

BVetMed degree programme

Information Sheet

2024-25

The BVetMed degree takes 5 years to complete.

Teaching activities are primarily at the Camden Campus during the first two years of study. In years 1 to 2, the teaching, revision and assessment period is spread over 40-42 weeks and typically includes three weeks around Christmas and two weeks around Easter, when no teaching is scheduled. At the end of years 1 and 2, there is a summer break before teaching activities commence in September, which is the start of the new academic year.

During the first two years of the degree, students will be required to undertake 12 weeks of Animal Husbandry Extra-Mural Study (AHEMS), which will involve farm and other animal work. These placements are compulsory and, in years 1 and 2, need to be undertaken, in part, during the Easter and summer breaks.

Teaching through these first two years may involve students attending the Hawkshead Campus or the RVC Farm. Transport will be provided free of charge between the campuses for this teaching, but students who wish to visit these locations outside these timetabled teaching sessions must make their own travel arrangements which will incur additional costs. The requirements for the number of weeks of AHEMS is currently under review and is subject to

time at the Camden or Hawkshead campus or off-site.

The AHEMS and EMS placements will involve the student being away from their RVC residence. While some placement providers may provide board and accommodation, most do not, and there are contingent costs to the student for accommodation and travel. There is more information about this below under 'Fees and Costs'.

In years 1 to 2 of the BVetMed degree course, learning opportunities include lectures, seminars, demonstrations, practical classes, problem-based study groups, computer-aided learning tools, introduction to clinical skills, directed and independent study time, and tutorials. We use blended delivery modes that accommodate all our students' needs. There will also be practical husbandry sessions at the College Farm and opportunities to observe clinical activities.

In year 3 there will be additional clinical skills sessions in the College's dedicated Clinical Skills Centre.

Learning opportunities in the two final years comprise of clinical rotations (onsite and offsite with collaborative partners), clinical EMS, completion of a research project and a short period of didactic teaching at the Hawkshead campus.

The BVetMed course is subject to ongoing review and development, aimed at enhancing student learning and adaptation to the changing professional environment. As such, it is important to appreciate that changes to the course structure may be introduced before or during enrolment.

The detailed content of the BVetMed Intercolated degree can be accessed at <https://www.rvc.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/bachelor-of-veterinary-medicine>. This page provides a detailed outline of the whole course and advice on work placements. The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) defines the competences that need to be achieved by the new veterinary graduate and specifies the requirements for veterinary degree courses to be approved for registration purposes. The RVC abides by these requirements as the basis for the content of the degree.

All teaching staff at RVC are fully qualified to teach at higher education level. You will find

The fees for EU and international students are also listed at the above links. These are substantially higher than UK fees as the RVC receives no government subsidy or support for such students and, therefore, has to charge "full cost fees". In deciding the annual increase for EU and international students, the College will consider a range of factors, including rises in the costs of delivery of its teaching programs and changes in government funding. The increase will not exceed 5% yearly or the Retail Price Index (RPI) if higher. We will publish the fee in September of the preceding academic year.

The fees do not cover accommodation costs. In Camden, the weekly fees for accommodation in 2023/2024 ranged from £203 to £288 per week over a 40, 48 or 50-week contract depending on hall of residence and catering options.

Other course costs are kept to a minimum and may include items such as printing/photocopying.

The RVC now has an efficient paperless curriculum which keeps paper costs to a minimum. You are provided with an annual allowance of approx. £10 for any printing or copying you decide to do. Current A4 prices are 5p per sheet for black and white copies and 10p for colour copies.

Students will also be required to purchase appropriate professional clothing (e.g. laboratory coat, boiler suit, scrub top, Wellington boots) and equipment (e.g. stethoscope) as directed at different stages during the course. Items can be purchased from the Students Union shop, and students are discouraged from purchasing items without prior reference to the requirements specified on the Students Union website. For the rotations phase of the course and EMS placements, adherence to a professional dress code is expected.

Extra-mural study placements form an essential element of the BVetMed degree programme, and you may incur additional costs to complete them. While some farms provide board, accommodation, and meals, you will likely be required to arrange and pay for your board and lodging as well as travel costs to the off-site location.

Some veterinary practices or other organisations may be able to offer accommodation during your EMS with them, but most do not; thus, you will generally have to expect to make your own arrangements for accommodation, board and travel. Students are responsible for organising their placements, so these costs should be considered.

Some rotations take place off-site and therefore involve travel between the campus and rotation location, or between rotation locations. Accommodation is provided for some off-site rotations but not all. You will be allocated a financial contribution towards rotation expenses such as travel and accommodation, which will be paid in instalments, although it will not likely cover all travel costs. The amount of support provided will depend on the number of offsite rotations you initially select. Therefore, you should budget accordingly to cover such AHEMS, EMS and rotation related costs at the relevant stages of the course.

Please note that from the beginning of year 3, there will be very little opportunity for full-time work to raise funds over the holiday periods. Due to the demands of the course, particularly during the final 2 years, many students find that sustaining part-time work in parallel with the course is very difficult.

For EU students accepting a place on a programme for entry in the academic year 2024/25, your fees will now be the same as other international students, as listed above.

EU students are permitted to enter the UK. However, to stay and study for the duration of the course, they will need to apply for immigration permission either through the EU Settlement Scheme or the Student Visa route.

The links below provide more information:

<https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/EU-EEA--Swiss-Students/Brexit--EU-Settlement-Scheme>

<https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>

The RVC has a range of policies and statutory requirements with which it must comply. The documents detailing these procedures in full are available on the College's website, here:

<https://www.rvc.ac.uk/about/the-rvc/academic-quality-regulations-procedures>.

The full information on