UCVM Admissions Statistics for the 2021/2022 Admissions Cycle

This information is provided to offer future applicants and others who are interested a better understanding of our process. The applicant pool is different every year and scores achieved in each of the sections of the application process are relative, generated from the average performance of the applicants in the pool. Therefore, the scores cannot be compared between application cycles and an individual applicant’s score will not be the same in different application cycles.

There were some changes to our process this year. This was the first year that we included the MCAT exam as a part of the application requirements. This was done as part of a process to reduce our emphasis on GPA and to simplify meeting our pre-requisite requirements that can be complicated for some applicants with more varied backgrounds. The MCAT score was used as a threshold whereby any person with a score $\geq 495$ met the requirement. It was not used to rank applicants.

Another change to our process was the institution of a file review which was performed on the files of all applicants who met our admission requirements and was used to select applicants for the next step in the process, the multi-mini interviews (MM) and essay. All qualified applications, those who met the GPA and MCAT requirements, were reviewed by three reviewers and scored for their fit with the UCVM DVM program. Applicants were ranked based on this file review to decide which applicants would be interviewed.

During the most recent admissions cycle we were still in the grips of the pandemic and to help us deal with that we used a virtual system to conduct the MMI’s for the first time along with the CASPer program used in the previous cycle. In addition, we also used remote exam centres to host the essay component of the application along with a site on the U of C campus.

The online application opened on October 1, 2021 and closed on November 26, 2021.
The graph displays the GPA statistics from the applicant pool. The average “4-term GPA” of qualified applicants was 3.75. For the 2020/21 admissions cycle, it was 3.7. The average GPA of applicants admitted was 3.78 (range 3.22 to 4.0)
The average MCAT Score of qualified applicants was a 503 (range 495 – 521). The average MCAT score of successful applicants was 504.7 (range 496 to 518)

After receiving the MMI and Essay Scores, the final grades from the Winter 2022 term, and the CASPER scores all the data was finalized. A final admission score for each applicant was calculated based on the following weighting: MMI (65%), Essay (30%), CASPer score (5%), and a rank-order list of all applicants was made.

After receiving acceptance or decline letters from individuals on our initial offer list, applicants on the waitlist were contacted and the 55 members of the UCVM Class of 2026 were finalized on Friday, August 5, 2022.

Of the successful applicants for the Class of 2026:
- 7 identified as male, 43 as female, 2 as LGBTQ2S+, and 3 undeclared
- 16/55 are first-time applicants,
- 45/55 studied in Alberta prior to applying,
- The average 4-term GPA was 3.78 (range 3.22 - 4.0),
- Successful applicants stated the following as their primary areas of interest: General Veterinary Practice (16), Production Animal Health (6), Ecosystem and Public Health (10), Small Animal (12), Investigative Medicine (4), Equine (6), other (1).

In our ongoing efforts to better understand our applicant pool this application cycle, we gathered more detailed information about minority groups with the boundaries defined by the U of C. None of this information was used in the selection process. Instead, it was gathered for our understanding and to help direct recruiting efforts. We learned that the 2021/22 applicant pool was made up of applicants with various backgrounds including Chinese, Filipino, Latin American, and South Asian. Five percent self-identified as Indigenous persons. Forty three percent of applicants chose not to answer questions on their background. The composition of the successful applicants was similar with 11.5% of the class identifying as non-Caucasian, and 9% Indigenous.
A question that comes up whenever admission to the DVM program is discussed is recruitment of students from rural areas. We asked applicants about their background and where they grew up. Our analysis of that information tells us that this year 35% of the applicants came from communities of ≤10,000 people or were raised on an acreage or farm. Forty percent were from a metropolitan or regional centre of ≥50,000 people. This resulted in 36.5% of the Class of 2026 coming from farms, acreages or communities of ≤10,000 people. This information was not used in the selection process.