It is important that you inform your online evaluators prior to registering and ask them to expect and allow all emails from Embark Online Recommendations (messages@notification.embark.com). They will need to open the email to receive their login and password to submit their online evaluation. Please be sure to follow up with your evaluator to confirm submission.

☑ Grades and Official Transcripts
Official transcripts must be sent directly from your school to our office. It is important that each applicant follow through with their institution to ensure we receive the updated and most current transcripts prior to our Admission Committee’s review.

1. We require current **official** high school transcripts indicating your fall (1st quarter or 1st trimester) grades.
2. Students graded on a quarterly system will also be required to submit their midyear grades when they become available in January or February. These transcripts should indicate your First Semester (both 1st and 2nd quarter) grades.
3. Students in the 9th grade should submit transcripts from the 8th grade as well.
Please remember: You do not need to wait for all of your supporting documents to arrive in the AVM office in order to submit your online application.

**Completed File**

All of the required materials can be submitted through the online application with the exception of official transcripts. There is a $40 non-refundable application fee, payable online by credit card or electronic check.

*Incomplete files will not be reviewed.* It is the applicant’s responsibility to follow through and ensure that their file is complete. A completed file consists of the submitted AVM electronic application, two letters of evaluation, and all transcripts.

**Admission Decisions**

Applicants are either admitted to the program, placed on an alternate list, or denied admission. Applicants with strong qualifications are admitted, applicants who demonstrate potential are placed on an alternate list, and those who need to improve their academic performance and/or animal related experiences are denied admission. Once sessions are filled, strong applicants will be placed on the alternate list.

Please be aware that admission for our AVM High School sessions is not on a rolling basis. High school admission is competitive and is based upon the applicant's qualifications. A strong candidate will generally have solid grades with a B+ or higher grade point average and possess significant animal experience. It is also important for the applicant to contact the office directly to follow upon their file status. This provides the AVM office an important opportunity to interact with the applicant prior to the selection process.

*Due to the competitive nature of the residential sessions and limited amount of seats, preference must be given to applicants who are from outside the local area and who have not already had the opportunity to attend previously.*

*If a student has attended AVM previously and is applying for the same session type (i.e., high school), the Office of Special Programs reserves the right to deny admission in order to allow other students the opportunity to participate.*

Admission decisions are typically made during March, and applicants will be notified by regular mail.

**Financial Aid**

Please indicate whether you will be applying for financial aid on your application. Assistance is need-based for families who are financially disadvantaged. Eligibility requirements as well as instructions can be found on the AVM website. An application for financial aid has no bearing on the student's admission status. Financial aid applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 14, 2014. 2013 Federal tax forms are required. Applications postmarked after March 14 will not be reviewed for financial assistance.
Vaccination Requirements

As per Tufts Policy, we require the following vaccinations. All participants must be current on these vaccinations prior to attendance and be able to provide physician’s documentation. In order to be properly prepared, if you/your child are missing any of the vaccinations as indicated below, please be sure to follow up with your physician to ensure all vaccinations below are current.

**Tetanus Diphtheria Acellular Pertussis (Tdap):**
A single dose of Tdap vaccine is required if it has been more than five years since the last dose of DTaP, DT or Td.

**Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR):**
Two doses of measles, mumps and rubella vaccine or positive antibody titers.

**Varicella (chicken pox):** Physician verification of year of disease, positive antibody titer, or two doses of varicella vaccine.

**Hepatitis B:** Three doses of hepatitis B vaccine or positive surface antibody titer.

*The hepatitis B vaccine is a three-dose series, which takes six months to complete. For students who have not already started the series, documentation for two doses of the vaccine must be submitted by your program immunization deadline.*

**Meningococcal:** One dose of vaccine within five years prior to start date. *(For high school residential program only)*

Please contact us if you have questions or concerns about the application process.

We look forward to receiving your application!

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