

Food Animal Veterinary Incentive Program

~ Postmark Deadline is February 15~

The University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences along with the College of Veterinary Medicine have introduced the Food Animal Veterinary Incentive Program (Food Animal VIP) to provide a continuous supply of veterinary graduates for the food animal industry. All over the nation, a shortage of veterinarians to care for food animals has emerged.

- not enough veterinary students are training to work with dairy cows, beef cattle, swine, poultry, sheep, and goats
- rural areas need veterinarians
- food industry positions are hard to fill
- federal and state agencies need more veterinarians to protect the livestock industry from new disease threats and to help ensure food safety

Food Animal VIP is a specialized program for students interested in food animal veterinary medicine. Successful completion of this program will result in acceptance to the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine. If you are thinking about a career in **food-animal veterinary medicine**, this program allows you to:

- receive an admission decision from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine before enrolling as a first-year undergraduate student
- have the option of allowing your undergraduate G.P.A. or the Graduate Records Exam (G.R.E.) used when applying to the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine
- participate in special summer independent studies, research opportunities, and internships
- benefit from mentorships with College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and College of Veterinary Medicine faculty and students while you complete your undergraduate coursework
- qualify for scholarships

Who is eligible?

Any incoming first-year Georgia resident studying animal science, avian biology, dairy science, or poultry science in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences is eligible to apply.

Complete this application and supply a copy of your high school transcript along with two (2) letters of support to be considered for the program. One letter should be from a practicing veterinarian. Acceptance is competitive and applicants must document an outstanding academic record and a strong interest in food animal medicine. Continued academic excellence and interest in food animal medicine is required.

Examples of professional veterinary service to animal agriculture include private food animal practitioners, mixed animal private practitioners (with at least half of the practice being with food animals/animal agriculture), veterinarians working in corporate agribusiness, technical service veterinarians working with animal health industries, pathologists working in diagnostic laboratories, food animal veterinarians on university faculties, and veterinarians in public practice such as veterinary medical officers employed by state or federal governments.

Food Animal VIP Application

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- 1) Complete this application in its entirety (contact information along with questions 1 through 5)
- 2) Sign and date this application
- 3) Include a copy of your high school transcript
- 4) Provide two unopened letters of support. One must be from a practicing veterinarian.

Applicant's Name: SS#: XXX-XX-

Address: City:

State: Zip: County:

Primary Phone: Secondary Phone:

Email Address:

Parents' Names and Title:

Birthdate: College Major:

1. Please provide a statement of your interest in food animal medicine: No more than 200 words.

2. Please provide a personal statement for the committee to know you better. No more than 200 words.

6. Provide two (2) unopened letters of support. One must be from a practicing veterinarian. References must mail their letters directly to Food Animal VIP, CAES Academic Affairs, University of Georgia, 102 Conner Hall, Athens, GA, 30602-7502 and be postmarked by February 15.

Please list those who will be providing your letters of reference below:

Name of Practicing Veterinarian:

Name of Business:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Name of Second Reference:

Name of Business:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Sign and date your application stating that you have read the program requirements found online at <http://www.caes.uga.edu/academics/FoodAnimalVIP.html> and if selected agree to these terms.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Finalists will be invited to the University of Georgia Athens campus to interview prior to March 1.

**Submit Applications to:
Food Animal VIP
c/o CAES Academic Affairs
The University of Georgia
102 Conner Hall
Athens, GA 30602-7502**

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