

Graduate Entry Veterinary Medicine Selection Process – 2026 entry

The RVC receives over 2,000 applications each year for approximately 250 places across our D100, D101 and D102 courses. We are committed to fair and transparent selection processes. As most applicants meet or exceed our academic requirements, we use additional methods to help us identify those best suited to the programme.

All applications for 2026 entry must be submitted through UCAS by 15 October 2025. North American graduates only should apply using the VMCAS system, with a deadline of 16 September 2025. Late applications will not be considered. Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt, which includes instructions for completing the supplementary questionnaire and a deadline for submission. We are unable to guarantee consideration of any forms submitted after the deadline.

We may request further information from applicants at any stage of the process. Failure to respond by the stated deadline may result in the application being unsuccessful.

Applicants applying through UCAS who wish to apply to both the Graduate Entry and standard 5-year routes (D102 and D100) must submit a separate application to each course, using two UCAS choices. Applicants who apply only to the Graduate Entry route will not be considered for the 5-year course.

Applications are considered in the following stages:

1. Supplementary questionnaire

Applications are initially screened to see whether the applicant has completed and submitted our supplementary questionnaire by the deadline provided. Applicants who have not submitted their questionnaire by this date will not progress any further.

2. Work Experience criteria

Applicants who have submitted their supplementary questionnaire are then screened against our published work experience criteria. Any applicants who do not meet our minimum requirements will not progress any further.

3. Applicants who are expected to graduate or have graduated from a Biological Science degree at the RVC

Where an applicant has fulfilled stages 1 and 2 and is a student/alumnus of the RVC we will offer them a guaranteed interview place (bypassing the sections 4 and 5), if they fulfil the following criteria:

- They have clearly indicated on both the “qualifications” and “education” sections of their UCAS application that they are studying for (or have completed) an RVC degree
- Where they are still studying for their degree, their average mark for both their first and second year (as calculated on their RVC transcript) is 60% or higher
- If they have graduated, they achieved a final classification of 2:1 or higher

The automatic offer of an interview will have no subsequent influence on the likelihood of an offer and all RVC students will be considered for an offer in the same way as any other interviewed applicant.

An application from an RVC student who does not fulfil the criteria for an automatic interview will progress through the assessment process as outlined below. A decision on whether or not they are interviewed will be based on their total score in comparison to the rest of the cohort.

4. Academic criteria

Applications are screened and scored according to whether or not they meet our published minimum entry requirements, as detailed on our website.

Applicants studying outside of North America are asked to provide transcripts for their university study to date, which form the basis of our assessment of academic performance. Applicants who are not currently meeting our requirements but are close and show clear potential to meet them by the end of their course may still be considered. These applicants will score less than those already demonstrating the required level, as academic performance forms part of the overall assessment.

Applicants studying in North America are assessed based on the information provided through their VMCAS application. Applicants who are slightly below the required GPA but are on a positive academic trajectory may also be considered, although they will score less than those already meeting the requirement. Applicants will not be penalised for any prerequisites that are pending, provided these are clearly listed on their VMCAS application.

Applicants whose academic performance is clearly below the required level, such that meaningful improvement is unlikely, will not progress any further.

Applicants who do not meet the requirements at any stage of the initial screening (supplementary questionnaire, work experience or academic criteria) will not progress further in the process. In such cases, an unsuccessful decision will be processed through UCAS or VMCAS and the applicant will be notified in due course.

5. Application scoring

Applications that meet our minimum academic criteria are then scored on the following components:

a. Non-academic criteria

Applications are screened and scored by trained Admissions Officers based on the answers provided in the supplementary questionnaire. Assessors are looking for:

- Insight and understanding of the course, profession and the RVC
- Motivation towards the course, profession and the RVC
- Interest and commitment to the course, profession and the RVC
- Skills and characteristics that demonstrate suitability
- Quality of written communication

All applicants are assessed using the same criteria and scoring rubric. Assessors do not consider any information outside of the responses provided in the supplementary questionnaire.

Any applicant who, following the initial assessment, scores one point below the interview threshold will be reviewed by a second member of the Admissions Team. If the second

reviewer scores the application higher, the applicant will be invited to interview.

b. Contextual information

To ensure applicants from widening participation backgrounds are not disadvantaged, contextual information is considered as part of the assessment process. Due to the availability of data, this is only used for applicants who are UK-based and assessed as home fee payers.

We consider:

- Whether the applicant is a care leaver (this must be declared on the UCAS application)

Applicants who meet this criterion will receive additional points. These are incorporated into the applicant's score and used alongside all other criteria to determine who is invited to interview. This is designed to recognise the applicant's achievements in the context of their personal and educational circumstances.

6. Interview selection

The RVC does not make any offers on its Veterinary Medicine degrees without interview.

The RVC does not make any offers on its Veterinary Medicine degrees without interview. Interviews are normally held in the UK (late November to December), the United States (November), and Asia (early January). Interview dates are not allocated based on preference or score. For 2026 entry, all interviews will be held in person. We do not plan to offer a virtual interview option. Applicants who apply to more than one Veterinary Medicine course (e.g. Accelerated BVetMed and BVetMed) will only be interviewed once. Their performance will be considered for all courses.

Applicants are selected for interview based on their total score from the earlier stages of assessment. The threshold varies depending on the number of interview places available and the overall strength of the applicant pool. We do not set or publish a fixed cut-off, to ensure we can apply our selection criteria fairly and flexibly. If further differentiation is needed once scoring is complete, the personal statement (for UCAS applicants) or the essay questions (for VMCAS applicants) will be reviewed, scored, and the total adjusted accordingly.

Interviews follow a multi-mini-interview (MMI) format. Each station is designed to assess a specific non-academic attribute(s) or characteristic(s). Applicants are scored using a clearly defined rubric, which outlines the criteria and performance indicators for each attribute or characteristic.

All interviewers follow the same structured rubric, ensuring that applicants are assessed fairly and consistently across all stations and locations.

In addition to the individual stations, applicants also take part in an observed group activity. Scores from all interview components are combined to form a total interview score.

Further information will be provided in the interview invitation.

7. Post-interview

Offers of a place post-interview are made solely on the basis of interview score. This ensures that final decisions are based on structured, directly observed performance rather than subjective judgement. Pre-interview scores are not normally carried forward; however, where multiple applicants achieve the same interview score and not all can be made an offer, we will use pre-interview scores to determine which applicants will receive offers.

The process of offer making to applicants will start in January, although most applicants can expect to hear from us in early to mid-February. As offers are made gradually, applicants should not draw conclusions based on when others receive decisions. Applicants will receive an email from the RVC outlining the terms of their offer, their fee status, and the next steps they need to take. An update will also be made via UCAS Track, where applicable.

8. Waitlist

We use a range of data to inform our offer-making process and to help predict how many offers are needed to fill available places. In some years, the number of places taken up may be lower than expected, and we may make additional offers later in the cycle. For this reason, we maintain a small waiting list.

Applicants placed on the waiting list will be notified and may choose to withdraw if they wish. Being on the waiting list is not a guarantee of an offer, and we are unable to provide any indication of the likelihood of one being made.

All waitlisted applicants will receive a final decision by the UCAS deadline in May. The exact date will be confirmed at the time of notification. Applicants cannot request to be added to the waiting list. Those who are unsuccessful post-interview will have already been considered for it.

9. Results and Clearing

Decisions will be made once applicants provide evidence that the conditions of their offer have been met.

Only applicants who meet the full terms of their offer are guaranteed a place. Those who narrowly miss their grades may occasionally be accepted, but this is the exception rather than the norm. No guarantees can be made.

Final decisions are sent to UCAS after we review results, the applicant's grade profile, and availability of places. VMCAS applications will receive an outcome via email. This decision is final. Unsuccessful applicants should not contact the Admissions Office unless their grades change as a result of a remark.

Successful applicants will receive email confirmation and do not need to contact us.

The RVC's Veterinary Medicine courses do not enter Clearing.