



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
The Royal (Dick) School
of Veterinary Studies

Nothing ordinary
comes from this
extraordinary place.

Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery
2024 Entry Guide



Welcome

I am delighted that you are considering the University of Edinburgh to study veterinary medicine. I hope you find this guide useful when making what is, undoubtedly, a life-changing decision.

At Edinburgh, we are committed to offering you an outstanding higher educational experience; one we believe will shape your future beyond measure. We have a responsibility to ensure we provide you with the very best.

The School of Veterinary Medicine – which celebrates 200 years of veterinary studies in 2023 – provides specialist teaching by academics who are at the forefront of their fields. Our research division is the Roslin Institute, which aims to enhance the lives of animals and humans through world-class research in animal biology.

Your educational experience at Edinburgh will be transformative. Our internationally accredited programme and diversity of learning experiences will set you apart with the latest knowledge, global perspectives, research-informed skills and well-practised expertise required for professional success.

As a future graduate, you can access a range of excellent careers and employability services. From dedicated support delivered at a local level to a broad range of internship options and the opportunity to engage with alumni

internationally, we will equip and prepare you for a global employment market.

Good luck with your preparation towards fulfilling **your** dream of studying veterinary medicine. You will be warmly welcomed as part of our family.

Our dedicated admissions team is ready to support you in your applicant journey. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us; we will do all we can to help.

I wish you every success with your studies and hope to welcome you to Edinburgh in the near future.



Professor David Argyle
Vice-Principal and Head of College
of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine





Contents

Welcome	2	Part 1
Choose us	4	
The School	6	
The University	8	
Our Campus	10	
Facilities	12	
Learning resources and support	14	
Our clinical services	15	
Your student experience	16	
Extraordinary Edinburgh	18	
Extraordinary Scotland	20	Part 2
The Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery	22	
Entry requirements	24	
Equality, diversity and inclusion	28	
Careers	29	
Application process	30	
Admissions cycle	32	
Money	34	
Other programmes	36	
Contacts	37	
Transport	38	

Choose us

The Details

Choose us

World-class facilities

Purpose-built modern campus nestled against the Pentland Hills Regional Park. Some of the highest concentration of animal science expertise in Europe.



International Leader

in veterinary education, research and practice.

Accredited Worldwide

Our accreditation allows our graduates to practise in the UK, North America, Europe, South Africa, Australasia and beyond.*

95%

of graduates in work or further study 15 months after graduation. 2022 Unistats



*additional exam may be required



Groundbreaking

Home to the renowned Roslin Institute, where Dolly the Sheep was created.

1ST
in UK for agriculture, food and veterinary science research together with SRUC (REF 2021).

**Consistently
Top-rated**

1ST
in UK for Veterinary Science
(Guardian league Tables).

1ST
in UK for Veterinary Science
(Shanghai Rankings).

2ND
in UK for Veterinary Science
(QS World Rankings).

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies was founded in 1823 by William Dick and has a 200 year history of veterinary teaching. Today we are recognised as an international leader in veterinary education, research and practice, and are consistently ranked as one of the top schools in the United Kingdom and globally.

The School is a one-of-a-kind centre of excellence in clinical activity, teaching and research. Our purpose-built campus, set against the backdrop of the beautiful Pentland Hills Regional Park, is home to more than 800 staff and almost 1,400 students, all of whom contribute to our exceptional community ethos.

The School comprises:

- The Roslin Institute
- The Hospital for Small Animals
- Equine Veterinary Services
- Farm Animal Services
- Easter Bush Pathology
- The Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education
- The Roslin Innovation Centre
- The Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Systems

We represent one of the largest concentrations of animal science-related expertise in Europe, impacting local, regional, national and international communities in terms of economic growth, the provision of clinical services and the advancement of scientific knowledge. All of these factors allow us to continue to attract the highest calibre of teaching staff, scientists and clinicians in order to foster and enhance our collaborative environment, which sustains and expands our links with partners and industry.





£300,000,000+

Has been invested in the Easter Bush Campus.

Our notable vet alumni are founders of veterinary schools in:

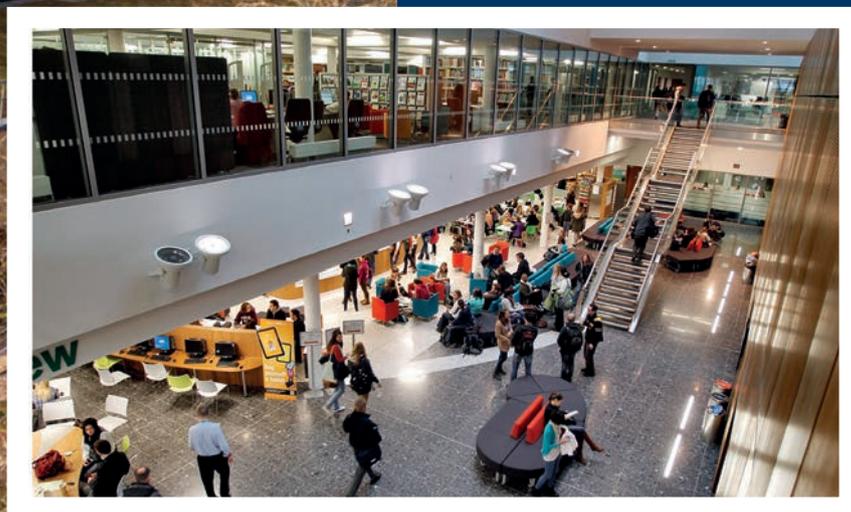
📍 **Canada**

📍 **USA**

📍 **UK**

📍 **Ireland**

📍 **Australia**



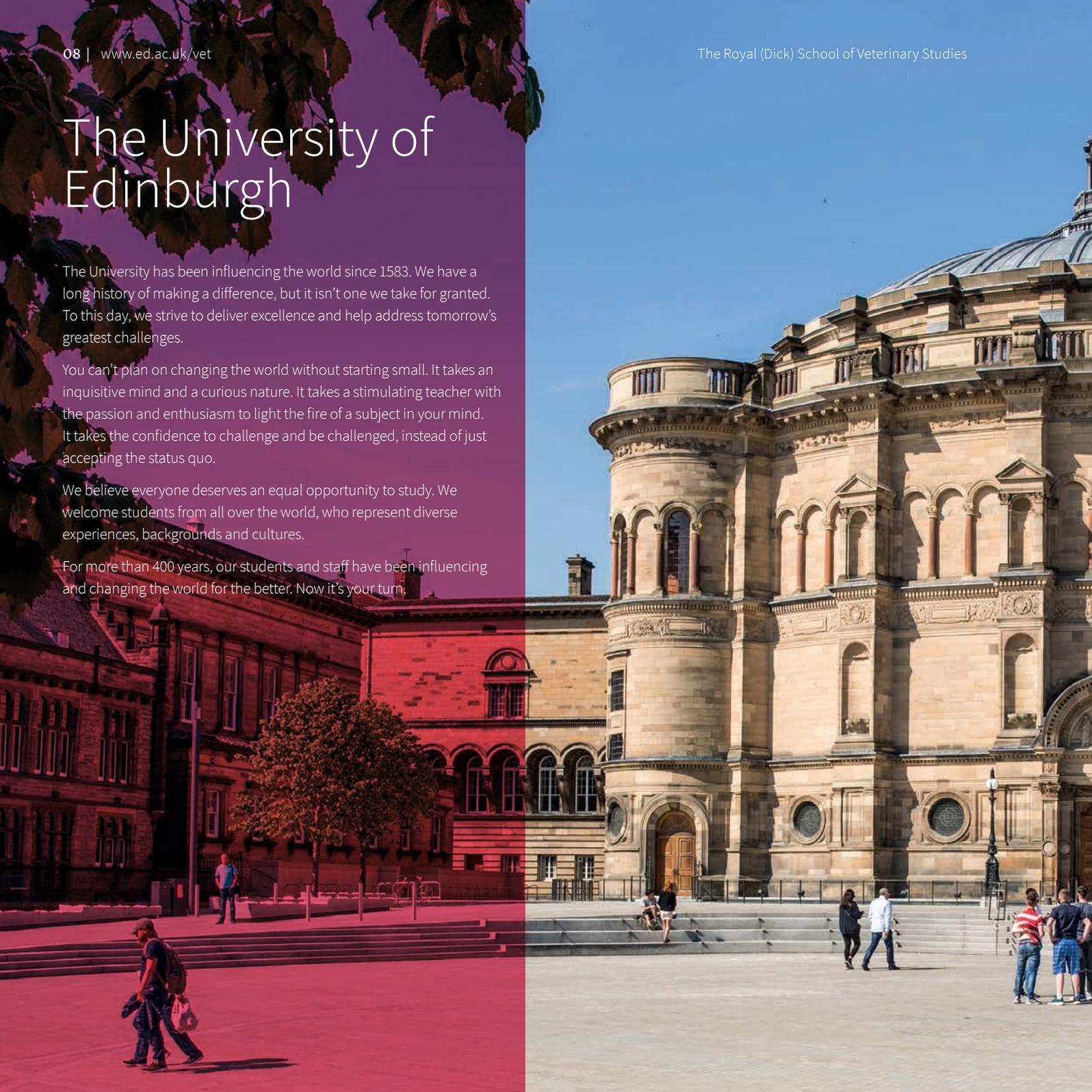
The University of Edinburgh

The University has been influencing the world since 1583. We have a long history of making a difference, but it isn't one we take for granted. To this day, we strive to deliver excellence and help address tomorrow's greatest challenges.

You can't plan on changing the world without starting small. It takes an inquisitive mind and a curious nature. It takes a stimulating teacher with the passion and enthusiasm to light the fire of a subject in your mind. It takes the confidence to challenge and be challenged, instead of just accepting the status quo.

We believe everyone deserves an equal opportunity to study. We welcome students from all over the world, who represent diverse experiences, backgrounds and cultures.

For more than 400 years, our students and staff have been influencing and changing the world for the better. Now it's your turn.





1583

The year the University of Edinburgh was founded

11,060

International students from 180 countries

49,065

Students in attendance

Top sporting university

In Scotland, with world-class facilities

28,755

Undergraduate students

30 | **5**

Libraries

Galleries & Museums

200+

Student Societies

Our campus

The Easter Bush Campus is a purpose-built home for veterinary teaching, research and practice. Set against the idyllic backdrop of the Pentland Hills Regional Park, the campus lies seven miles south of the city centre. It is easily accessible by bus (see page 38) and has ample free car parking facilities.

For a virtual tour of the campus, visit:
www.edin.ac/vet-ug-our-campus

- 
01. Bumstead Building
 02. Farm Animal Teaching Farm land
 03. Hospital for Small Animals
 04. William Dick Teaching Building
 05. Farriery
 06. Charnock Bradley Building
 07. Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Systems
 08. Equine Hospital and Practice
 09. Farm Animal Reception
 10. The Roslin Institute
 11. Teaching Horses
 12. Equine Surgery and Critical Care Unit
 13. Greenwood Building
 14. Paddock
 15. Children's Nursery
 16. Sheep Farm Building



The University of Edinburgh and the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies are committed to sustainability. With electric car charging points, hedgehog tunnels, recycling initiatives, an apiary for bees, allotments, shower facilities for bike commuters and bike safety checks, and a solar farm in operation, we're proud to call Easter Bush a sustainable campus.

Learn more: www.edin.ac/eb-sustainability

Facilities

Our students benefit from a modern campus, with state-of-the-art facilities purpose-built for veterinary teaching and learning.

Study Landscape

The Study Landscape is a large space designed for individual and group study. It has interactive displays that enable students to support their learning and build familiarity with items such as animal models, medicine boxes, animal feeds and other items they may encounter in practice.



Post-mortem room

Featuring a viewing facility for students with a two-way intercom, the post-mortem room is designed to allow specimens of all sizes to be accommodated. It has powerful ceiling tracks to transport them to and from the dissection rooms, and links to changing facilities with lockers for the students. Here you will learn practical pathology, and can observe the complex and unusual post-mortems the School undertakes for veterinary centres, zoos, farms and private owners across Scotland and Northern England.

Farm

The School has a 240-cow dairy herd nearby at Langhill Farm, as well as a sheep flock at Easter Bush. Here, students will learn all aspects of looking after production animals in a commercial farm environment, and prepare for work experience (Extra-Mural Studies) as part of the undergraduate veterinary course.



Dissection Room

Most practical anatomy lessons take place in the Dissection Room. It is a versatile space, with tables that can be moved around for group or individual study and screens for students to view closely what the lecturer is describing or demonstrating. The room is home to an extensive library of specimens, bones and skeletons, for use in class or individual study.



Library

Our library provides students with quiet space for study and rooms to hire for quiet group work. It is supported by a specialist library staff and is home to many journals and books, in addition to document and poster printing facilities.



Immersive Simulation Teaching Lab

We were the first vet school in the UK to introduce immersive simulation teaching across the curriculum and have recently invested in this unique teaching space. Our simulation lab is a replica of one of the consultation rooms in the Hospital for Small Animals and we use trained staff and high fidelity mannequins to reproduce as close to real life experiences for students as possible. This allows our students to practice soft skills such as client interactions alongside their clinical skills in a safe and supportive environment. This is a valued approach that has been commonplace in human medicine education but is in its infancy in veterinary medicine.



Clinical Skills Lab

The Clinical Skills Lab facilitates the development of clinical skills with models, live animals and people. It is here that students will learn the basics of animal handling, customer communication and clinical techniques.



Clinical hospitals

Later-year students observe, treat and carry out clinical procedures under supervision in our clinical hospitals, learning from companion animal and specialist veterinary surgeons. Learn more about our hospitals on page 15.



Why not take a virtual tour of our campus?



Learning resources and support

Student support

Going to university can be a daunting experience, especially if moving overseas and/or away from friends and family. In recognition of this, the School provides strong student support services, and fosters a close-knit community of students and staff.

We have a dedicated Student Support Manager on campus who is available to our students for any support issues and can offer help, guidance and someone to listen when needed. Students at the University of Edinburgh are supported by the Edinburgh University Students' Association – see page 16 for more information.

Each of our students belongs to one of 10 'Houses' named after the Pentland Hills that surround the campus (Allermuir, Caerketton, Capelaw, Castlelaw, Turnhouse, Carnethy, Scald Law, West Kip, East Cairn and Spittal). Each house has a senior tutor who, with their team of staff, looks after students in their house as part of our award-winning student support system.

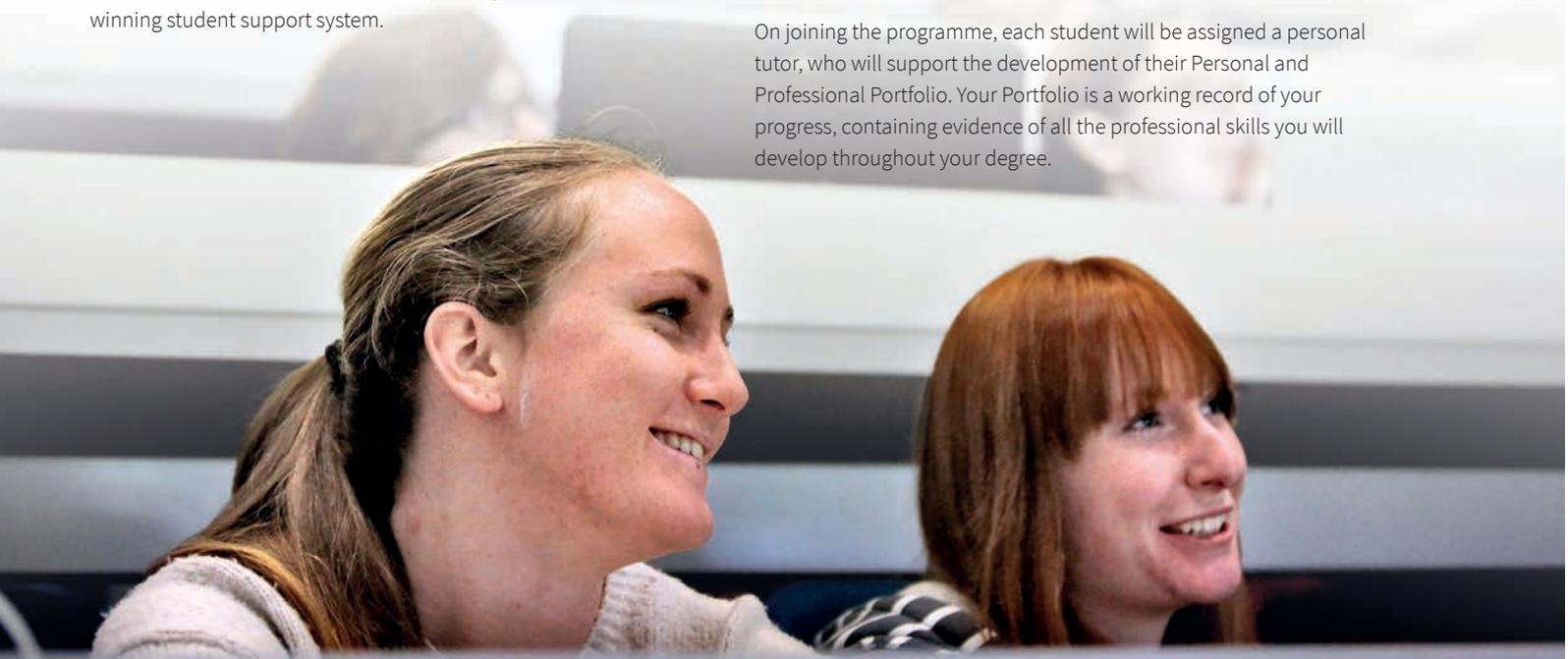
Learning resources

We offer dedicated study skills advice, through drop-in and individual bookable sessions. Typically, during these sessions, current methods will be reviewed and alternative strategies suggested. Often students find just small changes can make a big difference to their enjoyment and success at university.

Most lectures are recorded and made available to students online immediately, enabling enhanced knowledge and skill development, and more effective revision. We also offer workshops and other learning events where students can try out new skills and perfect their techniques.

VetPALS is our peer-assisted learning model, which provides student-to-student support systems. It enables senior students to facilitate discussion on specific topics with junior students, which has proven to be highly effective.

On joining the programme, each student will be assigned a personal tutor, who will support the development of their Personal and Professional Portfolio. Your Portfolio is a working record of your progress, containing evidence of all the professional skills you will develop throughout your degree.



Our clinical services

Our rich and varied clinical case-load and state-of-the-art facilities allows us to provide an excellent environment for our undergraduates to thrive.



Farm Animal Services

The R(D)SVS Farm Animal Practice operates a first opinion practice serving dairy, beef, sheep, pig and camelid farms in Edinburgh and the Lothians. We also operate referral services where vets in private practice can send in patients for specialist investigations and surgery, such as lame pedigree bulls. The Dairy Herd Health and Productivity Service (DHHPS) has provided specialist farm animal advisory services since 1977, focusing on nutritional monitoring and improvement of herd/flock health.

The Hospital for Small Animals and Dick Vet General Practice

The Dick Vet provides routine and emergency care for dogs, cats, small mammals, birds and exotic animals. We are one of the most advanced facilities in Scotland, and our staff have won multiple awards for excellence in clinical care. Encompassing a referral hospital and a general practice, we are home to a fantastic array of specialist services—including specialist cardiology, ophthalmology, orthopaedic, soft tissue surgery, oncology, neurology, dentistry, behaviour, dermatology, internal medicine and exotics clinics together with Emergency and Critical care. These admitting disciplines are supported by diagnostic imaging, anaesthesia, interventional radiography and physiotherapy services.



Dick Vet Equine

Our specialist equine hospital services cover a comprehensive range of traditional and complimentary healthcare with expertise in soft tissue and orthopaedic surgery, internal medicine, diagnostic imaging, neurology, ophthalmology, interventional cardiology, dentistry and anaesthesia as well as behaviour, specialist farriery, acupuncture and physiotherapy.

We provide routine and emergency care for all equidae – horses, donkeys and mules – and can offer surgical services for other species such as alpacas, farm animals and large exotic species.

Your student experience

EUSA

As soon as you join the University, you'll be welcomed into the Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA), which works on your behalf to ensure you have the best possible experience during your time here.

EUSA is led by five elected students (sabbatical officers) and maintains a Student Council. You will be represented by elected college, school and programme representatives, and by Black and minority ethnic, disabled students', LGBT+, and women's officers. EUSA supports more than 290 student-led societies and volunteering groups, from the A Cappella and Business societies, to the Yoga and Zoology societies.

EUSA facilities include a world-class centre for student activities at the iconic Pleasance complex, which includes dance studios, a multipurpose performance space, TV and radio production studios and a café and bar. Their venues deliver award-winning food and drink and hundreds of events throughout the year; from language cafés to silent discos and from ceilidhs to food fairs.

DVSU, on-campus activities and support

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies is also host to a variety of clubs and societies, and has its own Students' Union, the DVSU.

The School hosts several events throughout the year where students and staff come together to celebrate. These range from the annual Pre-Burns Night supper to the Halloween party. These events are just one example of the many ways the School includes all its students and makes them feel more like a family.

Sports and fitness

The Easter Bush Campus is home to a fantastic gym, and students can attend a range of fitness classes on campus.

Whether you're a recreational gym user or a performance athlete going for gold, the University of Edinburgh's world-class sport and fitness offering caters for you. We've long been recognised as one of the UK's leading sporting universities, consistently finishing in the top four of the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) rankings. Our central gym at the Pleasance is top-of-the-range, and joins our campus

gym facilities (including those at the Vet School), swimming pool, playing fields and the outdoor pursuits centre at Loch Tay to form a comprehensive package of fitness facilities.

With more than 60 sports clubs made up of more than 200 teams, we offer something for everyone. Our clubs offer regular coaching, training, tips and competition, both locally and nationally, with opportunities to participate and/or compete most days of the week. We run Scotland's largest intramural sports programme, offering informal leagues, tournaments and fun events, alongside a pioneering 'EDex' come and try programme in an array of sports.

“The best gym we've ever used.”

Dr Nick Gill
Head of Strength and Conditioning,
New Zealand All Blacks Rugby



Accommodation

We realise you need more than just a place to live. You need an environment in which you can thrive. That's why we guarantee accommodation for as many new undergraduates as possible. If you're from outside Edinburgh, intending to study for the full academic year, and apply by the deadline, our accommodation guarantee is open to you.

The University is an integral part of the city. You'll be learning, and living, just a short walk or bus ride from the city centre of one of Europe's most vibrant capitals. Our undergraduate accommodation is in the city centre, and typically includes:

- All heating, hot water and electricity costs
- Wi-fi in your study-bedroom and in common areas
- Contents insurance
- Secure bike storage
- Laundry facilities

Excellent transport links exist between student accommodation and the Easter Bush Campus – and student bus passes are subsidised. Once you accept your offer to study at the University of Edinburgh, our accommodation team will be in touch to provide you with details on what packages are available.

Semester dates for BVM&S students are slightly different. This will impact students in catered accommodation options where meals are served during regular term time.



BVM&S semester dates:

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/staff-students/students/semester-dates

University semester dates:

www.ed.ac.uk/semester-dates

Some of our students choose to find their own accommodation through private landlords. Rent varies, but you should make sure you compare to other rental prices and see the accommodation before signing or paying any money. Consider visiting the city before you move here, and look at bus routes to make sure your neighbourhood will offer easy access to the School.

For students completing the four-year Graduate Entry Programme (GEP), which has an earlier start date, University-owned flats are available from early August and cover the whole academic year. Located 10-15 minutes' walk from the central University buildings and convenient for buses to Easter Bush, these flats are self-catered with single study bedrooms and shared facilities. Students also have the option to be placed over the summer in University catered accommodation before moving into Halls or private accommodation in September.

For the latest information on all accommodation matters, go to

www.accom.ed.ac.uk



Extraordinary Edinburgh

“Edinburgh is one of Europe’s most beautiful cities, draped across a series of rocky hills overlooking the sea.”

Scotland's inspiring capital will be the backdrop to your studies. One of Europe's great cultural hubs and a stimulating place to study, Edinburgh is an irresistible blend of history, natural beauty and modern city life.

Sometimes known as 'the Athens of the North', Edinburgh is a city of stunning, historic architecture and is home to two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. It was the world's first UNESCO City of Literature.

Large enough to offer something for everyone, but small enough to feel like home, Edinburgh is a modern, sophisticated and beautiful European city with a diverse multicultural community. Well known for its friendly people, its safe, green environment and its compact size, Edinburgh is easy to get around and get away from it all – wherever you are in the city you are never far from open countryside.

Edinburgh's location is perfect for adventurers, with diverse and readily accessible opportunities from snowboarding to surfing. A single day could see you hillwalking in the morning, lazing on the beach in the afternoon, and enjoying the treasures of the medieval lanes and Georgian streets by night.

Extraordinary Scotland

From its highlands and islands to its lowland borders, Scotland is a country of breathtaking natural beauty.

For a country of its size, there is great variety in Scotland's terrain from towering mountains to dense woodland glens. Even if you've lived here all your life, it may surprise you to learn that Scotland has more than 6,000 miles of coastline, almost 800 off shore islands and more than 31,000 freshwater lochs. This is a country steeped in history yet firmly focused on the future – a modern, dynamic, European nation where the life sciences, creative industries, digital technology, energy and renewables, financial and business services, and, yes, tourism now drive our economy.



climate

Scotland's climate is temperate and oceanic with variable weather. Average temperatures range from 5°C in January to 19°C in August.



“It is one of the most hauntingly beautiful places in the world”

- **J.K. Rowling**
- Best-selling author and alumna



Loch Ness alone contains more water than all the lakes of England and Wales combined.



5.2M

Scotland's population is 5.2 million. There are as many people of Scottish heritage living in North America as there are in Scotland.



Nessie may grab the attention as the more famous beast, but Scotland's national animal is the Unicorn.

1ST

The birthplace of modern golf in the 15th century, Scotland also hosted the world's first international association football match, against England, in 1872.

6TH

Rough Guides readers voted the UK sixth in the world's most beautiful countries 2022. Scotland was first in the world when the UK's countries were last ranked individually (2019).



The details

We offer two Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degrees.

The first, our main entry into the profession, is a five-year programme for students pursuing standard entry into undergraduate study. We also offer an accelerated, four-year graduate entry programme (GEP) for applicants with a relevant degree.

The programmes merge after initial separation, to enable the cohort to study together. Following successful completion of the first year of the GEP programme, which has been specifically designed around the needs of graduate entrants*, students then join the third year of the BVM&S course, where students will have had two years of undergraduate-level training.

Students are taught about large animals, small companion animals, exotics and wildlife to become omni-competent vets. This style of degree allows you to broaden your understanding of different species, diversifies your career prospects and provides you with a level of flexibility to specialise at a later stage if you wish.

During the Foundation phase of the programme students learn about the normal function of the animal body, from the cell level to the entire organism. Practical, hands-on experience as well as clinical and professional skills are taught from the first year.

The clinical years of the programme build on the previous phase to learn about disease and

treatment, with species-specific integrated courses as well as a focus on pathology, pharmacology and veterinary public health. Final year comprises clinical rotations in our on-site hospital facilities, giving students real-life exposure to the work they will be undertaking following graduation.

Extra-Mural Studies

Our programmes also include Extra-Mural Studies (EMS). This core element provides our students with an unrivalled opportunity to gain real-life work experience whilst studying.

EMS placements allow students to further practise their animal handling and clinical



OR

2 YEARS PRE-VET

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE



*The GEP year is tailored to cover key areas of integrated anatomy and physiology in a case-based format with additional courses on introductory pathology, infectious disease, animal husbandry and population medicine.

skills, as well as increasing their confidence, work experience and providing valuable insight into the world of work.

We have a team that supports our students during their EMS and provides guidance in finding appropriate placements. EMS opportunities are advertised on the student intranet, but in some cases, students find their

own. We also have a number of partnerships across the world, providing our students with unique and rare opportunities to gain amazing work experience.

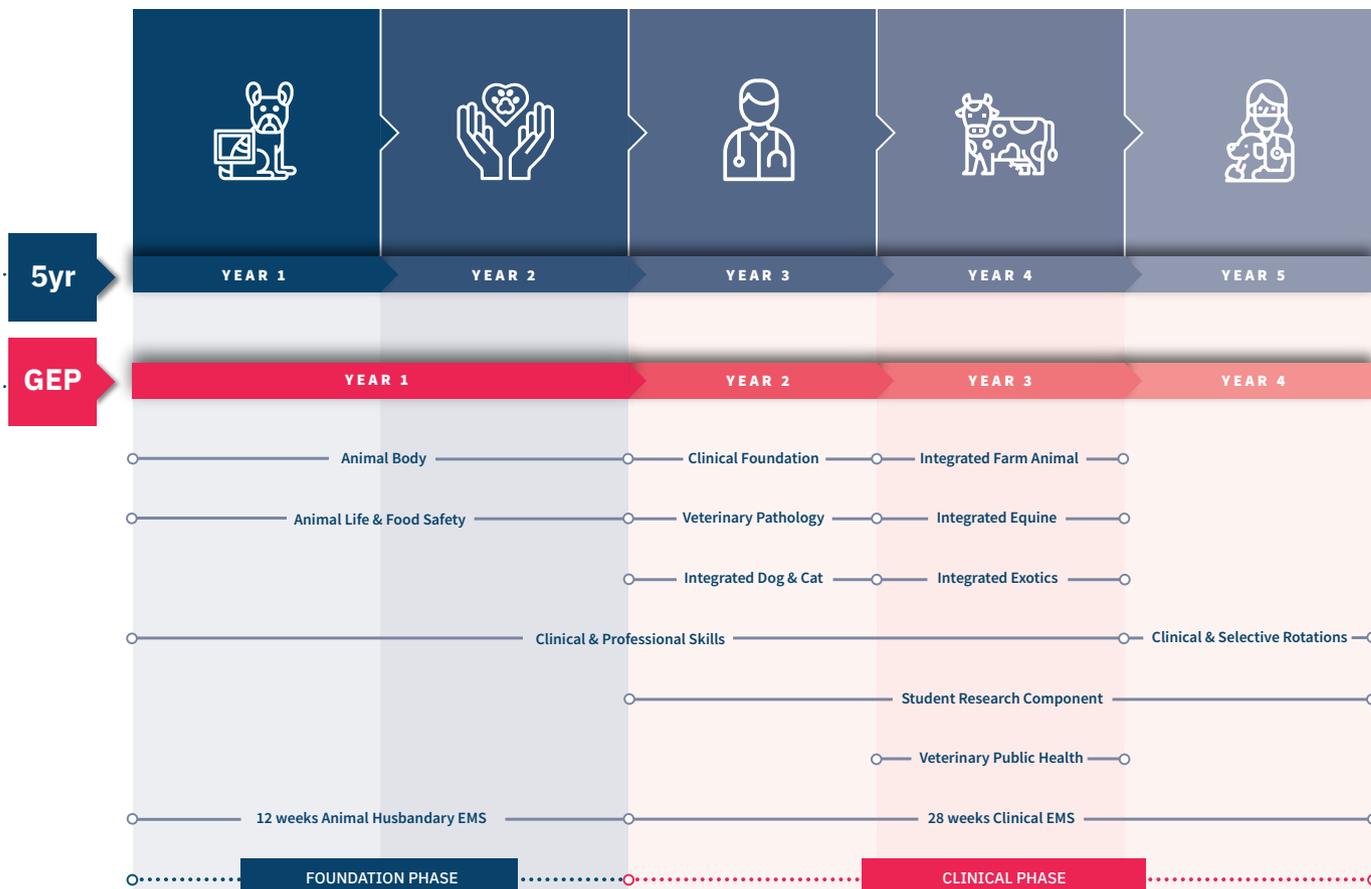
Our graduates are able to hit the ground running, having developed their day one competencies whilst on EMS placements during their degree.

Further information

More on the 5 Year programme:
www.edin.ac/bvms-5year

More on the 4 Year programme:
www.edin.ac/bvms-4year

Find out more about EMS:
www.edin.ac/bvms-ems



Entry requirements

Admission to BVM&S programmes at the University of Edinburgh is based on the following criteria, which should be gained at the first attempt and in one sitting. This means that you must achieve your results during the same time period, and we do not accept resits. We normally only accept two applications from any one candidate and do not normally offer deferred places.

Both programmes

English Language Requirements

If English is not your first language, you will need to meet the University's required standard of English. Below is a list of some of the typical English language qualifications we accept. If you have an alternative qualification not listed below, please contact our admissions team (see page 37).

- IELTS Academic module overall 7.0 with 7.0 in each component
- TOEFL-iBT 100 or above with 23 in each section. We do not accept TOEFL MyBest Score
- IGCSE English (First language) Grade B
- Cambridge English: Advanced & Proficiency overall 185 with 185 in each component
- Trinity ISE: ISE III with a pass in all four components

Work Experience

We do not request specific types of work experience or state days/weeks required, as it depends to some extent on the opportunities available to you. The broader your experience the better, but you should not gain experience to the detriment of your academic studies. You should, however, gain both veterinary practice and animal work experience.

Types of work experience could include:

- Seeing veterinary practice, both large and small animal
- Livestock farms - dairy and lambing
- Other animal establishments, such as zoos, kennels, catteries, wildlife centres, pig farms, poultry farms and stables
- A day at an abattoir/slaughterhouse
- Experience gained in veterinary or medical laboratories to help you appreciate the scientific basis of veterinary medicine

Please note: These are suggestions. This is not a checklist and achieving them all is not a requirement.

You should provide detailed information on your practical experience (number of days/weeks spent and species worked with) in the appropriate section of the UCAS or VMCAS (North American graduates) application.

You should be aware that we can only take into account work already undertaken and not work planned. You may receive an offer that is conditional on your gaining further specified work experience.

What to keep in mind

- No minimum amount of work experience required
- Quality and variety is valued over quantity
- Everything will be taken into account regardless of when it took place
- Tell us if you have lived on a farm
- No formal work experience references required

Visit our website for the latest information on work experience: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/bvms/5-year-programme/non-academic-requirements

Non-Academic Achievements and Interests

Your personal statement and references give us an idea of your skills, achievements and motivation, which are important factors in assessing your application. This could feature:

- Social involvement
- School responsibilities
- Leadership
- Organisational abilities
- Interests and hobbies
- Cultural, sporting, musical, vocational and voluntary achievements

Five-year programme

Minimum Entry Requirements

We believe everyone deserves an equal opportunity to study at Edinburgh. We are committed to widening access to higher education and admitting the very best students who demonstrate the potential to benefit from, and contribute to, the academic experience we offer. This means that no student is admitted on the basis of grades alone. We use data from a number of sources, along with information on the UCAS application, to identify applicants who qualify for additional consideration in our admissions process. To check if you qualify for widening access consideration, visit our online checker:

admission-checker.is.ed.ac.uk

To view our minimum entry requirements, visit our website:

www.edin.ac/vet-5-access-minimums

Applications without evidence of Physics to at least GCSE or National 5, Intermediate 2 or Higher (or equivalent) will not normally be considered.

Our most common standard entry requirements are listed below.

SQA Highers and Advanced Highers

Candidates are required to take a sixth year and undertake Advanced Highers.

AAAAB Five Highers including Chemistry (A), Biology (A) and either Mathematics or Physics to be achieved by the end of S5. If Biology has not been studied in S5, it should be taken in S6 to Higher level.

BB at Advanced Higher in Chemistry and another science subject. If possible Advanced Higher Biology, as this will be beneficial for the first year of the degree.

Physics should be achieved to at least National 5 level by the end of S6.

We are aware that some Scottish schools may not be able to offer as many Advanced Higher subjects as in previous years. If this is the case, we urge any pupils (or parents/carers/guidance teachers) interested in studying veterinary medicine at Edinburgh to get in touch with us directly by emailing: vetug@ed.ac.uk

Access Programmes

SWAP offers an Access to Medical Studies programme which we accept for consideration for entry to year one of Veterinary Medicine from eligible applicants. We welcome applicants from this route, though it should be noted that undertaking the Access to Medical Studies SWAP course gives no guarantee of an offer to Veterinary Medicine.

For more information, please see:

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/bvms/5-year-programme/academic-requirements

A-levels

Three A-levels: AAA in Chemistry, Biology and one other subject approved for entry to the veterinary degree programme. Please refer to the current list of University-approved subjects at A-level considered for entry to the BVM&S via the link below.

University-approved subjects:

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements/ruk/approved-subjects

If Physics has not been studied to A-level, a good pass at GCSE is required.

We regret that an A grade cannot balance out a C grade, and A* grades are treated the same as A grades in your application.

A BTEC National Extended Certificate in Applied Human Biology (D) is accepted in lieu of A-level Biology/Human Biology.

Cambridge Pre-U Diploma

D3, D3, D3 (or a combination of D3 and A-level grade A) in Chemistry, Biology and one other University-approved subject.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

We require 38 points overall. This must include a minimum of 666 in Higher level Chemistry, Biology, and one other subject. If Physics does not form part of the IB Diploma, competency in this subject must be demonstrated at a lower level (GCSE or equivalent).

Graduates

A 2:1 Honours Degree (or equivalent) in an appropriate science subject. Candidates with a non-science degree will be considered provided they have gained high grades in the science A-levels (or equivalent) in Chemistry and Biology.

Please note that all candidates applying for the BVM&S as a second degree (including graduates from the UK, EU, EEA) are considered at the Overseas fees rate.

The Admissions Committee regrets that it cannot consider ONC, HNC, HND or part-degree qualifications as equivalent to an Upper Second-Class Honours degree for entry requirement purposes.

Mature students

The Admissions Committee aims to select mature candidates from a variety of backgrounds to further enhance the diversity of the intake. Although mature applicants receive consideration, there are no exemptions for entry onto the degree. In order to be considered you would, therefore, have to achieve the standard entry requirements. Normally candidates must attain these grades in the one sitting and at the first attempt. However, if you are not able to study full-time (if, for example, you are continuing to work) you would not necessarily be expected to gain the grades in one sitting but you would need to attain them at the first attempt.

Mature students are encouraged to contact the Admissions Office providing further information on both high school and further education examination results to discuss their qualifications on an individual basis prior to making a formal application.

North American Pre-Veterinary courses

US and Canadian candidates with two years of a pre-vet will be considered for the five-year BVM&S programme. An overall GPA of 3.4 (4-point scale) is expected.

EU and International Entry Requirements

If your qualifications are not listed above, please refer to the below web page, which provides specific information and advice, including entry requirements, for prospective students by country. If you require further support and assistance regarding your qualification contact our admissions team (contact details on page 37).

Undergraduate entry requirements by country:

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/country

Four-year programme

An Upper Second-Class Honours degree or (equivalent) or an overall GPA of 3.4 (4 point scale) in an appropriate degree is the minimum requirement.

Candidates must achieve high grades (minimum grade C or equivalent) in the following subjects:

- Biology/Zoology
- Physics
- Biochemistry
- Organic and Inorganic Chemistry
- Mathematics/Statistics

In addition, gaining high grades (minimum grade C or equivalent) in the following subjects would strengthen an application for the GEP:

- Genetics
- Microbiology
- Cell Biology

To complete your application you must also provide an academic reference or letter of recommendation.

Learn more:

www.edin.ac/vet-4-requirements

For answers to the most commonly asked questions relating to admissions and the programme, please see:

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/faqs

Equality, diversity and inclusion

Diversity is about empowering people and respecting what makes them different – whether this be their ethnicity, socio-economic background, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental health, or religion.

Visit our dedicated pages for useful resources and content for pre-vet students from diverse communities under-represented in vet medicine.

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/diversity

Applicants with Disabilities, Health Problems and Allergies

The University and School are committed to encouraging and supporting applicants with disabilities, health problems and allergies. Veterinary medicine is a practical subject and students must be able to handle and examine all animals safely and humanely, and to ensure the safety of themselves and involved personnel. Veterinary training is very demanding, emotionally and physically.

If you have health problems or a disability that may have an impact on your ability to cope with the programme, work with animals or carry out any other practical procedures, you should refer to guidance available from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RVCS) and the School's Guidance for Applicants with Disability and Health Problems.

Further information on our Admissions Policy is available here:

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/application-process/admissionspolicy

Widening Access (UK)

We recognise that not everyone has an equal opportunity to demonstrate their full academic potential from their school or college qualifications alone. For this reason, we aim to identify applicants who could benefit from additional consideration in the admissions process. This is known as widening access. Further information about the University's Widening Access policy:

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/applying/selection/widening-access

We support LEAPS, REACH and the 'Access to the Professions' initiatives, which seek to encourage and support applications from those at an educational or social disadvantage.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/access-edinburgh/high-school-students

Committed to Care Experience

We welcome applications from students who are care leavers or who have a background in care. The University has made a commitment through our Widening Access policy to guarantee an invitation to interview to any care-experienced applicant who meets the minimum entry requirements, which are lower than our standard entry requirements. In addition, prospective students who identify themselves as having been in care in their UCAS application are contacted to provide them with information about the support systems available to them at the University.

Careers

On graduation, the majority of vets start their careers in general practice, although many will continue with further studies.

Practice could be companion animal (pets), farm animal, equine (horses) or 'mixed'. You might also get the opportunity to work with exotic animals that are kept as pets, in zoos or in the wild. Work in the veterinary profession is highly rewarding, but also very demanding.

There are career opportunities in a number of areas:

General Practice

The veterinary surgeon is responsible for the prevention of disease and for the medical and surgical treatment of animals including household pets, zoo animals, farm animals and horses. Opportunities exist in practices that specialise in small animals, food-producing animals, equine work or in mixed practices dealing with both small and large animals. Many veterinary surgeons working in practice choose to further their knowledge by studying for additional qualifications.

Veterinary Teaching and Research

Veterinary researchers play a vital role in advancing our understanding of diseases. Research in veterinary sciences enhances the health, welfare and usefulness of both food producing and companion animals. It safeguards the public from diseases spread from animals in food and by other means. By comparative investigations, it helps us understand and manage human disease, for example in cancer, genetics, reproduction and infections. Research is undertaken at university veterinary schools and at research institutes, departments financed by Government, in laboratories and by private enterprise. Many careers in research span the interface between human and veterinary medicine.

Find out where some of graduates work:

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/student-experience/graduate-profiles

Government Service

Numerous opportunities exist within the public sector. Veterinary surgeons are involved in protecting public health in government departments and agencies such as the State Veterinary Service, the Food Standards Agency, the Meat Hygiene Service, the Veterinary Laboratories Agency and the Veterinary Medicines Directorate. The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs employs vets to monitor animal health and to prevent the spread of diseases.

Other Opportunities

Other opportunities exist in commerce and industry such as in pharmaceutical companies, in international and overseas organisations, and in consultancies and charities. The veterinarian's broad scientific training is also of value in areas such as wildlife and environmental conservation.

Learn more about the University's Career Services:
www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/careers

Work in the UK as an International Student

Students on Student Route visas can remain in the UK for four months after their programme ends. Should they wish to remain and practise in the UK, students can apply for the Graduate Route visa which allows students to live and work in the UK for up to two years. For more information on career prospects please contact our Careers Service. For information about visa options for working in the UK after studies please contact our Student Immigration Service.

Careers Service: www.ed.ac.uk/careers

Student Immigration Service:
www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/immigration/working-in-the-uk/after-studies

The application process

All applications for admission should be made through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS):

www.ucas.com

North American graduate applicants may choose to apply through the Veterinary Medical Colleges Admissions System (VMCAS):

www.aavmc.org

Key Information (5 year programme)

Qualification:	Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery (Hons)
UCAS code:	D100
Institution Code:	E56
Study Mode:	Five years full-time
Course Location:	Easter Bush Campus, Edinburgh EH25 9RG

The five-year Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degree will prepare you for a career as a veterinary professional. This is our main route into veterinary medicine.

Learn more:

www.edin.ac/vet-5

Key Programme Information (GEP)

Qualification:	Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine & Surgery (Hons)
UCAS code:	D102
Institution Code:	E56
Study Mode:	Four years full-time
Course Location:	Easter Bush Campus, Edinburgh EH25 9RG

Learn more:

www.edin.ac/vet-4

Application Deadlines

18 September	VMCAS application deadline
16 October	UCAS application deadline
22 October	WES submission deadline (UCAS Applicants only)
22 October	Deadline for submitting degree transcripts

Late Applications

If you miss the UCAS and VMCAS veterinary medicine application deadlines, we may still be able to consider your application for the Graduate Entry Programme if there are still places available. For further information, please contact the Admissions Team (see page 37 for contact details).

Please refer to pages 32-33 for key dates throughout the application process.

Work Experience Summary - UCAS only

All UCAS candidates are required to complete and return a Work Experience Summary form (WES) to the Admissions Team prior to the deadline of 22 October. Please note that applications submitted without a WES form will be considered incomplete.

Additional Tests

Please note: the following tests are not required for candidates applying to the BVM&S at the University of Edinburgh:

- BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT)
- UK Clinical Aptitude Test (UKCAT)
- Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)
- Veterinary College Admission Test (VCAT)

Health Questionnaire

All applicants with an Unconditional Firm offer will be required to complete the health questionnaire prior to entry onto the programme. This is regardless of whether a disability or health condition was declared on application or not, and enrolment is subject to Health Clearance.

Interview

All selected applicants will be required to attend a multiple mini interview (MMI). These are normally arranged between December and March each year. The aim of our selection interviews is to measure aptitude as part of a holistic assessment of candidates.

Depending on public health guidance, the MMI may be in person or conducted online. Further information will be sent to candidates ahead of the interview stage and published on our website.

For a step by step guide on the application process, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/application-process/how-to-apply

What Happens Next?

Successful applicants will receive an offer of a place by the end of March. Please note that if your offer advises you to gain additional work experience this is not a condition of the offer, but simply a recommendation in order to fully prepare you for starting the degree.

Once you have accepted the offer you will be matched with a student buddy via email.

If an international or Graduate Entry Programme applicant holds a conditional offer based on results in pending examinations, they must send us an official transcript by mail or email, as soon as the results become available. All successful international and Graduate Entry Programme applicants who accept the offer will need to pay a non-refundable deposit of £1,500 which will be deducted from their first year's tuition.

Immigration

A Student Route visa (previously Tier 4) is required to enter the UK as an international student. You are issued with a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) number once you have accepted your offer and have met all conditions. A CAS allows you to start your visa application.

You can apply six months prior to the start date of the course. You should apply for a visa as soon as you receive the CAS as it is a busy time of year for UK Visa and Immigration.

Included in the overall cost of your visa is the Immigration Healthcare Surcharge (IHS), which allows you to access medical care while in the UK.

Veterinary medicine is a very demanding programme but some of our students work alongside it. We encourage students to learn to manage their time alongside their studies before taking on any part-time work. The Student Route visa will allow students to work up to 20 hours per week, but the University recommends no more than 15.

For further information and guidance, you can refer to our website: www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/immigration

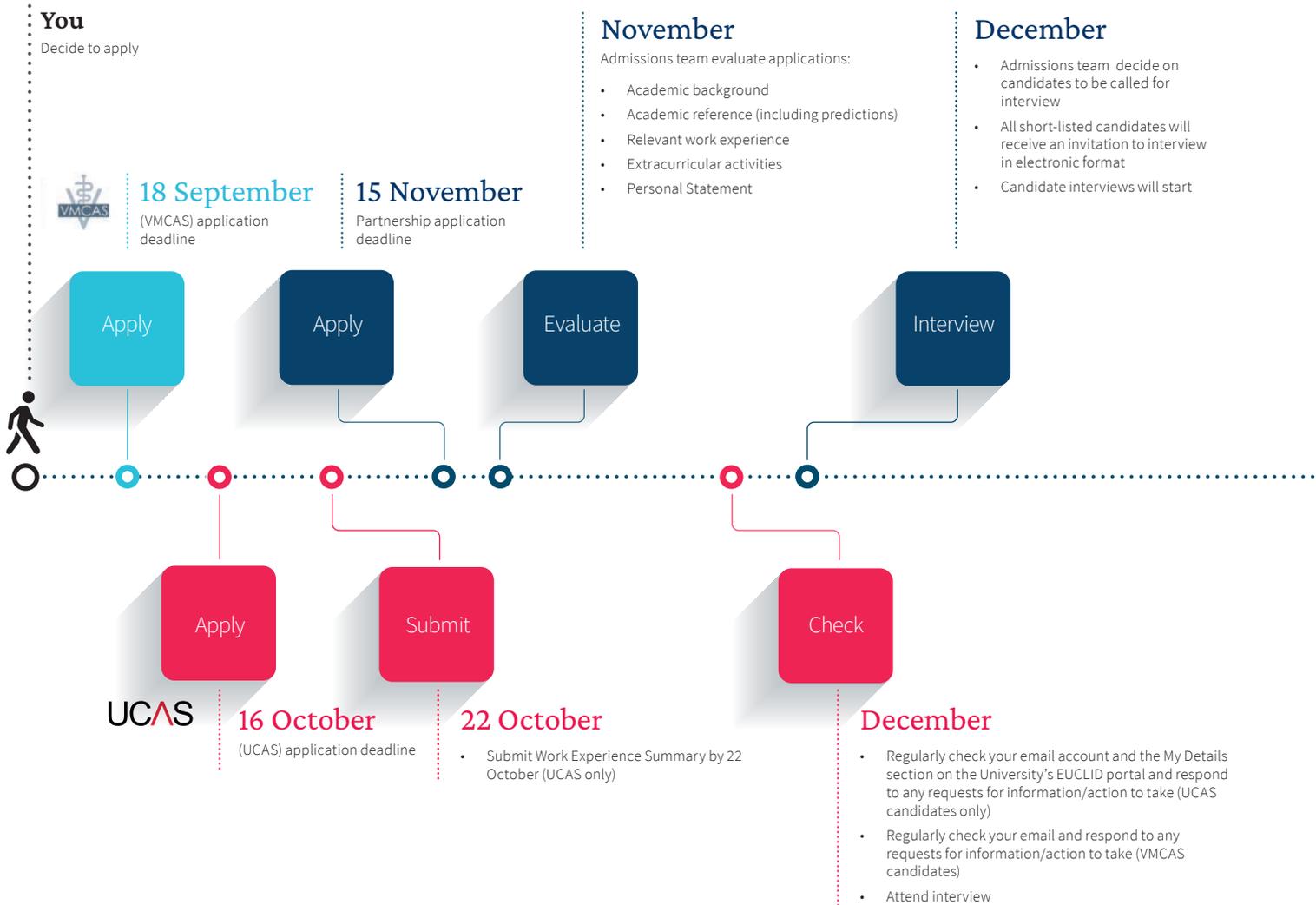
Healthcare

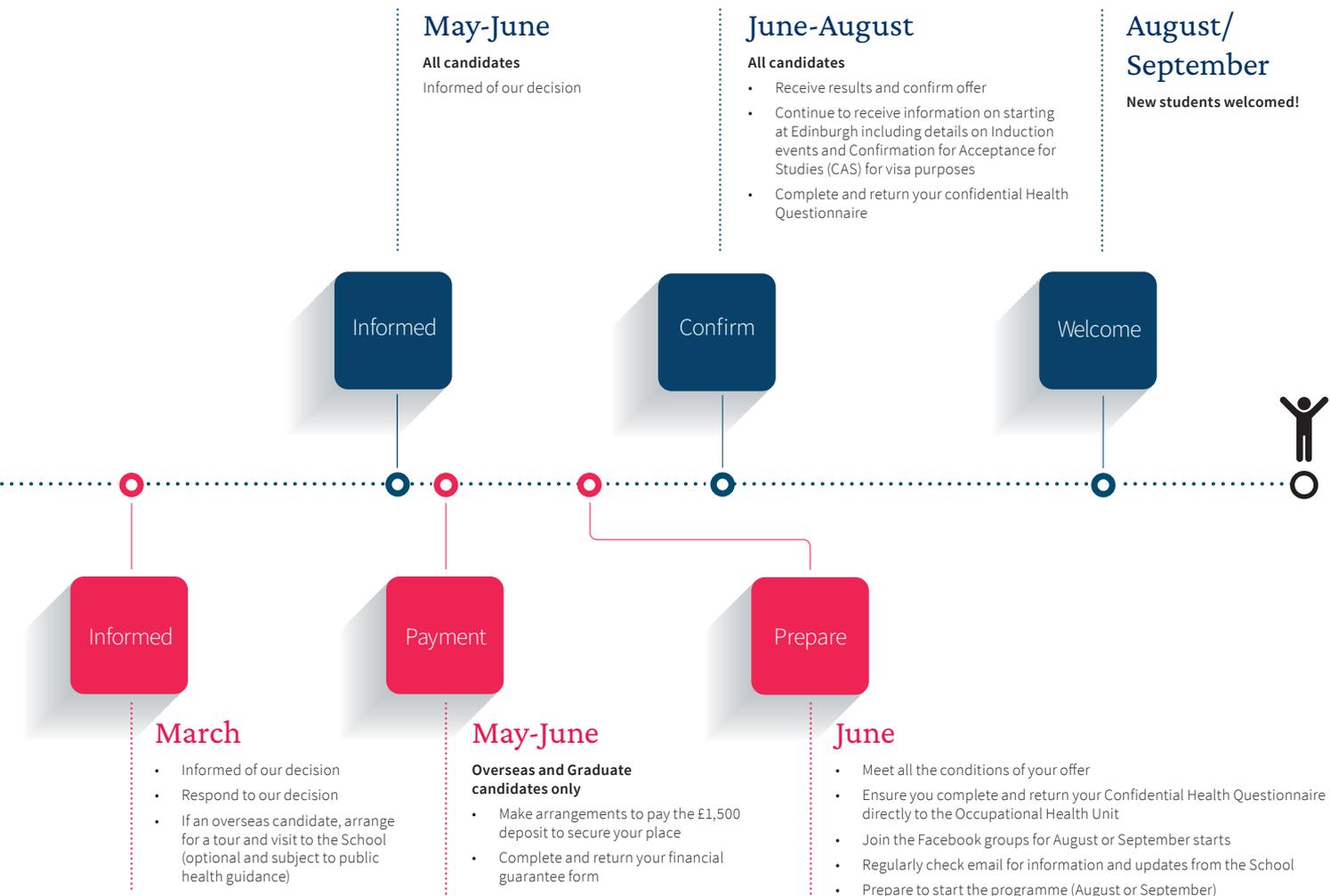
Once students arrive in Edinburgh, it is important to find a family doctor (General Practitioner or GP) as soon as possible. Once you have found a GP, you should contact the doctor's practice to make an appointment to register as a National Health Service (NHS) patient.

The University Health Centre provides comprehensive medical care for those who wish to register as patients of the practice, and who live within the practice area. The practice is located at the Richard Verney Health Centre at 6 Bristo Square. However, you can register at any practice that accepts NHS patients.

For answer on the most commonly asked questions relating to admissions and the programme, please see: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/undergraduate/faqs

Admissions cycle





Money

Tuition Fees

The annual tuition fee for the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degree is fixed for the full duration of the course. All graduates (UK included) and international candidates (excluding applicants from the Republic of Ireland with Home fee status) are considered on a full fee basis only.

For up-to-date tuition fee information, refer to the following website:

www.ed.ac.uk/tuition-fees/find/undergraduate

Payment of Fees

At Edinburgh, we recognise that students need flexibility when paying fees. We provide a range of payment options to suit everyone. The fee can either be paid in full, or spread over manageable instalments by Direct Debit.

For more information refer to the Payment Options website:

www.ed.ac.uk/finance/students/fees

Scholarships

The University offers a number of scholarships for international students. The School also offers two scholarships for overseas students beginning their studies on the BVM&S. Each scholarship is worth £5,000 per year and is tenable for the duration of their degree programme, subject to satisfactory progress.

Further details are available on the Scholarships and Student Funding Service website:

www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate

Ethnic Diversity Scholarship Scheme

The scholarship aims to improve diversity within the veterinary industry. If you identify as being from an ethnic minority and want to check your eligibility, please see:

www.ivcevidensia.co.uk/ethnic-diversity

Living Costs

We estimate students will need between £750–£1,500 per month for living costs, including room and board. In addition to these expenses, you will also need to consider initial, annual and miscellaneous costs (deposits, bedding, textbooks, insurance, travel, etc).

The most up-to-date information on estimated living costs is available on the University website:

www.ed.ac.uk/students/new-students/finances/student-living-costs

Additional Costs

A monthly bus pass to cover all travel to and from the campus, as well as transport across the city, will cost around £540 per year, which the School will subsidise proportionally in line with your year of study. If you are under 22 years old, you may be eligible for free bus travel.

To find out more visit:

www.transport.gov.scot/concessionary-travel/young-persons-free-bus-travel-scheme/

US Federal Loans

Eligible students can apply for US Government Student Loans. The University of Edinburgh is an approved Title IV institution for the purpose of administering these loans. Our School Code is G06839, which sometimes appears as 006839.

Visit our website for more information: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/financial-support/student-loans/usa

For further information on US Loans you can contact the Financial Aid Office on studentfunding@ed.ac.uk

Canadian Student Loans

The University of Edinburgh is a recognised institution for the purpose of certifying Canadian Student Loan applications. Our Student Funding

Services team will be able to help students complete their loan applications by certifying and confirming their student status on the relevant documentation provided by the Canadian Government. Please note that the University of Edinburgh's Institutional Code is PUAR.

For details on eligibility and how to apply for a loan, please visit our website: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/financial-support/student-loans/canadian

Alternatively contact our Financial Aid Office at: studentfunding@ed.ac.uk

Bank Accounts

It is very useful to open a bank account once you arrive in Edinburgh, but this process is not normally available prior to arrival, unless an overseas bank branch has a relationship with a UK bank. Typically, this process can start once you have moved into your accommodation.

To assist you in opening an account, the University can provide you with a Bank Introductory Letter and provide proof of your accommodation in Edinburgh.

If you are staying in University accommodation and have checked in, you can download and print a copy of your letter from your MyEd portal. You will need this, as well as other documents, when you attend your first bank appointment to open your account.

If you are moving into private accommodation, you will need to apply for a Bank Introduction Letter online.

For more information please visit the website: www.ed.ac.uk/students/new-students/finances/banking

Working as a Student

We understand the benefits of work – but your wellbeing and your studies are also important.

Because of this the University recommends that full-time students do not work more than 15 hours per week.

Funding for UK Students

If this is their first degree, Scottish nationals are entitled to apply to the Student Award Agency for Scotland to cover their tuition fees for their full period of study.

England-domiciled students can apply to Student Finance England for a tuition fee loan up to the full cost of their programme of study which they only start to pay back once they are earning more than £25,000 a year.

Welsh applicants can apply to Student Finance Wales and Northern Irish applicants can apply to Student Finance Northern Ireland.

Access Awards are also available and are non-repayable and based on criteria such as income, background and personal circumstances, and in some cases geographical area.

For more details see: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/undergraduate/uk-eu

EU students

If you live in the EU (excluding if you are from the Republic of Ireland) and do not have settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme, you will be charged an international tuition fee rate.

To find your fee status, please see: www.ed.ac.uk/tuition-fees/fee-status/work-out/eu

University graduates applying to the BVM&S

Please note that any university graduate undertaking the BVM&S degree as a further qualification will be considered on a full fee basis regardless of nationality or domicile and to include UK and Irish applicants. For information on the latest fee rates please visit our website: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/undergraduate/tuition-fees

Other programmes

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

The University of Edinburgh is part of the Coursera consortium and offers a number of free and exciting MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) for prospective students or the general public.

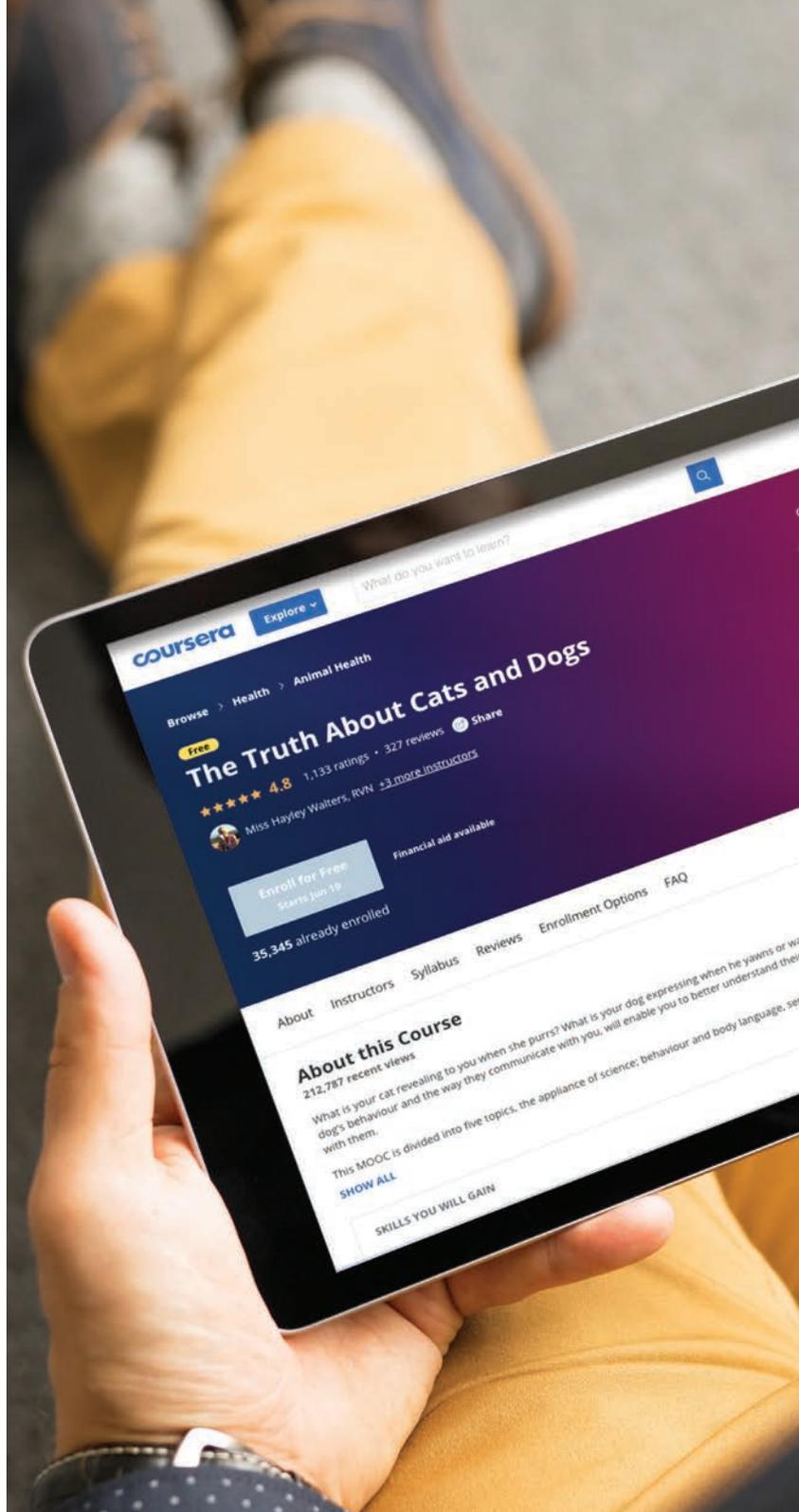
At the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, we offer six MOOCs, which will provide you with an insight into what to expect of our programme of study and teaching.

- Virtual Work Experience and Exploring the Veterinary Profession*
- EDIVET: Do you have what it takes to be a veterinarian?
- Animal Behaviour and Welfare
- The Truth about Cats and Dogs
- Chicken Behaviour and Welfare
- Sustainable Global Food Systems

For more information and to enroll onto a course, visit:

www.ed.ac.uk/vet/studying/moocs-overview

*we collaborated on the content of this MOOC, hosted by the University of Nottingham.



Vice-Principal and Head of College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine

Professor David Argyle

Directors

Veterinary Teaching: Professor Susan Rhind

Veterinary Admissions: Dr Gurå Bergkvist

Dr Fraser Murdoch

Student Affairs: Professor Scott Pirie

BVM&S Admissions Team

Telephone: +44 (0)131 651 7305

Fax: +44 (0)131 650 6585

Email: vetug@ed.ac.uk

Web: www.ed.ac.uk/vet

Follow us

www.facebook.com/dickvet

www.twitter.com/TheDickVet

www.instagram.com/thedickvet

www.youtube.com/DickVetSchool

www.linkedin.com/company/thedickvet

Other Contacts

Accommodation Services

+44 (0)131 651 2042

accom.allocations@ed.ac.uk

www.accom.ed.ac.uk

Student Disability Service

+44 (0)131 650 6828

disability.service@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/student-disability-service

Edinburgh University Students' Association (EUSA)

+44 (0)131 650 2656

advice@eusa.ed.ac.uk

www.eusa.ed.ac.uk

www.twitter.com/EUSA

Student Fees and Funding

+44 (0)131 650 2230

www.ed.ac.uk/tuition-fees/contact/form

UCAS

+44 (0)871 4680468

enquiries@ucas.ac.uk

www.ucas.com

www.twitter.com/ucas_online

Scholarships and Funding

+44 (0)131 651 4070

scholarships@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding

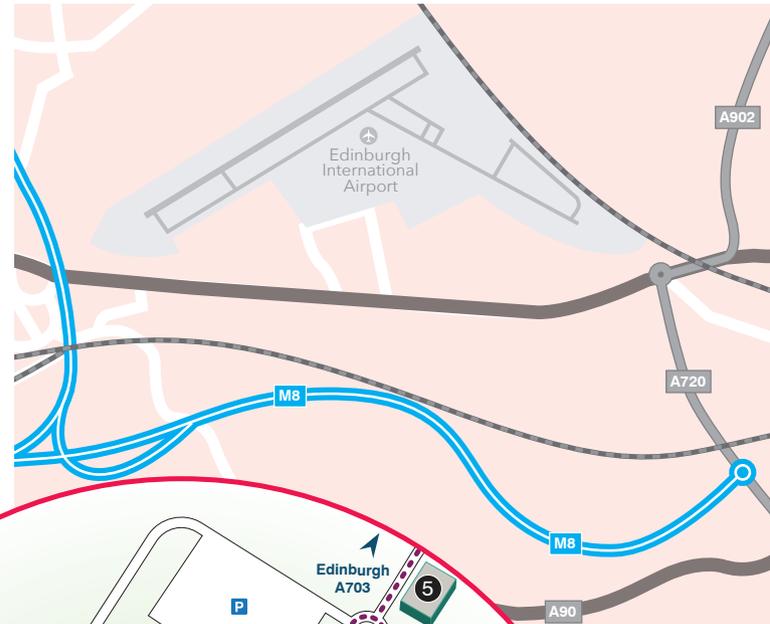
www.twitter.com/UoEStudentFunds

Please note: Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this brochure is correct at the time of publication; however, staffing may change and you may not encounter those people featured in this publication during your studies.

Transport

The Easter Bush Campus is located seven miles to the south of the centre of Edinburgh. Students can apply for a subsidised bus pass to help offset the cost of travel. The main methods that students use to come to the campus are:

- **Bus** - Lothian buses runs regular services several times an hour.
- **Bike** - we have a secure bike shed, showers and changing facilities and the University supports a number of schemes to help people cycle to and from the campus.
- **Car** - some students choose to drive and are able to apply for a free student car park pass.



1. Veterinary Teaching Building
2. Community Garden
3. The Hospital for Small Animals and Riddell-Swan Veterinary Cancer Centre
4. The Bumstead Building
5. Nursery
6. Campus Service Centre
7. The Roslin Institute
8. The Global Academy of Agriculture and Food Systems
9. The Charnock Bradley Building
10. Farm Animal Practice
11. The Greenwood Building
12. Equine Diagnostic, Surgical and Critical Care Unit
13. Equine Hospital and Practice
14. Farm Animal Hospital

- Overflow parking
- Disabled parking
- Main entrance & reception
- Bus stop
- Bus route
- Client parking
- Parking





Lothian Buses Services 15, 37 and 47B service the Easter Bush Campus.

Further information on these services can be found at: www.lothianbuses.co.uk



Where we are

Detailed maps can be found at:
www.ed.ac.uk/maps

Find out more

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies

The University of Edinburgh

Easter Bush Campus

Midlothian EH25 9RG

This publication contains information for students planning to start university in 2024. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (March 2023). However, since this information is subject to change, please check the University's website for the latest updates: www.ed.ac.uk

The University of Edinburgh is a charitable body, registered in Scotland, with registration number SC005336.

www.ed.ac.uk/vet