



DO YOUR OWN NON-ACADEMIC EVALUATION OR JUST WHAT ARE THEY LOOKING FOR IN THOSE APPLICATIONS?

The results of national research, involving veterinarians considered to be successful representatives of their profession, make it clear that undergraduate academic achievement is important to success in the challenging curriculum of veterinary medicine, but being a complex, whole person is what allows a well educated person to become a great, successful veterinarian. The Admissions Committee reads applications looking to learn more about the whole person who is applying for admission.

(You can print these pages and keep some notes along the way as you move toward the time when you will write your VMCAS and UIUC applications)

1. **PERSONAL STATEMENT:** 3 Main elements = a brief paragraph on who you are, a brief paragraph on when you made your adult decision to be a veterinarian (when you realized besides animals this was a science based medical profession) and the rest of the page and a half should articulate what you have **learned** from your experiences with veterinarians, animals or research. Make notes below...

2. **UIUC ESSAY:** The question for this changes each year...but do a little research on the multitude of ways veterinarians impact society in general.

3. **VETERINARY RELATED EXPERIENCES** (*We like to see experiences with veterinarians engaged in as many different kinds of work as possible, i.e. large animal, small animal, wildlife, zoo/exotic, research, shelter medicine, etc.*)

4. **ANIMAL RELATED EXPERIENCES** (*Looking for broad experience with very diverse species of animals*)

5. **OTHER EXPERIENCES** (*Pertinent travel, business/employment, research, government, etc.*)

6. **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/CITIZENSHIP** (*Important to indicate activities of community group cited, i.e. Young Citizen's League: served the homeless on holidays, collected warm coats for disadvantaged children, etc.*)

7. **LEADERSHIP** (*Can be more than just holding an office, i.e. volunteered to design and maintain a membership service database for my fraternity.*)

8. **ENTERPRISING** (*Ex: had eight friends working for me when I delivered newspapers in high school to increase our income from the work and that experience caused me to know I would like owning a chain of clinics.*)

9. **SPECIAL RECOGNITION** (*Can be more than just academic awards...can include sports awards, junior achievement awards, music awards, a mention in the newspaper for a special effort, etc.*)

10. **UNIQUE OR SPECIAL INTERESTS** (*fluent in more than one language, owned a business, lived in a foreign country, professional animal trainer, certified in _____, nationally recognized collection of butterflies, etc.*)
