

VMCAS

Veterinary Medical College Application Service

AAVMC
Association of American
Veterinary Medical Colleges

The Road to Veterinary School



TONY WYNNE | JANUARY 27, 2017

Introductions



Tony Wynne

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Director: Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS)

Editor: Veterinary Medical School Admissions Requirements (VMSAR)

Advocate for Pre-Veterinary & Applicant Rights

The Best Kept Secret...

Successfully submitting
a VMCAS application
solely rest on the
applicant.

Application | Transcripts | Evaluations

Today's Agenda

Careers

Picking A
School

What
Schools
Look For

Being A
Qualified
Applicant

Student
Debt

The VMCAS
Application

Submission
Obstacles

Resources

Veterinary Careers



Small /
Companion



Exotic / Zoo



Food Safety
/ Large



Equine



Research /
Biomedical
Government



Academia



Military
Government



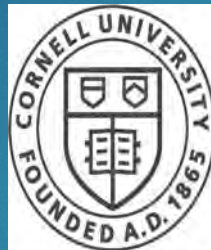
Public
Health

Are there jobs available?

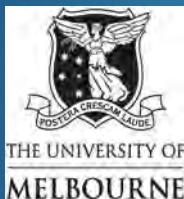
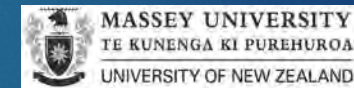
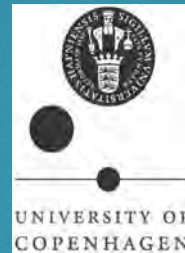
VETERINARY SPECIALTIES

- Alternative medicine
- Anaesthesiology
- Animal behavior
- Animal welfare
- Birds (pet and ornamental)
- Bovine
- Canine
- Cardiology
- Chiropractic
- Clinical pathology
- Clinical pharmacology
- Dentistry
- Dermatology (veterinary dermatology)
- Diagnostic imaging (diagnostic imaging of animals)
- Equine
- Emergency and critical care (veterinary intensive care and veterinary emergency medicine)
- Feline
- Internal medicine
- Laboratory animal medicine
- Microbiology (veterinary microbiology; clinical microbiology of animals)
- Neurology and neurosurgery (veterinary neurology; veterinary neurosurgery)
- Nutrition
- Oncology (cancer in animals)
- Ophthalmology (veterinary ophthalmology)
- Parasitology
- Pathology (veterinary pathology)
- Poultry
- Preventive medicine
- Radiology (veterinary radiology)
- Reptile and amphibian
- Shelter medicine
- State veterinary medicine
- Sports medicine
- Surgery
- Theriogenology
- Toxicology
- Zoological medicine (includes zoo, wildlife, aquatics, and exotic pet species)

Knowing where to apply:



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Location

- Where do you see yourself going to school?
- Where do you ultimately want to practice?
- Study abroad or domestic?
- Do Your research



Culture & Climate

- What kind of educational environment do you want to be in?
- What do current students think?
- Do you feel comfortable with this school?



Costs

- Understand the cost of attendance, not just tuition
- School(s) in your permanent state are less expensive (contracts).
- Fully understand, early, what your getting into!

What schools look for

Academic Ability
Leader **resilient** empathy
experience **maturity** Tough
strong writer accountability Inspired
determination Dedication Teachable Sense
Balanced Positive Attitude **motivation**
Commitment team Knowledgeable Passion **diverse**
Adaptability Cognitive Ability Inquisitive Well Rounded
Emotionally Stable Ethical player
Critical Thinker Common aware Integrity
compassionate **Intellectual** moral
culturally interest Open Minded
Self aware Enthusiasm
Communication Skills
Problem Solver

What schools look for?

- ❑ Schools seek a well-rounded individual (clinical + soft skills)
- ❑ **Wide variety of experiences**
- ❑ Rigorous undergraduate academic experiences (good grades)
- ❑ **References that speak to who you are, not just how fabulous you are!**
- ❑ Professionalism & time management
- ❑ **Someone that is qualified!**

How to be a qualified applicant...

- ❑ Ensure you meet the basic pre-requisite coursework of the school you are applying to
- ❑ **Understand the non-coursework requirements**
- ❑ Fully understand the school's admissions process
- ❑ **Speak to (and visit) the school**
- ❑ Do your due diligence to make sure it's the right school for you

Summary of Course Prerequisites:

[illegible]

OOPS...

#1 REASON FOR DENIAL

Applicants apply to schools they are not Qualified for.

#2 REASON FOR DENIAL

Applicants do not read or follow directions.

Student Debt & Financial Literacy



Student debt / Financial Literacy



Student debt / Financial Literacy

A white circle with an orange outline, connected by a blue curved line to the list below.

Going Into Vet School

- Understanding Cost of Attendance vs. Tuition
- Understanding Financial Aid (Four things...)

Student debt / Financial Literacy

- Traveling with pets & nasty habits



During Vet School

- Managing your money

Student debt / Financial Literacy

- Average debt \$135,000
- Repayment plans



After Vet School



The Veterinary Medical College Application Service (VMCAS)



PLAYGROUND



Tony Wynne

CAS ID: 4362442230

Sign Out

My Application

This dashboard is your application home providing access to each part of the application you need to complete and a high level overview of your progress.

My Program Selections 2

HAVE UPCOMING DEADLINES

0

READY TO SUBMIT

0

Manage My Programs

Latest Notifications

VMCAS Playground application – Welcome! [Last week](#)

View My Notifications

Personal Information



0/6
Sections Completed

Academic History



2/3
Sections Completed

Supporting Information



0/5
Sections Completed

Program Materials



0/2
Sections Completed

The VMCAS 2018 Timeline

VMCAS
Launch

May 2017

**Start School
Fall - 2018**

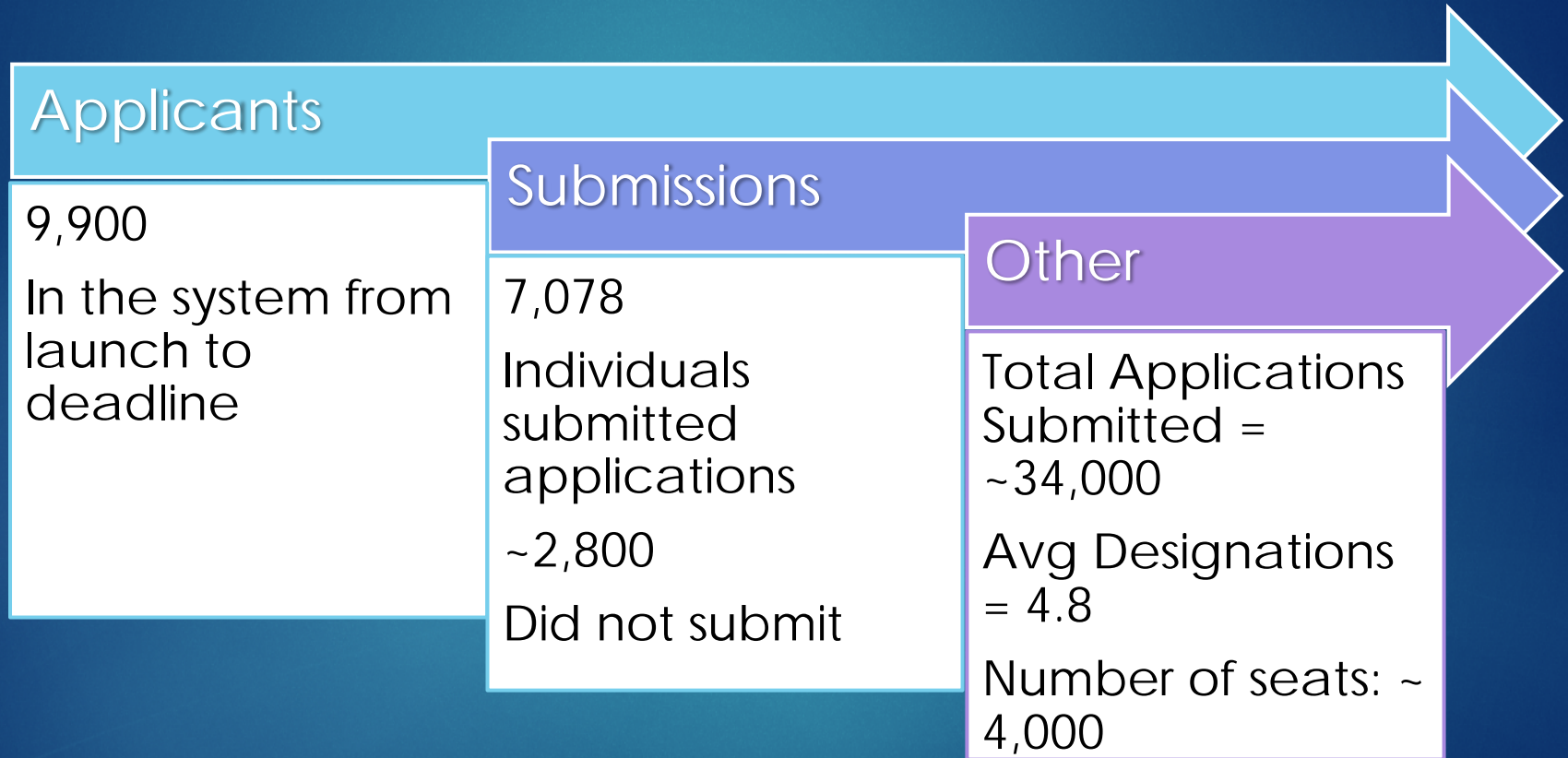
Offer
Letters

Feb – Apr:
2018

VMCAS
Deadline

September 15,
2017 @ 12
Midnight, ET

The VMCAS 201 Statistics



Obstacles

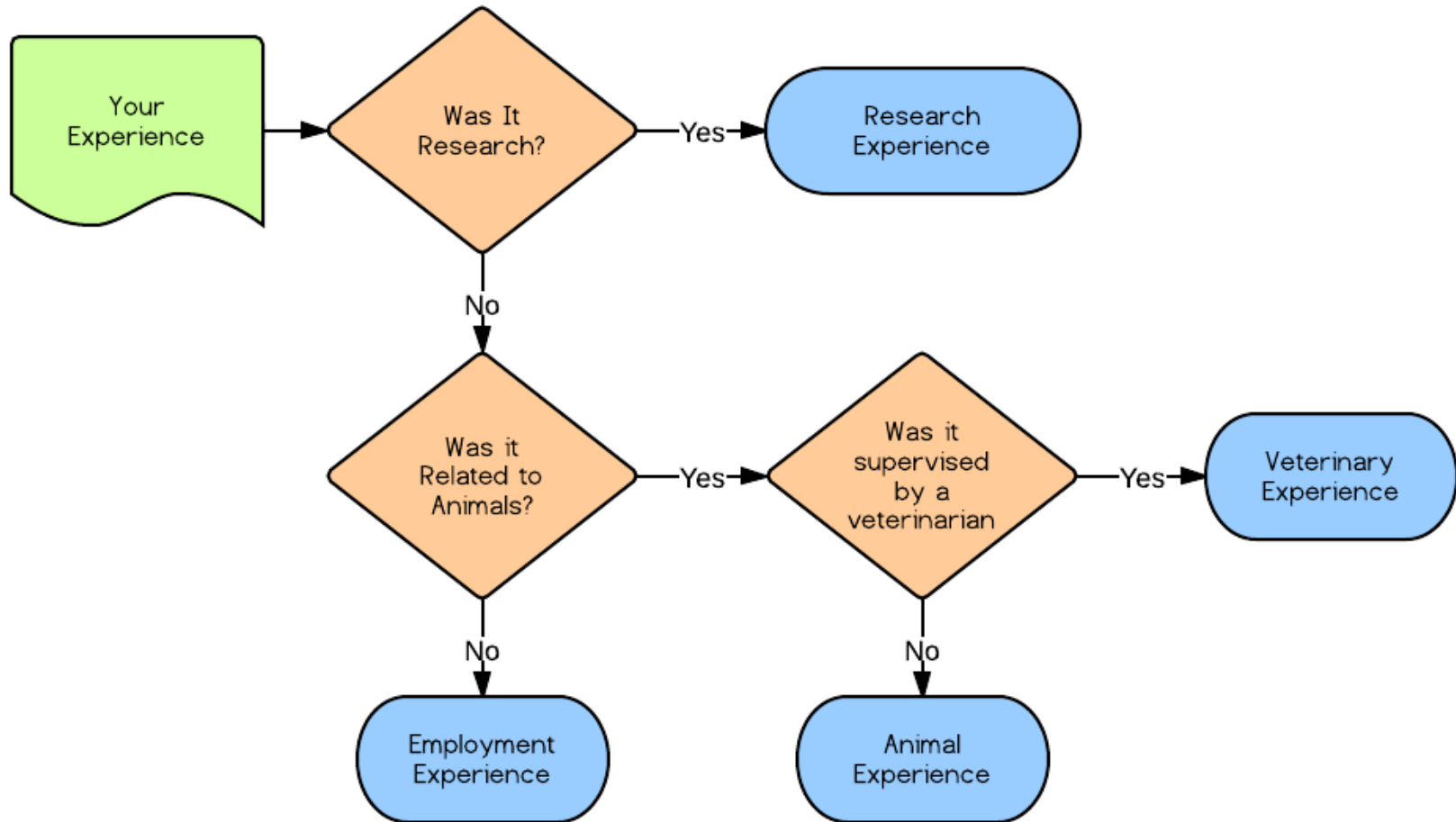


Let's talk about the most common submission obstacles....

Time Management

- ❑ Starting your VMCAS application early and submitting early (by August) is CRITICAL!
- ❑ Application Verification can take up to two-weeks
- ❑ Your goal should be to have a “verified” application by the Deadline... NOT to SUBMIT by the deadline!

Experiences



Avoid the I.D.N.K Obstacle

- ❑ The I Did Not Know (IDNK) obstacle to application submission doesn't sit well with veterinary schools and is rarely looked upon favorably.
- ❑ All the information you need is out there!!

Personal Statement



1. There are many career choices within the veterinary profession. What are your future career goals and why?
2. In what ways do veterinarians contribute to society and what do you hope to contribute?
3. Considering the breadth of society we serve as veterinarians today; what attributes do you believe are essential to be successful within the veterinary profession? Of these attributes, which do you possess and how have you demonstrated these in the past?

Resources



<http://aavmc.org/vses.aspx>

Resources

- AAVMC Website: <http://aavmc.org/>
 - VMCAS Knowledgebase:
<http://vmcas.freshdesk.com>
- VetSchool Student Engagement System:
<http://aavmc.org/vses.aspx>
 - VMCAS Webinars:
<http://aavmc.org/webinars.aspx>
 - Tony Wynne's email:
twynne@aavmc.org

VMCAS

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THANK YOU!!

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS