

Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM)

Admissions Update | October 2018

Background information for high school/university students and counsellors

Alberta Minister of Advanced Education Marlin Schmidt announced on Oct. 12, 2017, that Alberta will not renew its participation in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine's (WCVM) interprovincial agreement after 2020.

Visit wcvmtoday.usask.ca to read the WCVM's statement | Visit keepvetmedstrong.ca to learn more

How does this decision affect Alberta students who are interested in veterinary medicine?

Unfortunately, the most immediate impact of Alberta's decision will be on the province's students. Here are more details:

- The Government of Alberta has committed to providing funding for veterinary students in the WCVM's Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) until 2023. That means the WCVM will continue to admit 20 students from Alberta through to Fall 2019 entry (Class of 2023).
- After the 2019-2020 academic year, the Province of Alberta will only provide funding for new veterinary student seats at the University of Calgary's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (UCVM).

IF YOU ARE A CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT (Grade 12 and under):

- As a current high school student in Alberta, you are at least two years away from being eligible to apply to the WCVM's veterinary program (after completing at least two years of pre-veterinary university studies). By the time you are eligible to apply, your only option for a veterinary education in Canada will be the University of Calgary's Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

IF YOU ARE A CURRENT UNIVERSITY STUDENT (who will complete two full years of university classes or 60 credits of required courses before the date of April 30, 2019):

- As a current university student from Alberta, you have enough time to potentially complete the WCVM's requirement of two years of pre-veterinary studies before the final group of Alberta students is accepted to the WCVM in 2019-20 (application deadline of Dec. 1, 2018).

Is there a possibility that the WCVM will accept Alberta students in the future?

We are reviewing various funding models for the veterinary college, and during the coming months, we will be discussing future options with our partners and stakeholders. At this point, it is too soon to provide specific details about potential options. Please see general information below about a potential pilot program for 2019.

2019 pilot program

Pending approval from the University of Saskatchewan, the WCVM will launch a pilot program offering five non-subsidized student seats for fall 2019 entry to the DVM program. These additional seats will follow the college's current residency requirements. The pilot program will introduce a non-subsidized tuition in addition to WCVM's regular tuition and fees. In January 2019 (pending U of S approval), we will notify all applicants for fall 2019 entry (due December 1, 2018) with further information about the program.

Further questions, please contact:

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