

MBA/DVM PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Introduction: The College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (CVMBS) and the College of Business offer a combined 5-year program of study that can result in earning both the *Master of Business Administration* (MBA) degree and the *Doctor of Veterinary Medicine* (DVM) degree. Successful applicants matriculate into the Evening MBA Program during the first year of the combined program (taking 8-10 credits per semester with 4-5 credits in the summer session, evenings). Upon successful completion of the first year of the program, students will earn a position in the first year of the DVM Program. Students will complete the remaining requirements of the Evening MBA Program concurrently with the first two years of the DVM Program.

Admission: Application to the combined degree program occurs concurrently with the regular DVM application process. Applicants fill out the VMCAS application as well as the Colorado Supplemental Application. Additionally, applicants who apply to the 5-year combined program must complete a special section of the Colorado Supplemental Application and reply to the MBA/DVM Program essay prompt and will complete a free soft skills assessment through JERA Partnerships.

Evaluation of applicants to the combined program will be based on the same criteria as those applying for regular admission to the DVM Program. In addition, MBA/DVM applicants will be evaluated based on the quality of a separate narrative that specifically addresses their motivations for participating in the combined program, as well as complementary experiences as revealed in the body of the regular application. Previous professional work experience is **ESSENTIAL**, and preference will be given to those with longer or full-time professional work experiences. Applicants accepted into the combined program will be required to fill out a Graduate School Application and College of Business Applicant Data Sheet in addition to the VMCAS application packet.

Note: If you indicate you wish to be considered for the MBA/DVM program (on the Colorado Supplemental Application), your application will additionally be considered in the regular DVM admissions pool. When decisions are released, if a candidate receives an OFFER to the MBA/DVM program, he/she will not be further considered in the regular DVM admissions pool, regardless of whether or not he/she accepts or declines the MBA/DVM offer. If you are denied or designated as an alternate for the MBA/DVM program, your application will be considered in the regular DVM admissions pool.

Program Details: Admitted MBA/DVM students have committed to completing a 5-year program leading to the combined degrees.

1. MBA Program Overview –

The Evening MBA Program serves as a basis for the combined MBA/DVM Program and provides a fresh, relevant approach to graduate business education. Content is cross-functional and is based on a competency model where the curriculum is infused with 5 core competency areas: finance, data analytics, leadership, innovation, and business for a better world. This 42-credit program is designed to serve the needs of working professionals and future veterinarians. The first year consists of the following: 1) two 16-week semesters, each divided into two 8-week sessions, in which the student earns 16-18 credits; and 2) one 8-week summer session in which the student earns 4-6 credits. Thus, the first year of the combined program is defined as the first 20-24 hours of the MBA Program. The remaining 18-22 credits of courses are taken simultaneously with the first two years of the DVM Program. The final MBA capstone course is completed in the spring semester of the 2nd year of the DVM Program. For the first year of the MBA (fall and spring), classes meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5:30 – 9:00 PM; in year 2 and 3, MBA classes meet on Monday and Wednesday evenings 5:30 – 9:00 PM. This schedule minimizes the impact on busy work schedules or concurrent registration in daytime courses like those of the traditional DVM Program. Combined MBA/DVM students may begin classes in the fall semester only.

All accepted students will be required to attend the College of Business orientation for new students in the weeks preceding the first evening of classes. In addition, MBA/DVM students will be required to attend a half-day orientation hosted by the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (date and time to be announced). Students will be introduced to faculty advisors and MBA/DVM student mentors at the onset of the program. Social activities to promote group interaction and collegiality with involved faculty will be sponsored each semester by the College. MBA/DVM students will have the opportunity to participate in DVM student social activities and veterinary student clubs beginning with the first MBA-devoted year of the Program.

2. Guaranteed Admission to the DVM Program –

- Students who successfully complete the first year of the MBA Program will be granted a Colorado sponsored position in the subsequent DVM class, provided they are eligible for Colorado domicile.
- Non-Colorado resident students enrolled in the MBA Program may be eligible to convert their tuition classification to Colorado prior to matriculating into the DVM Program. Applicants who are domiciled (not the same as "residency") in Colorado for one year or more prior to the date of matriculation in the DVM Program are eligible to be included in the Colorado pool, and if qualified, will have their obligation to pay a support fee funded by the State of Colorado. For information about establishing domicile, go to the tuition classification website, <https://financialaid.colostate.edu/doctor-veterinary-medical-students>. Questions concerning eligibility for Colorado support should be directed to the Colorado State University Office of Student Financial Services, 103 Administration Annex (970) 491-6321, please let them know you are applying to the MBA/DVM Program. Students who do not become domiciled in the State of Colorado in time will be offered Non-sponsored position in the MBA/DVM Program. Please know once you have

matriculated into the DVM program in a Non-sponsored position you cannot later change to a Colorado sponsored position.

- If the student receives less than a 3.0 cumulative GPA at the end of the first year of the combined program (defined as the first 20-24 hours of the MBA Program), he/she will not be eligible for admission to the DVM Program. The student will be encouraged to apply to the DVM Program through the regular admission process.
- Successful completion of the first year of the MBA program is defined as completing the required list of courses (first 20-24 credit hours) with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better.
- Students who are dismissed from the combined program for failing to maintain minimum requirements may appeal the decision within 30 days of notification of such dismissal from the CVMBS Office of the Dean. Appeals must be in writing and directed to the Associate Dean for the DVM Program.
- Successful MBA students do not have to fill out a second VMCAS Application. However, later in August you will be asked to update your personal and contact information/tuition classification. Later in the following spring semester you will also be requested to accept an offer to the DVM program. No additional application fees are required.
- If a student wishes to drop out of the MBA Program after beginning, but prior to completion, of the first year of the combined program, s/he will lose the status of guaranteed admission to the DVM Program. S/he must reapply for admission to the DVM Program through the regular admission process.

Financial Awards/Assistantships/Part Time Job

3. Graduate Assistantship

- Students who are accepted to the Combined MBA/DVM Program will be offered a graduate assistantship in the College of Business for year 1 only of the Combined Program. Students will be paired with a faculty member in the College of Business and are expected to work 10 hours weekly. Pairings are based on previous experience, interest, and faculty needs and are determined by the College of Business. The assistantship pays ½ of the tuition (in-state or out-of-state) for the first fall and spring semesters. Additionally, there is a stipend of about \$845 pre-tax per month (2 semesters total) to use toward the Graduate Differential Tuition, fees, textbooks, or other academic fees. Assistantships do not cover the Graduate Differential Tuition.

4. Continuation in the Combined Program

- It is expected that students in the combined program will complete the remaining requirements of the MBA Program during the first two years of the DVM Program.
- Consideration of extending completion of the MBA Program after matriculation into the DVM Program will be given on an individual basis by the Associate Dean for the DVM Program.

5. Award of the Combined MBA/DVM Degrees

- When the student has successfully completed the requirements for the MBA degree, it will be awarded by the College of Business.
- When the student has successfully completed the requirements for the DVM degree, it will be awarded by the CVMBS.

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