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Congratulations and Welcome to WIMU at USU

We are all excited that you have chosen to accept a position within the Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah (WIMU) Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine! The following information is an overview intended to facilitate your transition to both USU and into our veterinary program. Our hope is that you will find this information useful for your preparations.

WSU General and USU Specific Information

Over the summer you may receive information from both Washington State University (WSU) College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and Utah State University (USU) CVM concerning activities and plans for the coming semester/year. Please be aware that at times this information may provide what appears to be conflicting information because we are integrating two different systems and trying to provide as much constructive guidance to all students across the WIMU program.

In general, the WSU CVM broad-based messages are relevant for all students. However, information specific to attending USU should be obtained from this packet or the USU CVM student website. For instance, anything related to your course registration at USU, USU Orientation Week, or class materials and offerings should come specifically from the USU CVM. Please do not purchase course materials through WSU for courses here at USU. Please also follow the USU CVM Orientation Week Agenda provided in this document or through links on the USU CVM website, and not the orientation plan listed for WSU students. If you have questions, please reach out to the USU CVM Office of Student Services first for assistance as individuals in the Office of Student Services at WSU may not know the policies or procedures impacting students in the Logan cohort.

The Office of Student Services
The Office of Student Services at both USU and WSU are here to assist you through your entire program. We work collectively to help you become the best veterinarian possible through your entire educational experience at both institutions. Please feel free to contact us as needed, and we will do our best to assist you.

Contact Information:

Utah State University College of Veterinary Medicine
4815 Old Main Hill
Logan, Utah 84322

Dr. Dirk Vanderwall
Interim Dean
dirk.vanderwall@usu.edu
(435) 797-1002

Dr. Ralph Meyer
Department Head
ralph.meyer@usu.edu
(435) 797-1774

Michael Bishop
Director of Students
michael.s.bishop@usu.edu
AGRS 242
(435) 797-1774

Amanda Willett
Director of Wellness
amanda.willett@usu.edu
VSB 131
(435) 797-1002

Sue McCormick
Financial Officer
sue.mccormick@usu.edu
VSB 223
(435) 797-1750
Welcome to the Class of 2027

Congratulations on being accepted into the Washington-Idaho-Montana-Utah (WIMU) Regional Program in Veterinary Medicine! It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the Class of 2027. The faculty and staff at Utah State University (USU) are passionate about the DVM education program and are looking forward to welcoming you to the School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) in August. As the tenth class to start their veterinary education at USU, you will have a unique opportunity to help us continue to shape the WIMU regional program and further develop the USU SVM. We trust that you are enthusiastic about the opportunities offered by the joint WIMU Regional Program in veterinary medicine. The faculties at the participating universities are committed to providing you with a great educational experience. We believe that this program offers the best of two world-class universities. At USU, you have a small class size that facilitates extensive interaction with the faculty, and you have access to excellent farm facilities for hands-on clinical activities. At WSU, you will receive your clinical training in one of the best-equipped teaching hospitals in the world and will have the opportunity to learn from distinguished clinical faculty.

Orientation for new students will begin on Monday, August 14, 2023, with USU CVM orientation on the USU campus in Logan, UT. The week will be spent in Logan, UT participating in the Aggie Wellness Experience (A.W.E.) and other orientation activities. In addition to providing a valuable start to your veterinary education, this will be an opportunity for you to get to know your classmates. The activities with WSU will conclude with the White Coat Ceremony, which will be held Thursday, August 17th. The White Coat Ceremony provides an opportunity to reflect on values that are key to our profession and includes an induction into Veterinary Medical School, whereupon each student is cloaked with a laboratory jacket donated by the Washington, Idaho, Montana, or Utah Veterinary Medical Association. Family and significant others are invited to attend the White Coat Ceremony in Logan, UT. However, we understand that it may be difficult and expensive for many families to attend the ceremony. Consequently, the ceremony will be livestreamed on-line (and recorded), so that individuals who are unable to attend will be able to view it in real-time or watch it at a later date.

Classes will start at 8:30 AM on Monday, August 21st. The USU CVM follows the WSU academic calendar and class times to allow for joint distance education courses. If you have questions about anything you need to do in preparation for starting veterinary school or need help with arrangements for moving to Logan, please feel free to contact Mr. Michael Bishop, our Director of Students at 435- 797-8786 or michael.s.bishop@usu.edu.

I look forward to getting to know you in August. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Dirk K. Vanderwall, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ACT Interim
Dean, USU SVM
Welcome and congratulations to your acceptance into the USU School of Veterinary Medicine (WIMU)!

All of us - our current veterinary students, staff and faculty - are excited to have you here in Logan very soon and look forward to working with you. Your success is our mission, and despite the prospect of the coming summer break, we are already very busy preparing for your arrival to get you started and to make the first days of orientation as pleasant and meaningful experience for you as possible.

Despite your being in Logan for only half of your veterinary curriculum, we all here at USU would like to create a life-long, mutually beneficial relationship with you as a professional. We think that this relationship starts on the day you start school.

To this end, we have compiled this information packet, which has also a “to-do” list in it because we have some tasks to ask of you before you get here. It is very important that you carefully read through the materials and complete all of the requested items to make sure everything is taken care of in time before you arrive at USU. Some of the dates and deadlines indicate a specific starting date, for instance the registration beginning July 1. Please respect those and do not try to get them done ahead of time because that has created certain technical problems in the past.

If you have any questions about items on the list of things to do over the summer or any problems we can help with, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Bishop or myself (ralph.meyer@usu.edu, phone: (435) 797-1774). We are glad to help however we can.

Serving as the Department Head for the College of Veterinary Medicine at USU, my work is dedicated to overseeing the day-to-day operations of school and ensuring that you can benefit from the curriculum as much and as effectively as possible. We have a truly student-centered program and strive to continually improve it. Therefore, I would like to hear your feedback at all times while we have you here with us, and of course, in the years beyond school.

I am looking forward to meeting you and hope you will have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Ralph G. Meyer, PhD., Dept. Head, USU CVM (WIMU)
Dear Class of 2027,

I have already had the opportunity and pleasure to meet some of you, and I look forward to meeting the rest of you when you arrive for orientation on Monday, August 14th. My role as the Director of Student Services is to help with all the logistics and operations pertaining to your educational experience here at Utah State University. However, the most significant role I play is in supporting you in becoming the best veterinarian possible.

One of the ways that I/we do this is by fostering and encouraging a culture of professionalism, caring, and support. Because of the small class size, you will have the opportunity to know all your fellow classmates very well. This same opportunity exists with the faculty and staff that teach and support you in this program. There are nearly 30 faculty and staff who work with you during your two-year stint at USU; which is approximately a 2:1 student to faculty/staff ratio when considering both classes of students and all our faculty and staff. The camaraderie that exists between and among students and faculty, has led many of our past students to refer to the atmosphere within our program as being very “family like”. I invite you to fully participate in this culture and experience.

As you begin this part of your journey towards becoming a veterinarian, there are a few perspectives I would like you to consider:

I. Your professional training begins on day one. This training is not limited to the development of clinical knowledge and technical expertise, but extends into other qualities such as attitude, communication skills, the ability to develop and maintain relationships, and the ability to manage stress and stressful situations well.

II. Begin working now on your vision of your future self. Clarify in your mind, the quality and type of veterinarian you want to become and begin putting the pieces together while in school.

III. The veterinary community is a small one. Get to know your classmates and faculty personally and be good to one another. One day, these same individuals will be your colleagues, associates, collaborators, and even potentially your employer.

IV. Get involved and get fully engaged. Do not be an educational tourist. Commit to being present at every class. Be an active learner and participant by asking questions and being prepared. Be a part of your student body or become active in one or more of the many clubs.

This is an exciting part of your career development, and many amazing experiences are waiting here for you to enjoy. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer, and I look forward to your start here this August.

All my best,

Michael S. Bishop
Director of Students
Dear class of 2027,

Welcome and congratulations to your acceptance into the USU College of Veterinary Medicine! It took a lot of hard work for you to get here and I am happy you are joining us at USU for your first 2 years of this journey to becoming a veterinarian! I look forward to getting to know each of you in the upcoming academic year.

As some of you may know, the field of veterinary medicine is facing a mental health crisis, but that is why I am here! Luckily, USU CVM values students’ holistic wellbeing and prioritizes supporting your mental health before you enter the field so that you may all thrive as veterinarians. As my role as the Director of Wellness for the College of Veterinary Medicine, I am here to support your mental health, academic distress, and wellbeing needs. I provide individual and couples counseling (and counseling for your partners), skills coaching, mental health consultation, facilitating workshops, a listening ear, someone to vent to, and anything else related to overall wellness, and all my services are confidential.

We will get the opportunity to know each other better during the Aggie Wellness Experience (AWE) at orientation week and throughout the academic year, which has been designed to provide your class with support, a sense of community, and skill development.

I am really excited to get to know and work with all of you! I look forward to collaborating with you all as students and the department to best support your needs and I welcome any suggestions, comments, or concerns on how to do that. More information can be found on the wellness page on the internal student access website (wellness page) and it contains many resources for you all to use, in addition to my support.

Enjoy your summer!

Kind regards,

Amanda Willett

Amanda Willett, CSW, MPH
Director of Wellness, SVM
Dear Class of 2027,

Welcome to the WIMU Veterinary Medicine Program at Utah State University! Your acceptance is more than into school – you are now a professional starting an entirely new chapter in your life. Your dedication to this program and the veterinary field has been recognized, and we, the class of 2026, urge you to continue bringing that to the table because your journey starts now.

Here you are! Those butterflies in your stomach are nerves, yes, but also a sign to welcome the person you are to become in the next four years. The class of 2026 has some advice as we too have changed: While you have been warned about the difficulties which lie ahead, you should know everyone you encounter wishes only for your success and will aid you in every way they can. Bring all that you have, but don’t neglect what you love as you find your rhythm. We will never tell you nor should you believe that being a veterinary student defines you. Make time for your hobbies or find new ones. Get involved in clubs, organizations, or the class office. Our point is to take this bull by the horns and make the best of it! It will be a challenge, however, well worth it.

As you receive a billion emails, pamphlets, and packets, remember you are not alone in this transition. We are here for you, and you are here for each other. Be willing to contact your cohort members and ours for anything you might need. Your networking will only increase your opportunities for exogenous learning and developing lifelong relationships! As all of you do so, your cohort will flourish.

We are very proud of you for making it here, and we look forward to meeting you soon!

Best wishes,

Class of 2026
Dear Class of 2027,

We are so proud of your acceptance into the WIMU USU Veterinary Medicine Program – and you should be too! You have worked hard to be where you are today and that’s something that should be celebrated. As a member of the Class of 2026, we hope you remember that you were selected for a reason and have something special to add to this program. Each of you will bring different ideas and talents to your cohort.

Keep an open mind and support each other throughout your years together.

We encourage you to participate in extracurricular opportunities, as that’s where the true learning starts! There are amazing possibilities to apply your education throughout the year. Join clubs to help build unity throughout your class and get hands-on learning experiences. Be willing to leave your comfort zone and make connections with each other, as your cohort is full of outstanding people who will be your peers and colleagues for the rest of your career. You can learn just as much from your own classmates as you can from the professors.

However, you must not forget to have fun! Please make time for the things you love to do, as they will keep you sane. Don’t just throw out your hobbies because you’re busy. Embrace them. Even though you will be a veterinary student – which may seem to define you at times – it is not your identity. Your identity is made up of your beliefs, dreams, hobbies, interests, and so much more! Join intramural sports, create art, meditate, exercise, and really embrace this wonderful period of time in your life.

Finally, never hesitate to reach out and ask questions to us second years through the year. All of us are more than willing to help you on your journey to a DVM! There are degrees for us all at the end of these four years, so it’s in everyone’s best interest to collaborate. The faculty and staff are also wonderful resources if you need anything. We know they genuinely wish to see you succeed and will help you anyway they can.

We look forward to meeting you this fall!

Wishing you all the best,

The Class of 2025

President: Sydney Worley
Vice President: Cole Godfrey
Secretary: Sierra Lopez
Dear Class of 2027,

Congratulations! You have all worked hard and earned your place here in the WIMU program. Believe in yourselves and that you all belong here. Take pride in what you have accomplished. Each of you probably have a lot in common, but the individual experiences, strengths, and character you each possess will be an important part of what makes your class, and our profession, strong.

We’re excited to have you join us here at the Utah State School of Veterinary Medicine! Everyone in the Class of 2024 is happy to answer your questions and help in any way we can. We’re here for you, and so are your professors. The USU faculty try hard to make themselves available, so don’t hesitate to reach out to them if you’re having trouble. Veterinary School is hard, but you are up to the challenge!

While school may take up the majority of your time, don’t forget to make time for your mental health. Exercise, meditate, keep up your hobbies, spend time with friends and family, work a shift in a clinic, etc. Do the things you love to do! School life balance is going to look a little different for everyone, but we all need it. Time invested outside your coursework will make a big difference in the quality of your life, study, and relationships.

You are surrounded by the best and brightest in your classmates. A year from now, they will be some of your closest friends. Build a strong community with them. It is no longer a competition against each other, but a fight for each other. Together you will have more success, both now and in practice. Love every moment of these next four years together because they will go by faster than you think. We’re so excited to meet you! Welcome to the family!

Class of 2024 Presidency

Henry Clinger - President
Brynne Udy - Vice President
Sarah Bayles - Secretary
Macie Tanaka – Treasurer
**Academic Calendar: Fall Semester 2023**

The USU CVM follows the WSU academic calendar and bell schedule, not the USU general academic calendar, nor the USU bell schedule. The reason for doing this is to align our academic schedules and courses throughout the WIMU program’s various time zones and sites so that the opportunity for interactive video conferencing between specific classes and club events can occur. The following illustrates the differences between the USU/WSU calendar and the USU general academic calendar. Please remember to use the CVM academic calendar posted on the USU CVM student website as your guide, and **not the USU academic calendar posted in Banner**.

**Calendar:**

<table>
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<th>USU General 70 instructional days, 5 test days</th>
<th>School of Vet Med 73 instructional days, 5 test days</th>
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<td>Orientation &amp; A.W.E. Week</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mon-Fri, Aug. 14 -18</td>
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<td>Classes Begin</td>
<td>Monday, Aug. 28</td>
<td>Monday, Aug. 21</td>
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<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>Monday, Sep. 04</td>
<td>Monday, Sep. 04</td>
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<td>Fall Break</td>
<td>Friday, Oct. 20</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Challenge I</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mon-Fri, Oct. 9-13</td>
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<td>(YR2 Students - Historically takes place on the USU campus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterans Day</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Friday, Nov. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Challenge II</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Mon-Fri, Nov. 13-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>(YR2 Students - Historically takes place on the WSU campus)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td>W-F, Nov. 22-24</td>
<td>Mon-Fri, Nov. 20-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of Instruction</td>
<td>Friday, Dec. 8</td>
<td>Friday, Dec. 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Examinations</td>
<td>M-F, Dec. 11-15</td>
<td>M-F, Dec. 11-15</td>
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<td>Grades Due</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec 19</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec 19</td>
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**Introductory Information**

**Important Date: June 15, 2023**

**A-Number/A#:**

After matriculation into the USU CVM program, you will be assigned an A-Number. An “A#” is your student identification number for USU. You will also be assigned a WSU student identification number which is referred to as an ‘NID’. You will use your A# to sign into most platforms that you will use at USU: Banner, Canvas, MyUSU, and the Student Internal Website. All students have currently been matriculated into the program here at USU. If you have any issues with registration or accessing materials, please contact the USU Office of Student Services as WSU will not be able to assist you with this.

If you do not know your A#, go to [https://myid.usu.edu](https://myid.usu.edu) and click “I don’t know my A#”. Enter your preferred email (the one used on your VMCAS application) or phone number, and sign in. If you do not know your password, click “I don’t know my password” to create/reset the password.

If you do not receive your A# via your preferred email or phone number, or cannot set a password, please call the IT Service Desk at 435-797-HELP (4357) or submit a photo ID displaying your full name at [https://passwordreset.usu.edu](https://passwordreset.usu.edu). If you have further questions or need assistance, you may also contact Michael Bishop at the number listed in the directory section of this document.

**Website:**

The vetmed.usu.edu website has resources for you to access. Our main website will be under construction throughout the summer, which includes a substantial revision to layout and function of the site. As functionality changes, we will send you updates. Currently, you can access the most relevant student information by going to the Current Students page: [https://vetmed.usu.edu/students/index](https://vetmed.usu.edu/students/index). Please get familiar with the content and features of this section. You will be expected to use them throughout your time here at USU. There is one section devoted to incoming students: [https://vetmed.usu.edu/future-students/incoming-students](https://vetmed.usu.edu/future-students/incoming-students). Please review the materials on these pages in conjunction with this packet. WSU also has an internal student website. You will receive instructions over the summer on how to access this part of the website and we will dedicate a portion of orientation week to ensure you all have the needed credentials to access materials at WSU.

**Short Biography and Picture:**

Submit a short biography and a portrait picture of yourself by June 15 at [Class of 2027 Bio and Photo](#). This will be posted as your biography on the USU CVM internal website and used to match you in the Big/Little program. Your portrait is also used to create a class roster that is shared with the faculty so that they can begin learning your names and faces over the summer.

**Class of 2027 Communications:**

Because group interactions and communication preferences are changing so much, we are no longer going to organize a ‘class Facebook’ page for your cohort. Instead, we have created an email listserv specific for each class that can be used by students to communicate items and events of a personal nature. The listserv for your class is: [usucvm_students_2027@lists.usu.edu](mailto:usucvm_students_2027@lists.usu.edu). You have already been sent an invitation to join the group via your preferred personal email. Your class is welcome to use other organizing tools as it sees fit (Messenger, Facebook, Slack, etc). You will also be invited to join the “USU SVM Students” Facebook group as a means of communication *between* all classes. This is where you can chat with your classmates to get to know each other, organize a time to hang out, find housing and roommates, or share study materials. On this page you
can ask questions to current students about housing and buying used items from previous classes. There is also a public “USU SVM” Facebook page that we encourage you to like and share with your friends and family so that they can stay informed about different experiences you are having in school and about upcoming public events.

After being matriculated, you will be assigned both a USU and a WSU email account. In most cases the USU account will look like: <your A#>@usu.edu, and the WSU email will look like: <firstname.lastname>@wsu.edu. The USU email will eventually become the USU Program's primary, if not only, means for contacting you individually. It is recommended to alias these accounts to your preferred email account, as opposed to checking multiple email accounts. Until you do this, please check your accounts periodically over the summer for possible updates. If you do not know your WSU email account, you can call (509) 335-0101. For help with your USU email address or other technical issues related to your USU CVM account, please call (435) 797-0172.

FAFSA:

It is recommended that you submit your FAFSA as soon as possible. Access to financial aid in the form of student loans is tied to your submission of a FAFSA, matriculation, and registration. When completing your FAFSA, select USU (school code 003677) as the receiving institution for years 1 and 2 of the program and WSU for years 3 and 4. It generally takes 5-7 business days for your FAFSA to be received by USU. Once you are matriculated and then register for courses (which you will do starting no sooner than June 1), the process for having your loans activated is somewhat automatic. USU does not have access to FAFSA’s submitted to WSU.

FINANCIAL AID:

If you would like to speak to your financial aid counselor, contact Sophara Tieng at sophara.tieng@usu.edu or call her at 435-797-0335. Ms. Tieng is the FA counselor assigned to all veterinary students. Additional information can be found at: http://www.usu.edu/financialaid/.

For out-of-state students using financial aid to pay for your schooling, the federal loan offered by completing your FAFSA will not meet the full projected cost of your education and living expenses. You will need to apply for additional Health Professions Student Loans (e.g. Graduate Plus Loans). Instructions can be found at the link below.
1. Go to https://www.usu.edu/financialaid/aid/loans/index
2. Be sure that you have submitted your FAFSA to USU. The school code for USU is 003677. USU does not have access to FAFSA’s submitted to WSU. In years, 3 and 4 of the program, you will submit your FAFSA to WSU.
3. If this is your first time taking out a student loan, ‘Entrance Loan Counseling’ is required, and a ‘Master Promissory Note’ must also be signed. These can be done online. Check the financial aid link provided above for instructions on how to complete these steps.

Math Packet:

You will be sent a veterinary medical math and dosing calculations packet during the summer to review. This packet is to help you refresh and prepare for a mandatory math test that every student will take during the first week of classes in the Fall. If you do not pass this test with a score of 90% or higher you will automatically be enrolled into an online veterinary medical math course.
Registration Information

Important Date: June 1, 2023

You will be able to register for courses starting June 1, 2023. You should register for your courses no later than August 10, especially if you will be receiving financial aid loans. All course registration is done online at http://usu.edu/myusu/. You only need to register once through the Utah State University system. Do not concern yourself with Washington State University course registration. Additionally, you will only be registering for courses with the VM suffix, NOT any cross listed ADVS courses.

Steps for Course Registration:
If you know your A-Number and password, sign in at https://my.usu.edu/ and skip to step 4. Otherwise,

1. Go to https://myid.usu.edu
   a. Click “I don’t know my A-Number” and enter your preferred email*.
   b. Click “I don’t know my password” to create/reset the password.
2. Sign in using your A-Number and password.
3. Click “MyUSU” at the top right of the page.
4. Click to expand “Banner” under “Quicklinks” and “Launchpad” on the left-hand column.
5. Click “Add/Drop Classes.”
6. Click “Register for Classes.”
7. Select “Fall 2022.”
8. Enter the following course codes (e.g. VM7500) into the “Subject and Course Number” bar and register for the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VM7500</td>
<td>Animals, Society, and the Veterinarian</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VM7510</td>
<td>Veterinary Microscopic Anatomy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VM7511</td>
<td>Veterinary Anatomy I</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VM7519</td>
<td>Veterinary Physiology I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VM7568</td>
<td>Animal Handling and Ag. Animal Orientation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VM7586</td>
<td>Principles of Surgery (either section is ok)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VM7598</td>
<td>Introduction to Clinics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After registering, you should be enrolled in 18 course credits. All Logan based students take the same core courses at the same time, and in the same locations. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are fully registered for the correct courses. Course codes all begin with VM not ADVS.

Some elective courses will be offered. They will be open for registration at the beginning of the semester, after the electives have been presented to you at orientation. Electives are taken for your own edification in years 1-3, and do not count towards the completion of your degree. However, some electives may be tied to certificate or research programs and are needed to complete the requirements for those programs. More information will be provided at orientation.
Course Schedules:

The course schedule listed in Banner, in many cases, is not a reflection of what your actual schedule will be. This is because times are submitted to USU Scheduling as generic placeholders that allow us to reserve space and resources, then manipulate them as needed. This becomes very necessary and apparent as you transition into your second-year courses where every day and week are different due to a rotating schedule and alignment with WSU’s schedule. You can view past course schedules and academic calendars on the USU CVM website under the “Current Student” section: https://vetmed.usu.edu/internal/students/schedules.

It is highly recommended that you do not print a hard copy of this schedule to manage your personal calendars. Instead, access the USU CVM website and view your course schedule online as this document is dynamic and does get modified throughout the semester.

Course Fees:

There are some custom course materials that you will be required to purchase through the USU CVM. For example, the surgical kit used this Fall must be purchased through the USU CVM. However, you may opt to purchase other required materials such as dissection kits, coveralls, and boots through local vendors or other sources such as Amazon or second year students who may be reselling theirs. Refer to Banner for textbook requirements for specific classes.

You will be expected to have paid for your custom course materials prior to orientation via the PayPal link on the ‘Incoming Student’ webpage on the USU CVM student website. The cost for your surgical pack will be approximately $65 (actual cost varies each year as material costs change). Bring your receipt with you on the first day.

Tuition and Fees:

You do not have to concern yourself with paying your tuition at this time. More information will be provided by the USU Financial Aid Office during the week of Orientation. Below is an outline of the previous year’s (2023/24) tuition and fees which may be increased based on the Washington State legislative session which occurs over the summer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Costs</th>
<th>Utah Residents:</th>
<th>$26,774</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition:</td>
<td>Non-Residents (Full Tuition):</td>
<td>$62,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-Residents (After Waiver)(^1):</td>
<td>$50,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Body Fees:</td>
<td>All Students:</td>
<td>$917.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Health Insurance(^2):</td>
<td>Annual Rate (2022/23):</td>
<td>$2,397</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\)Non-resident students automatically receive an $11,750/year ($5,875/semester) tuition waiver.

\(^2\)Health insurance is mandatory for students in the veterinary program. See next page for details.
Final Transcript

Due by August 1, 2023

Submit final transcripts to WSU Office of Student Services:

Office of Student Services  
College of Veterinary Medicine  
PO Box 647012  
Washington State University  
Pullman, WA 99164-7012
USU CVM Incoming Student Orientation and Aggie Wellness Experience (A.W.E.)

Important Date: August 14 - 18, 2023 – Orientation and A.W.E. at USU.

The USU CVM Incoming Student Orientation provides a means for you to become more familiar with the USU campus, the USU School of Veterinary Medicine, the faculty/staff, and your fellow classmates. It is also a time to help you finish all of the necessary preparations before classes officially start, as well as, help you prepare for your A.W.E. experience. This is considered to be your first official day of the program. Both, the USU SVM Orientation and A.W.E. are required parts of the program. The anticipated schedule for the weeklong event can be found at Orientation 2022 Agenda. Historically, the Cougar Orientation and Leadership Experience, or C.O.L.E., portion of orientation has been an off-site retreat designed to promote leadership, wellness, and team building skills among the WIMU incoming veterinary medicine students. This year, we have changed part of the experience and have renamed it to be A.W.E. The experience will be held at USU and will focus on helping you build community among your cohort, with the members of the second-year class, and SVM faculty and staff. There will also be an opportunity for your significant others to participate and become familiar with the SVM program and community. Additionally, we are excited that this year will be the first year that the A.W.E. program will extend beyond orientation week and include monthly lunch meetings to continue to build strong connections and provide skills to be a thriving student and future professional. You will obtain the bulk of your information about A.W.E. via email from the USU SVM Office of Student Services and viewing the agenda at Orientation 2022 Agenda.

White Coat Ceremony

Important Date: August 17, 2023

The White Coat Ceremony, established by Dr. Arnold Gold at Columbia University Medical School in 1993, was designed to impress upon students, physicians and the public the important symbolic role of the white coat in patient-doctor interactions. Gold argued that students were reciting the Hippocratic Oath four years too late upon their graduation from medical school. He felt the oath and the conferring of white coats would be better done at the start of medical school, when students receive their first exposure to clinical medicine. The White Coat Ceremony provides a mechanism by which values that are key to the profession can be openly articulated and carefully considered in the company of peers, parents, partners and faculty. The College of Veterinary Medicine has sincerely embraced the spirit of this exercise since first introduced at Washington State University in 1999 with the class of 2003.
Through your involvement in this meaningful ritual at the beginning of veterinary school, student-veterinarians become more aware of their professional responsibilities. The ceremony is meant to impress upon you the primacy of the veterinarian-patient-client relationship. It encourages you to accept the obligations inherent in the practice of veterinary medicine; to be excellent in science, compassionate, and lead lives of uprightness and honor. It emphasizes for students the veterinarian’s responsibility to take care of patients and also to care for patients. The message conveyed is that veterinarians should care as well as cure.

The White Coat Portion of Orientation week will take place on Thursday, August 17 at 3:30pm MT. It will be a live and simulcast experience between USU and WSU. Your family is welcome to participate in this event on the USU campus. Those of your family and friends who are unable to travel will be able to watch a live broadcast of the event. Details will be provided over the summer and also during orientation. Immediately following the White Coat Ceremony at USU, we will hold a dinner event for students, faculty/staff, and attendees. Please limit attendees to five (5) family or friends for the dinner. We will take a head count later in the summer for planning purposes.

Health Insurance

Due by August 21, 2023

Students at the Logan site are expected to maintain an adequate level of health insurance coverage while participating in the WIMU Program. Students may waive the USU Student Health Insurance Plan if they can prove that their current health insurance meets the minimum level of coverage. For more information, visit the Student Health Center website at http://usu.edu/health/. Please contact Katelyn Richins at katelyn.richins@usu.edu if you have questions about the mandatory health insurance requirement.

Please note that the USU Student Health Insurance plan does cover the cost of the required rabies vaccination series, and that most other health insurance plans will not cover this. The cost of the rabies two or three-shot series varies from $700-$1100, if paid out of pocket.

1. All students will be initially billed for the USU Student Health Insurance.
2. Students will need to complete the Health Insurance Waiver/Enrollment Form, to have the fee removed, or to enroll.
3. The insurance charge on your USU Bursar’s Bill will be removed upon proof of adequate coverage. Send a copy of your insurance plan or insurance card that indicate your plan limits to Katelyn Richins at katelyn.richins@usu.edu. Indicate that you are an entering veterinary student on your correspondences.
Proof of Immunizations:
The Utah State University College of Veterinary Medicine requires all students to be vaccinated against rabies. Pre-exposure rabies vaccination involves intramuscular injection of two doses of rabies vaccine; one injection per day on days 0, and 7. If your practitioner still recommends the three-shot series, the third dose will be typically given on day 21. Students are required to be fully vaccinated for rabies by the end of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Proof of rabies vaccination should be emailed to the OSS coordinator or hand delivered to the Office of Student Services. Students not completing the rabies vaccination series will not be allowed to register for spring courses.

Utah State University also requires proof of immunization against the following conditions:

### Required Immunizations
- Tdap – series and current booster
- MMR – 2 doses
- Polio – 3 doses
- Varicella – immunity or record of illness
- TB Skin – Test after foreign travel or residence > 8 wks

### Suggested Immunizations (Not Required)
- Hepatitis B – 3 dose series
- Hepatitis A – 2 dose series
- Meningitis – 1 dose every 10 years
- Influenza – annual vaccination
- HPV – 3 dose series

This proof may be provided to the University through the secure server at [https://health.usu.edu/immunizations](https://health.usu.edu/immunizations). You will need your A-Number, USU password, and date of birth to enter the site.

**First Day of Class (8:10am at South Farm)**

**Important Date: August 21, 2023**

Please currently plan on being at the Hillyard Building on the South Farm Complex for face-to-face instruction the first day of courses. You will be guided during the Principles of Surgery portion of orientation on what to access and where to be for the first day of class.

**Frequently Asked Questions**
The answers to this section were provided by the Class of 2022.

**Q: What supplies do I need to purchase before school starts?**

**A:** Reach out and talk to current veterinary students about what to purchase before classes begin. Textbooks for classes are listed on Banner. Many are available at the library in a room reserved specifically for veterinary students.

- **NEEDED**
  - Stethoscope, Rubber boots, Coveralls
- **OPTIONAL BUT HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**
  - Laptop/tablet with note-taking capabilities
- **NOT NEEDED**
  - Microscope/microscope locker- these are provided by USU SVM
Q: How do I find housing in Logan?
A: Feel free to reach out to the current students through email or by posting on the “USU SVM Students” Facebook group. Many students will be moving out and will know of housing options with pet-friendly policies. Websites that students recommend for finding housing: Facebook Marketplace, Rentler.com, Apartments.com, Zillow.com, Ksl.com, ReederProperties.com, ResideRentals.com.
Craigslist is not reliable generally in this area. Some of the major apartment/townhome complexes that are pet friendly are: Bridger Pointe, Logan Landing, Twin Creek, The Falls at Riverwoods, Legacy Village (dog only, one pet maximum), Four Seasons, and Maple Valley.

Q: What are some student-recommended things to do in Logan?
A: Check in with students on the “USU SVM Students” Facebook group to hear about what activities they do in their spare time or to ask about their favorite restaurants, hiking trails, etc. If you enjoy hiking, some popular trails include the Wind Caves, Crimson trail, and the Temple Sawmill trail. The book “Cache Valley Trails” by Jim Sinclair is a great resource of all the trails in the area. People enjoy spending time at Porcupine Dam and Hyrum Reservoir in the summer.

Food/Drink: Café Ibis, Westside Coffee Co., Jitters inside Johnny O’s Donuts, Herm’s, Morty’s, Le Nonne, Crumb Brothers, Bull’s Head, El Toro Viejo, Tandoori Oven, Logan’s Heroes, The Beehive Pub & Grill, Angie’s

Q: What type of computer system and accessories do I purchase?
A: There is no one platform or system that will ideally fit all of your needs while here or at WSU. However, a laptop or pad/tablet system that you can take from course to course is highly recommended. Having software installed that will allow you to upload and use pdf documents and PowerPoint presentations is also considered necessary.
Many students use additional software to take notes on top of these types of documents. Notability and One Note are fairly popular options for PDF editing, though Preview for Mac and Draw Board for Surface Pros are also sufficient. Microsoft 360 products (Microsoft Word, Office, PowerPoint) can be obtained for free from your @wsu.edu account.
Checklist of Things to do BEFORE Orientation

- **Housing:** Check into local housing options. If you are interested in USU student housing, information can be obtained at [http://usu.edu/student-life/living/](http://usu.edu/student-life/living/). Finding off-campus housing can be the most stressful part of your preparation for vet school (especially if you are coming with your pets). Use the student Facebook pages to network, especially with the second-year students who are moving up to Pullman.

- **Financial Aid:** Go to the TSC Building room 106, or check online to make sure your financial aid is on track. Financial aid will be available after the first week of classes. Visit [http://usu.edu/finaid](http://usu.edu/finaid), for more information. If you have questions about financial aid call the Financial Aid Office at 435-797-0654.

- **Health Records and Insurance:** Login to [http://aggiehealth.usu.edu](http://aggiehealth.usu.edu) and complete the Immunizations Form. For more information visit the Student Health Center website at [http://usu.edu/health/](http://usu.edu/health/). Please contact Katelyn Richins at katelyn.richins@usu.edu if you have questions about the mandatory health insurance requirement.

- **Register for Classes:** There are three parts to the registration process at USU. Visit [http://www.usu.edu/registrar/htm/registration/](http://www.usu.edu/registrar/htm/registration/) and follow the steps. You will be able to begin registering for classes after June 1, 2022. You will need to set a password and gain access into Banner.

- **Math Packet:** Refresh your math skills by completing the math packet. All entering students will take a math skills exam their first week in the program. The math packet is a good way to gauge what you will be tested on. Students not scoring 90% or higher will be required to take a math refresher course until they are able to pass a similar exam.

- **Purchases:** Bring cash or credit/debit card to orientation, as you will have to purchase your access and ID cards. You will also need to pay for your surgery kit through PayPal prior to Orientation (see “Course Fees” under “Financial Aid, Tuition, and Fees” sections above). Once you register for classes, you will also see the material supply list associated with each course. You may want to consult a second-year student about what to buy and when.

- **Parking Permit:** If you are going to be driving to school, you may want to purchase a parking permit. Visit USU’s Parking and Transportation Services at [http://parking.usu.edu](http://parking.usu.edu). Do not park in any colored parking zone without a permit or YOU WILL GET A TICKET.

- **Banking:** There are numerous community and regional banks. You might consider establishing a local account to make the handling and transfer of funds more expedient.

- **Fun Campus Places:** Visit the Student Recreation Center and Aggie Ice Cream on campus. For more places around Logan (see the FAQ section above).

- **Bus System:** The Aggie Shuttle is FREE to the USU community. To check out the routes and times visit [http://parking.usu.edu/htm/aggie-shuttle](http://parking.usu.edu/htm/aggie-shuttle). The Cache Valley Transit District (CVTD) also provides fare free bus services throughout Cache Valley and Logan. For more information visit [https://cvtdbus.org](https://cvtdbus.org).
Information Packet for Entering Students, Class of 2027