



RVC

Royal
Veterinary
College
University of London

INFORMATION FOR
NEW STUDENTS

2018-19

WELCOME
PACK



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A WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Welcome to the Royal Veterinary College where I hope you will enjoy an exceptional start towards your chosen career.

Based on a proud heritage of over 200 years, the Royal Veterinary College continues to innovate in all its activities, providing opportunities in every aspect of veterinary science, practice and support. Our dedicated teaching staff bring a blend of learning skills that is second to none, shaped by their research interests and enhanced by our own developments in veterinary education.

The college campuses are home to facilities and equipment and offer easy access to both the UK's largest city – a multicultural world centre – and a beautiful rural

environment. At the Royal Veterinary College, you will be part of an international community dedicated to leading the veterinary professions. I hope that you embrace the opportunities and invite you to contribute your talents to our common vision. So, whatever your career aspirations, you are most welcome.

With all best wishes,

**Professor Stuart W J Reid,
Principal**



A WELCOME FROM THE STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT



On behalf of the RVC Students' Union (RVC SU), congratulations and welcome to the Royal Veterinary College!

Hi, I'm Gorprit, a 4th year BVetMed Student and the current President of the Students' Union. Welcome to the Royal Veterinary College!

The Students' Union at the RVC is run by students, for students, and answers foremost to students. It is our mission to ensure that every student has the best university experience possible, during their time at the RVC! We know that your first year at university is both an exciting and daunting time, and the SU is here to support you all the way from induction to graduation. We cover many bases, from organising Freshers Week events, to ensuring you get the most out of your studies and running an ever-increasing variety of Sports Teams and Societies.

The SU is YOUR platform, so if the team or society you want doesn't exist, start one up!

We try to provide as many opportunities as we can for you, so I hope you can get involved with as many as possible - from Christmas Ball to stress relieving 'puppy days' and meditation; we hope to provide something for everyone throughout the year.

You can keep up to date with 'all things SU' by liking our official "RVC Students' Union" Facebook page, or heading over to our website at www.rvcsu.org.uk. Our dedicated officer team are always happy to answer any questions or help whenever we can, so please don't hesitate to pop us an email, or come in and see us in the SU Office on either campus.

Congratulations on choosing the RVC, we will see you soon!

**Gorprit Singh
Students' Union President**



ENROLMENT

It's not long until you will be an official student at the RVC! You will be invited to pre-enrol online in early-September by email. There will be scheduled sessions in your first week to complete enrolment. Be sure to attend with all the required documents.



Once you enrol, you will get a student ID card, student loans and bursaries (if applicable) will be released, student Oyster cards will be approved and you will become eligible for council tax discounts*. You will also be able to access the RVC Learn virtual learning tool (where course materials and online assessments are hosted).

Remember you must provide payment, proof of a tuition fee loan, or sponsorship so you can be enrolled. You will have until 5pm, on 31 October 2018 to provide payment or you will be withdrawn**.

If you do not have proof of a tuition fee loan, a Direct Loan (U.S students) or sponsorship, or have made a late application for it, you can complete enrolment by paying the first instalment (one third) of the tuition fee for the year. This will be refunded if you subsequently provide proof of tuition fee loan or sponsorship.

*Council tax is a capital tax on property imposed by local authorities based on the estimated value of the property and the number of people living in it. Residences occupied exclusively by full-time students are exempt.

**Late payments will incur penalty charges (see Tuition Fee Policy).

ENROLMENT CHECKLIST

Here's a handy list so you don't forget anything when you come to enrolment:

- ☐ Your Passport, UK birth certificate or UK driving licence to confirm identity (original and photocopy)
- ☐ Original qualification certificates (where applicable)*
- ☐ One of the following:
 - If you have secured a tuition fee loan, you must bring the University or College Payment Advice from Student Finance England (or other assessing body) as proof. If you have not received the Payment Advice, bring proof you have applied for a tuition fee loan (letter acknowledging application)
 - If you are self-financing, you must provide payment details, see the 'Ways to Pay Your Tuition Fee' section of www.rvc.ac.uk/welcome
 - If you are sponsored by an employer or private organisation, you must bring proof of sponsorship

Before you come to enrolment

- ☐ Complete online pre-enrolment
- ☐ Complete your Occupational Health Questionnaire
- ☐ Read the HESA Data Collection Notice**
- ☐ Read the Tuition Fee policy**
- ☐ Read the College Charter**
- ☐ Read the College Regulations **
- ☐ Read the College's Student Protection Plan**

*The RVC reserves the right to request original, official evidence of academic qualifications from all students at any time.

**Links to these will be provided as a part of your online enrolment.

BSc & FdSc Veterinary Nursing students must also bring:

- ☐ Completed RCVS enrolment form
- ☐ A photocopy/printed scan of your identity document for submission with the RCVS enrolment form
- ☐ Cheque for RCVS registration fee made payable to the Royal Veterinary College.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students must bring

- ☐ Passport and Biometric Residence Permit (if applicable)
- ☐ Original qualification certificates* (if original not already seen in person)
- ☐ Original English Language certificates (if original not already seen in person)





INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

IMMIGRATION CHECKLIST



FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Below are the steps most Tier 4 Visa students will need to complete in the run up to their enrolment. All students should check the government website and any correspondence the RVC has sent with regards to immigration to ensure they have completed all the necessary steps.

PRE-ARRIVAL

☐ **Pay your tuition fee deposit**

Details can be found in correspondence sent out in May or whenever you listed us as your Firm (first) choice.

☐ **Apply for your Tier 4 (General) student visa**

As soon as you have received your CAS from us, you should apply for your visa. As a part of the application process, you will also need to pay the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS), which gives you access to the NHS (cost varies dependent on duration of your course).

Your visa will initially take the form of a 30-day vignette and will be either valid for 30 days before your enrolment date or 30 days from the issue date.

UPON ARRIVAL

☐ **Collect your Biometric Resident Permit (BRP)**

If you chose to collect your BRP from the RVC, it will be available to collect at enrolment. Otherwise, a Post Office will be

assigned to you based on the UK address you put on your visa application. Your BRP will serve as your visa for the duration of your studies.

POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL STEPS

☐ **Obtain a tuberculosis (TB) certificate**

International students from certain countries should do this no more than six months prior to arrival in the UK. For more information, including which countries are included, see Useful Information box on page 14.

☐ **Register for, and collect, your Police Registration Certificate (PRC) within 7 days of arrival**

This only applies to students from certain countries. Further information, including the list of applicable countries, can be found at the Met Police link in the Useful Information box on page 14.



ARRIVING IN THE UK



FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



The information below is valuable to anyone who is not resident in the UK regardless of their visa status. Further detail on all of the steps below can be found on the RVC website at www.rvc.ac.uk/welcome

PRE-ARRIVAL

☐ Preparing for your move to the UK

There are many things you may need to consider before your move from cell phones to health care. The UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA) provides a range of information on the most common topics for international students who are moving to the UK.

☐ Shipping Items to the UK

To make sure you don't pay too much tax when shipping your goods to the UK, HM Revenue & Customs have created a Customs Procedure Code: **4000C06**. You should give this code to

your courier who will attach it to a C88 form. This code covers the tax for clothes, books and any personal items you will need for their time at university. If you use a postal service you will need to pay and then reclaim import VAT.

☐ Bringing Pets to the UK

You may be considering bringing your pet to the UK with you when you come to study at the RVC. We would recommend you take the time to settle in before bringing them, but if you are planning to bring them, further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/bring-your-pet-to-uk>

UPON ARRIVAL

☐ Airport Arrival

If you are arriving on the Saturday 15 or Sunday 16 September to Heathrow Airport the RVC will be able to greet you at the airport. We are running a free shuttle bus service between the airport and Camden Halls of Residence.

☐ Move into accommodation

The move-in dates for accommodation (College Grove) are the 15 and 16 September 2018, the days before enrolment. Move-in dates for other university accommodation can be found on page 23 of this booklet.

YOUR FIRST WEEK

☐ Enrol with the RVC

This will require you to have pre-enrolled online before you arrive at the College. Further details will be emailed to you in September.

☐ International Pre-session Course

Your first week at the College will consist of pre-session activities which are designed to ease you into life at the RVC and the UK. The course is compulsory for all non-UK undergraduate students. Postgraduate students will also take part in international induction activities on Monday 17 September

☐ Open a bank account

You will need to complete enrolment before you can do this as you will need a letter from the RVC to confirm you are a registered student.

☐ Set-up a phone contract

It is advisable to set up a phone contract as soon as you receive your UK bank

account. If you are planning on using your own handset then be sure to check that the phone is unlocked from your carrier before you arrive in the UK.

☐ Registering with a Doctor (GP)

If you are a Tier 4 international student then the cost of NHS healthcare is covered by your immigration health surcharge (IHS). Additional health insurance is optional whilst you are studying at the RVC. When you arrive at the RVC you will be given the opportunity to register with a local doctor (GP). That way you can receive emergency care if you need it and access health services quickly and easily.

USEFUL INFORMATION

The links below will provide you with more information:

RVC Welcome: www.rvc.ac.uk/welcome

Visa: <https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa>

PRC: <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/ov/registering-overseas-visitor/>

TB Certificates: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-rules/immigration-rules-appendix-t-tuberculosis-screening>

UKCISA Visa Guidance: <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Visas-and-Immigration/Student-immigration-the-basics>

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT UNION

Congratulations and welcome to all our new students from all of us here at the Students' Union!

We are a membership charity run by students, for students, and answer foremost to students. Our officers are democratically elected and led by the SU President, five Vice Presidents and an amazing team of Officer Volunteers. We also have two full time, and one-part time members of staff for the day to day, operational, strategic and financial management of the SU.

We run two campus bars, The Haxby and The Buttery (open most nights of the week), which are managed and staffed by students, as well as, the Camden gym and a SU Common Room at each campus (open to students 24/7). We also operate a SU shop for the specialist equipment you will need whilst at the College.

The SU supports an ever-increasing variety of inexpensive clubs and societies for any student at the RVC to join. Sports clubs include the likes of Rugby, Netball, and Ultimate Frisbee, whilst societies can be very academically specific like Farm Animal Clinical Club, or be more socially based like Movie Soc. Joining a sports club or society is the easiest way to meet new people and make friends here at the RVC! The first opportunity



for this and more will be at our flagship Freshers Fair on Wednesday 26 September.

Social events (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) are also run by the SU for you throughout the year ranging from Freshers' Week to Christmas Ball and Camden vs HH Varsity. It's always fantastic to experience the entire university as a whole coming together and having a great time.

Even with all the social activities and support, the SU is a union at heart. We aim to bridge the gap between the student body and college by making sure your voice is always heard. Our Officer Team and the Course Representatives are here to listen to your concerns. We're always looking to improve as a Students' Union, so please come speak to us about how we can better serve YOUR needs.

To find out more about the SU head over to our website at <http://www.rvc-su.org.uk/>, and like our official "RVC Students' Union" Facebook page to stay up to date with us.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Contact points:

SU President: supresident@rvc.ac.uk

General Manager:

dsherlockjones@rvc.ac.uk

SU Administrator: bboross@rvc.ac.uk

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

RVC Student Voice. Have Your Say!

As an RVC student you are part of a community which recognises that all students have a right for their views to be listened to and for the College to respond. Listening to the opinions of students is an essential part of how we improve students' experiences at the RVC.

You are encouraged to feedback on your course and the teaching of staff through the RVC Student Surveys you will receive during your time at the RVC. You can access your surveys at any time via the RVC App or your Learn course pages. If you have any questions about RVC surveys, you can contact the Academic Quality Support Officer (Student Engagement) at AQOfficerSE@rvc.ac.uk.

Student involvement is supported by the Students' Union Course Representatives who act as the voice of their year group. Look out for the Rep elections which are conducted via Learn during the first few weeks of term and vote for your Course Rep!

If you would like more information or are interested in running for election, please contact the Students' Union surepcomms@rvc.ac.uk.



USEFUL INFORMATION

You can find out about changes made by the College in response to student feedback through the 'You Said...We Did...' intranet site

SU SHOP

The SU Shop carries all the equipment that you will need for your course here at the RVC.

These include items that you will need for your classes at the College, as well as those that you will need for your placements off-site. We are staffed by students, which means we can advise you from personal experience. We strive to sell products at the lowest possible price, operating on a not-for-profit basis as we understand that course costs can quickly add up.

The SU Shop is based at the Hawkshead Campus (in Hawkshead House), but also has a branch on-site in Camden. We keep stock in our main shop at Hawkshead and operate an order and collection service throughout the year for students at Camden. In addition, postage is available outside of term if you need extra equipment whilst on placements.

Below is a list of items you will need during your first year at the RVC, but we also recommend that you visit the website for the most up to date details <https://www.rvcsu.org.uk/shop/freshers/>

To make sure that your order is ready for collection at the Freshers' Fair, please



pre-order these items before you arrive so you can collect them during the Fair in your first week of term. We are happy to exchange non-embroidered items if you find you need a different size when you arrive.

The deadline for pre-orders is **1 September 2018**; after that we cannot guarantee that your orders will be available for the start of term/when you might need them.

BVETMED (INCLUDING ACCELERATED) & GATEWAY STUDENTS:

We suggest you budget £200.

Large Animals:

• Boiler suit

The College requires all veterinary students to wear green, embroidered boiler suits. These are custom-order and therefore non-returnable, so you must visit us at the Freshers' Fair to be fitted. A pre-order product is available in the Freshers section of the website so you can pay in advance. Although most of you will not need these until January, you must order by the deadline to allow our supplier time to process and deliver the orders. Late orders will mean you may not have the correct equipment for Spring Term classes. Having two of these is sensible – they will get messy.



- **Steel-toe cap wellies**
Steel-toe wellies are recommended for large animal practicals and your AHEMS farm placements. They are also required for some exams.
- **Waterproof parlour trousers and top**
Required for practical classes and farm placements.

Small Animals and Lab Classes:

• 2 Howie Lab coats

All new students need Howie lab coats (and not the traditional style). You will need these for your practical classes in weeks one and two of your first term and will not be allowed to take part in these vital classes without one! You will need two; one for messy dissections as it will get stained. You will need another for histology practicals and examinations.

• Stethoscopes

Stethoscopes are required from the start of third year for all veterinary students. In your second year, you can try them during a drop-in session in Camden at the end of April. We would advise you not to buy one until then.

BIOSCIENCES STUDENTS:

We suggest you budget £15

- **1 Howie Lab coat** for lab classes



VET NURSES:

We suggest you budget £150

You will need a uniform for placements as well as taster sessions in the college hospital during first term. We also stock equipment you will need for practical classes and placements. All tunics will come embroidered; as such are custom-order and therefore non-returnable.

- **Nursing tunic** - These come embroidered with the RVC logo. We suggest you have 3 to allow for spares and washing when you are wearing them every day on placements.
- **Bottle-green trousers**
- **Thermometer**
- **Fob watch**
- **Artery forceps**
- **Dog slip lead**

ORDER COLLECTION

Fittings for embroidered items (boilersuits, for vet med students and tunics and trousers for nurses) and wellies will be on 26 September 2018 at Hawkshead Campus. These will be ready for collection in December 2018 (an email will be sent out).

If you pre-ordered, the rest of your order will be ready for collection at the Freshers' Fair. Please follow the SU Shop signs.

MOVING INTO YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Your new RVC home awaits and we look forward to your arrival. Always remember, our Accommodation Team are here to guide and support you as you move in.

UK STUDENTS:

You are advised to arrive in time to move into your accommodation before your enrolment on 24 September 2018.

Moving in arrangements will vary depending on where you are staying.

- If you are in accommodation at the Hawkshead campus, you will be sent separate information detailing times and dates for moving in.
- If you are in University of London Intercollegiate Halls you will be sent separate information direct from the Reservations Office explaining all the relevant details.
- If you are in Mary Brancker House, please call the Hall directly on 020 7485 7687.
- If allocated iQ Highbury, please call the Hall directly on 0208 912 5011.
- If you are in College Grove, you will have the option to arrive on Saturday 22 September 2018 between 10am - 4pm

Please report to the signposted Reception when you arrive. You will then be met by a member of the Accommodation Team.

Please do not plan to arrive outside these hours.

Please note parking is very limited and restricted to drop-offs only and unfortunately there will be no provision to drive into Camden Campus.

If you have any queries, you can contact the Accommodation Office on 01707 666943, 01707 666940 or 01707 666809.

- If you are in private rented accommodation and are not sure about the contract or need further advice and assistance, contact the University of London's Housing Service, www.housing.london.ac.uk. You will also be able to view lists of potential properties to rent.

Advice about looking for housing in London - how to go about it and the pitfalls to avoid - can be found on the University of London Private Housing Guide website: www.housing.london.ac.uk/housing-guide/private-housing-guide. This will guide you through the process of planning your search, inspecting properties, signing the contract and paying deposits.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

You are advised to arrive in time to move into your accommodation before your enrolment on 17 September 2018.

If you are in College Grove, you will have the option to arrive on either of the following dates and times:

- Saturday 15th September 2018 between 10am - 4pm
- Sunday 16th of September 2018 between 10am - 4pm

Please report to the signposted Reception when you arrive. You will then be met by a member of the Accommodation Team.

Please do not plan to arrive outside these hours.

Please note parking is very limited and restricted to drop-offs only and unfortunately there will be no provision to drive into Camden Campus.

If you are in Mary Brancker House you can move in from 8 September (undergraduate) or 15 September (postgraduate - Home and Overseas).

If you are in University of London Intercollegiate Halls you can move in from 16 September.

If you are in iQ Highbury you can move in from 15 September.

If you have any queries, you can contact the Accommodation Office on 01707 666943/ 01707 666940 or 01707 666809.





HEALTH AND WELLBEING

ADVICE CENTRE

The Advice Centre is part of 'Learning and Wellbeing' at the RVC. We offer information, advice, guidance and advocacy to all students and prospective students.

The Advice Centre staffed by a team of Generalist and Specialist Advisers who are able to give advice and guidance on pretty much anything that may affect your studies. It is a confidential and non-judgemental service. You will have many opportunities to meet us in person in your first few weeks but we would encourage you to get in touch before you arrive, if you need any help or advice.

Our team offers support in the following areas:

- Disabilities, dyslexia and long-term health issues
- Counselling
- Money advice
- Private rented accommodation
- International student advice

SUPPORT AREAS

Dyslexia/Dyspraxia, Long-term physical or mental health conditions and disability-related enquiries

Your first point of contact should be our Disability Adviser (DA), who can be contacted at disability@rvc.ac.uk.

They can assist with screenings for learning differences/reports, DSA applications (Disabled Student Allowances for UK students) and advice and guidance for International students.

If you already have a diagnosis for learning differences, a physical or mental health condition (including ADHD/ADD) you are strongly advised to send as much information as you can (including any diagnostic assessments) to the DA as far in advance of arrival as possible. This will maximise the time we have to help you get appropriate support in place from Day 1.

There is clear evidence that students who disclose early have a substantially better student experience than those who do not.

Counselling

Student life and professional training can be both exciting and stressful. It is common to feel homesick and out of your depth in the first term, no matter your age or previous life experience or where you come from. Counselling is a free, confidential service to help you with any emotional or psychological difficulties that may prevent you from making the most of your time while you are here. Find out more about the service: www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students/health-and-wellbeing/counselling

Contact rvccounselling@herts.ac.uk for queries or appointments.

Money Matters

Need some advice on budgeting for the course? Not sure how all the loans, grants or bursaries work or how to manage costs for dependents? Your first point of contact should be the Money and Welfare Adviser at moneymatters@rvc.ac.uk

<http://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students/money-matters>

Private rented accommodation

The Advice Centre team work with the University of London Housing Service (ULHS). ULHS offers excellent guidance for first time renters in the private accommodation sector and lists of accommodation available to rent as well as free legal advice and a contract-checking service. <http://housing.london.ac.uk>

OTHER SUPPORT AVAILABLE FROM LEARNING AND WELLBEING:

Interfaith advice and pastoral care, regardless of religious belief or none
Confidential, independent listening and support is offered by the College Chaplain and Interfaith Adviser, email: chaplain@rvc.ac.uk. The Chaplain is happy to be contacted with regards to any welfare-related or religious matters: www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students/health-and-wellbeing/chaplaincy

Educational Development

Managing the transition from school to university or between different universities/countries can be a challenge, particularly when it comes to study and exams. The Educational Development Team is here to help you achieve your academic goals effectively, efficiently and with maximum enjoyment. You will meet them during your first weeks at the College.

Contact: EDtutors@rvc.ac.uk

They are available for 1-1 or group workshops at both campuses and work with students across all the levels, from undergraduate to postgraduate. The Advice Centre and Educational Development team also work closely with the academic and pastoral tutor system as well.

Careers

We have dedicated Careers Consultants and an Applications Adviser from the University of London Careers Service available at both campuses for students to discuss career progression, job search, CV writing and interview techniques. Students are encouraged to start thinking about their career options early on and to develop their employability skills during their time at RVC, both independently and through curriculum-based activities: www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students/careers
Contact careers@rvc.ac.uk

USEFUL INFORMATION

For more, detailed information, please see: www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students

You'll find our comprehensive guide 'Learning, Physical and Mental Health Needs' at www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students/disabilities-dyslexia-and-long-term-health-issues

Take the Money Personality Quiz www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students/money-matters/money-personality-quiz!

Contact: advice@rvc.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7468 5037



BUDGETING

Preparing for university is an exciting time! But don't forget to plan for costs as you embark on your RVC Journey. Please see our budget estimates on the next page

DISCOUNTS

Student Oyster Card (London)

If you have an 18+ Student Oyster photo card, you can get 30% off the price of adult-rate Travel cards and Bus & Tram Pass season tickets (<https://tfl.gov.uk/fares-and-payments/adult-discounts-and-concessions/18-student>).

16-25 rail card- Get 1/3 off Standard Anytime, Off-Peak, Standard Advanced and First Class Advanced fares for £30 a year or 3 year card for £70 and save £20. Mature students aged 26 or over and in full-time education can also use this card (<http://www.railcard.co.uk/>).

If you do have a 16-25 Railcard, you can also add the discount to your 18+ Student Oyster photo card to get a total of 34% discount on off-peak pay-as-you-go fares and off-peak daily caps on Tube, DLR, London Overground, TfL Rail and most National Rail services in London.

NUS card- 1 year for £12, 2 years for £22 or 3 years for £32. Over 200 discounts and 42,000 international discounts with 1 year free ISIC (<https://www.nus.org.uk/en/nus-extra/international-discounts/>).

16-26 national express coach card- 1 year £12.50 or 3 years for £30 (<https://www.nationalexpress.com/en/offers/coachcards/young-person>).

£ BUDGET ESTIMATES

ITEM	COST	COMPULSORY/OPTIONAL
Books	Costs vary. A budget of approx. £200-£250 for 1st year students is advised.	Optional (can buy second-hand from other students)
Computer Printing	5p per sheet (b/w) but you get £10 credit start of each academic year.	Optional but likely
Inter Library Loans	Varies. From £4.00 per item for undergrad students. Suggested budget for final year £50.	Optional
Replacement ID Cards	From £10.	Required if original lost
Inter campus/ RVC farm travel	Approx. £6.35 return journey with a student travel card.	Compulsory for BVetMed
Travel to placements/ Extra-Mural Studies	Varies according to placement location/ mode of transport.	Compulsory for Vet Nursing and BVetMed
Rent (Halls or private landlord)	From £6900 pa (varies widely). Cost of Halls are generally inclusive of bills.	Required unless living at home
Contents insurance	May be covered by parents' insurance. From £60pa; you can split cost in house shares.	Optional but advised
Personal Injury Insurance	Discount scheme available; more info available at enrolment.	Optional
Equipment	See SU Shop website.	Compulsory

Remember to budget for food, entertainment, and travelling home or around the area.

See the 'Budgeting' section on UCAS for some further advice:
www.ucas.com/how-it-all-works/student-finance/managing-money/figuring-out-budget

HEALTH MATTERS

At the RVC, we care about your wellbeing. Here is some advice for staying positive and healthy during your studies. Further information on these and other health and safety issues will be provided during your induction into the College.



PRE STUDY HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE – MANDATORY

Your enrolment at the RVC is subject to Health Clearance. Our Occupational Health service is provided by the Central and North West London NHS. If you haven't already, you will receive an email shortly from the Admissions Office with an attached health questionnaire. You will need to return the questionnaire, via email, to the address provided on the form.

REGISTERING WITH A LOCAL GP

If, like many students, you spend more weeks of the year at your college address than your family's address, you need to register with a local GP as soon as possible. That way you can receive emergency care if you need it and access health services quickly and easily while you're at college. For the nearest NHS services in the area please see:

<https://www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx>

You can refer to NHS Choices under 'find a local health service' for details of local surgeries that they can apply to register with. Just type in your postcode and you can find

the nearest doctor/dentist to your home. The local GPs (Doctors) to the RVC come to both the Camden and Hawkshead sites during the first week or two to register students living in local Halls or in the local areas.

STUDENT HEALTH

Looking after your physical health and mental well-being is important as a student to help you reach your potential. There are many internal and external services available in and around the RVC to help you manage your well-being throughout your time here, including on-site Gyms and various Student Union Societies to get involved in.

The NHS website provides some useful help and advice on student health matters that will help assist you to stay as well as possible during your studies and to take control of your health. www.nhs.uk/LiveWell/Studenthealth/Pages/Studenthealthhome.aspx

Be aware of the effects of alcohol on yourself and others, especially in your first few weeks at College: www.drinkaware.co.uk/

VACCINATIONS

Students are advised to have received the Meningitis ACWY and MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccinations before starting their studies. If you haven't already been immunised against these we suggest discussing this with your doctor.

Although the risk of exposure to Bovine Tuberculosis in the UK remains very low, the RVC would normally suggest that students who are studying veterinary medicine consider receiving the BCG vaccination before they start their course*. However, as there is currently a shortage of the BCG vaccine, obtaining the vaccination is likely to be difficult. If you are

concerned about exposure to Tuberculosis, we would suggest you discuss this with your doctor.

*You should, however, be aware that in some areas of the USA some government agencies place work restrictions on those who have received a BCG vaccination and who would test positive for TB and that the BCG vaccination is not recommended for some individuals who may have other health issues. It is therefore important that you investigate the pros and cons of having the BCG vaccination and, where appropriate discuss this with your doctor, prior to joining the course.

HELP WITH HEALTH COSTS

Most NHS treatment is free, although there can be charges for some things. The HC 11 is a document produced by the NHS that outlines what assistance is available to students with health costs.

<https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/2017-05/nhsbsa-help-with-health-costs-quick-guide.pdf>

HEALTHCARE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The UK has a healthcare system, the National Health Service (NHS), which is paid for by taxes. UK nationals and residents have access to the NHS and are able to see a doctor or visit a hospital without being charged.

As a part of your visa application, you will be required to pay an Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS). This surcharge helps to fund the NHS and, in exchange, gives you the same access to healthcare as UK citizens. Additional health insurance is not required to study at the RVC or in the UK. You will need to pay the charge, even if you are planning on taking out private health insurance.

www.gov.uk/healthcare-immigration-application/overview

NEED TO KNOW

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

As an RVC student, you'll have the benefit of an advanced information service and a resource-rich library.

The College operates a combined Library, IT and Estates (LISD) in order to best support students and staff in their studies, research and day-to-day IT and information based activities. A joint IT and Library enquiry desk operates in the Learning Resources Centre at each campus so that a range of student enquiries can be dealt with, and assistance provided, from one convenient location.

Once you enrol with the Royal Veterinary College, you'll be set up with your own IT/library account giving access to the extensive range of services and facilities offered by ISD. These include:

- Access to around 180 student use desktop computers at each campus
- A range of library 'short loan' equipment including laptops and tablets
- Access to multiple copies of all textbooks, over 18,000 specialist veterinary full text, online and print journals and access to over 7,000 eBooks via our custom SCOUT (Search Content OUT!) discovery tool
- Eduroam wi-fi configuration allowing network access across campus and at other participating institutions
- 24 hour access to computer, printer and a range of study space facilities in Learning Resource Centres
- An annual allocation of printer credit with an online top-up facility for copying, printing and scanning.
- Access to unlimited digital cloud storage space via the Office 365 OneDrive facility plus the ability to install Microsoft Office onto five different devices.
- Lynda.com: subscription to Lynda.com an online training facility with video tutorials in a number of areas.
- Access to online learning content and course related materials via the RVC's own 'Learn' Virtual Learning Environment which holds course notes, lecture recordings and other useful materials
- Technical advice and support from the LISD Helpdesk team by phone, email or personal consultation at regular laptop/mobile device 'clinics'.
- 'Out of Hours' IT support service available evenings, overnight, weekends and Bank Holidays.
- Alumni access to email address for life.



WELCOME PACK

SUPPORT FOR PERSONAL PCS, LAPTOPS AND SMART DEVICES

Instructions to self-configure equipment for wi-fi access are provided for students to access. All students also have access to copies of the College's recommended anti-virus software package are also downloadable for student use as all computers using the College network must have fully functioning and updating anti-virus software installed.

If assistance in getting on to the RVC network* is needed, a bookable service for the configuration of equipment will be offered by the LISD Helpdesk at the start of the academic year in addition to the regular laptop/smart device 'clinics' that operate during term time.

*Internet access and network support for student accommodation located off-campus (including Mary Branker House) is the responsibility of the independent providers of these services who have their own terms and conditions and tariffs: see your tenancy/accommodation agreement for details.

COMPATIBILITY AND PURCHASING ADVICE

The IT network of the Royal Veterinary College is based primarily around Microsoft technologies; therefore, Windows based devices offer greatest compatibility and support options from ISD. Student-use computers in the College will be running Windows 10 and Office 2016 during the 2018-19 academic year.

The College offers Microsoft's Office 365 and Student Advantage programme which allows students with an RVC email account to run Office on up to five different Windows or Apple Mac computers. You can also run Office 'Mobile' for Android or iPhone on five devices.

GETTING STARTED

Before arriving, you will be sent your username and password for the RVC network

USEFUL INFORMATION

The IT Helpdesk service operates for the benefit of both students and staff 8am-5pm Monday to Friday providing support and advice on the IT and AV systems used throughout the College, contactable by phone and email.

LISD also operate a staffed 'Out of Hours' Helpdesk telephone service, available on the same Helpdesk number between 5pm-8am weekdays and 24 hours a day at weekends and Bank Holidays:

IT Helpdesk enquires:
helpdesk@rvc.ac.uk

IT telephone support:
+44 (0) 20 7468 51811

Library assistance is available from the enquiry desk located in the Learning Resource Centre at each campus or by phone and email.

General library enquiries:
library@rvc.ac.uk

Book renewal by phone:
+44 (0) 20 7468 5180

Bookshop enquires:
bookshop@rvc.ac.uk

and Library systems (the same credentials will work for nearly all the College's systems) so that you may then access the additional information and advice available on the 'Learn' virtual learning environment and the ISD section of the RVC Intranet. Once the RVC user account and email address is available, access to the Office 365 and Student Advantage packages will also be possible.

FINDING US

We look forward to seeing you soon!



CAMDEN CAMPUS

The Royal Veterinary College,
Royal College Street, London
NW1 0TU United Kingdom
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7468 5000

YOUR JOURNEY

We would advise travelling to the Camden Campus by public transport as it tends to be the quickest method. For those international students arriving into Heathrow, we will be organising some airport pick-ups. Please see page 15 for more information. Outside of this time we operate a meet-up service in which someone from the RVC can meet you at the airport - please contact the Admissions Office for more information

Please note: The Camden Campus has no parking facilities and local car parking can be expensive.

The Camden Campus is a ten-minute walk from King's Cross/St Pancras International Station (Underground Lines: Circle, Hammersmith & City, Metropolitan, Northern, Victoria and Piccadilly) which is the centre of the train network in London. It is a 5 minute walk from Mornington Crescent Underground Station (Northern Line) or Camden Road Overground Station. The Piccadilly Line runs from Heathrow airport.



HAWKSHEAD CAMPUS

The Royal Veterinary College,
Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms
Hatfield, Hertfordshire
AL9 7TA United Kingdom
Telephone: +44 (0)17 0766 6333

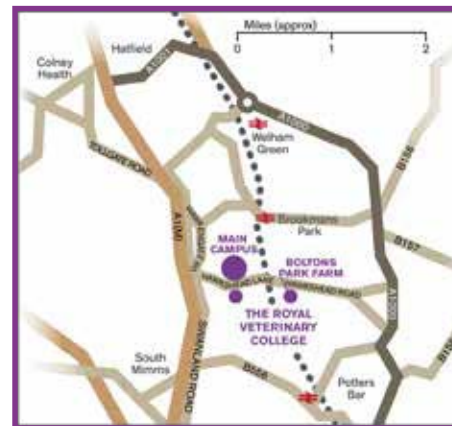
YOUR JOURNEY

Travelling by rail

The closest train station to the Hawkshead Campus is Potters Bar station. The journey from Potters Bar to the Hawkshead Campus takes about 10 mins. The RVC runs a free shuttle bus service to Hawkshead Campus (and Boltons Park Farm), from Potters Bar station. There is also a minicab service available from beside the Potters Bar railway station forecourt (telephone 01707 650077).

Driving to Hawkshead?

Visitors arriving by road are urged to approach the Main Campus along Hawkshead Lane from the A1000. Please note that Satellite Navigation Systems may instruct you to arrive via the western end of Hawkshead Lane. This route is not recommended, especially for larger vehicles, because of the narrow, twisting roads and very narrow bridge.



From the M25 leave at Junction 24 and take the A111 (Southgate Road) to Potters Bar. At the first main junction and traffic lights, turn right onto the A1000 towards Hatfield. Follow the A1000 through Potters Bar and then turn left onto Hawkshead Road and then fork left onto Hawkshead Lane.





FURTHER INFORMATION

HESA Data Collection Notice

<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/collection-notice>

Tuition Fee Policy

www.rvc.ac.uk/Media/Default/1%20Fees%20and%20Funding/tuition-fee-policy.pdf

RVC Charter

www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures#panel-general

Welcome to the RVC

www.rvc.ac.uk/welcome

Advice Centre

www.rvc.ac.uk/study/support-for-students

Admissions

admissions@rvc.ac.uk

Students' Union Society

www.rvcsu.org.uk

Visa Information

www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa



Information provided is considered to be true and correct at the time of publication. While we have taken every effort to check the information, changes and inaccuracies may occur. The Royal Veterinary College does not accept liability for any loss, damage, expense and costs incurred by any person arising out of using or relying on any materials from this prospectus.

The College has charitable status.

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