UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

Pre-Veterinary Prerequisite Checklist

STUDENT:

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UPDATED: October 2026 (UA Little Rock five-digit course numbers)

INTERESTED IN: ☐ Small animal ☐ Large / mixed ☐ Undecided **Applying in:**

Arkansas now has its own veterinary school (Arkansas State) and a second one on the way (Lyon College), and Arkansas residents also have funded seats at several out-of-state schools. This checklist covers both. If you complete the courses in Part C **with all the labs**, you will meet the prerequisites of most schools listed. Most veterinary schools **no longer require the GRE**. Requirements change every year, so confirm on each school's website before you apply. **For advising, contact Dr. Ghosh (axghosh@ualr.edu); if he can't meet or is slow to respond, reach out to Dr. Flowers (eeflowers@ualr.edu).** We run the program together. Keep this checklist current; you will submit it with your UA Little Rock committee letter application.

Tip: open this file in Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview or your browser, click the boxes to check off courses, type in the fields, and save. You can update it at every advising meeting.

Part A. Veterinary schools for Arkansas students

	Arkansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine (Jonesboro)	Lyon College School of Veterinary Medicine (Batesville; teaching hospital in Cabot)
Status	Open. Letter of Reasonable Assurance from the AVMA Council on Education (April 2026); first class of about 120 (about 45 Arkansans) entered August 2026	Seeking accreditation; AVMA site visit August 2026. Students can be admitted only after it receives a Letter of Reasonable Assurance; instruction projected to start in 2027
Biology	6 hrs + 2 hrs lab	General biology with lab 4; microbiology with lab 4; genetics 3
Chemistry	General 6 + 2 lab; organic 3; biochemistry 3	General with lab 8; organic with lab 8; biochemistry 3
Physics, math	Statistics or college algebra or higher 3; physics optional (counts as upper-level science)	Physics or biophysics 8; statistics 3
English, other	English composition 6; 14 hrs upper-level science + 17 hrs electives	English composition 6; speech communication 3; animal nutrition 3 preferred
GPA	Minimum 2.8; C- or better	Minimum 3.0 overall and 3.0 science; C- or better
Experience, letters	No minimum hours; 3+ letters, one from a veterinarian	No minimum hours; 3 letters, one from a veterinarian; personal statement
Application	VMCAS; deadline mid-September	First class applies directly to Lyon; VMCAS after that

Prerequisites at both schools must be finished by the spring or summer before entry, and Arkansas State does not require a bachelor's degree. Check both schools' websites often; Lyon's admissions will open once it is approved.

Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG). Arkansas residents admitted to out-of-state contract schools receive funding toward tuition. Current veterinary seats: **LSU 9, Oklahoma State 1, Missouri 1, Tuskegee 1** each year (2025–26 award at LSU about $37,000 a year). Apply by **July 1**: ARHEG details.

Other schools Arkansas students attend:

School	Key requirements	Notes
LSU (Baton Rouge)	Biology 6 + 2 lab; gen chem 6 + 2 lab; organic 3; biochemistry 3; microbiology 3 + 1 lab; physics 6; math 6; English 6; humanities/social sciences/electives 22	9 ARHEG seats; 100–300 vet hours recommended
Oklahoma State (Stillwater)	Animal nutrition 3 (upper level); biochemistry 3; biology 8 with lab; gen chem 8 with lab; English 9; genetics 3; humanities/social sciences 6; microbiology 4–5 with lab; organic 5–8 with lab; physics 8 with lab; statistics 3	1 ARHEG seat; GPA 3.0 minimum
Missouri (Columbia)	Composition/communication 6; college algebra or higher 3; biochemistry 3; physics 5–10; biological sciences 10; social sciences/humanities 10	1 ARHEG seat; 40+ hrs with a veterinarian
Mississippi State (Starkville)	English 3; humanities/social sciences/fine arts 15; math 6; biology 8 with lab; microbiology 4 with lab; gen chem 8 with lab; organic 8 with lab; biochemistry 3; physics 6; upper-level science 6	GPA 3.0 minimum; no summer prerequisites
Tennessee (Knoxville)	English 6; social sciences/humanities 18; biology 8 with lab; cell biology 3; genetics 3; gen chem 8 with lab; organic 8 with lab; physics 8 with lab; biochemistry 4	Non-residents need GPA 3.2+
Texas A&M (College Station)	Biology 4, microbiology 4, gen chem 8, organic 8, physics 4 (all with labs); genetics 3; animal nutrition 3; biochemistry 3; statistics 3; English 3; public speaking 3	Applies through TMDSAS (not VMCAS); Casper test; 100+ vet hours
Auburn (Alabama)	Biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry 7–8 each with lab; physics 4; biochemistry 3; science electives 6	Non-residents need GPA 3.4+; 500+ hrs with a veterinarian

Part B. Experience and the application

- **Veterinary experience is essential.** Work or volunteer under a veterinarian in more than one setting (small animal, large or mixed animal, shelter, research or wildlife). Minimums range from none to 500 hours (Auburn); aim for **several hundred hours** and keep a detailed log.
- **Animal experience** (farm work, ranching, kennel, shelter, 4-H, FFA) counts separately from veterinary experience; record both.
- **VMCAS** (AAVMC): opens in late January; programs can be selected from early May; the deadline is mid-September (September 15 in 2026) for entry the following fall. Fees were $241 for the first school and $132 for each additional, and many schools add a supplemental fee.
- **GRE:** not required by Mississippi State, LSU, Oklahoma State, Auburn, Missouri or Texas A&M. Texas A&M requires the Casper test.
- **Letters:** usually 3, including at least one from a veterinarian. Our committee letter is also available.

Part C. Course checklist

Check off each course as you complete it. Take every lab.

Biology

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	BIOL 10284 Biological Concepts I (4) **or** BIOL 10104 Science of Biology (4)	None	
☐	BIOL 20504 Zoology (4) (second biology course with lab)	Intro biology	
☐	BIOL 20194 Microbiology (4)	Intro biology and a chemistry course	
☐	BIOL 30883 Genetics (3) + BIOL 30091 Genetics Laboratory (1)	Intro biology, Microbiology and chemistry	
☐	BIOL 40694 Cell Biology (4) (required by Tennessee)	See catalog	
☐	Recommended upper-level: BIOL 40394 Comparative Physiology (4), BIOL 30894 Vertebrate Histology (4), BIOL 41384 Immunology (4), BIOL 30084 Developmental Biology (4)	See catalog	

Animal nutrition (required by Oklahoma State and Texas A&M) is not offered at UA Little Rock; take an approved course online or at another university, and confirm with the school that it will count.

Chemistry

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	CHEM 13003 General Chemistry I (3) + CHEM 11001 Lab (1)	College Algebra or chemistry placement (see catalog)	
☐	CHEM 14203 General Chemistry II (3) + CHEM 14201 Lab (1)	General Chemistry I	
☐	CHEM 36053 Organic Chemistry I (3) + CHEM 36051 Lab (1)	General Chemistry II	
☐	CHEM 36203 Organic Chemistry II (3) + CHEM 36201 Lab (1)	Organic Chemistry I; Lab I required for Lab II	
☐	CHEM 42133 Biochemistry I (3); CHEM 42031 Lab (1) recommended	Organic Chemistry I and II with labs	

Physics

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	PHYS 20103 College Physics I (3) + PHYS 20101 Lab (1)	See catalog	
☐	PHYS 20203 College Physics II (3) + PHYS 20201 Lab (1)	College Physics I	

Math, English, communication and humanities

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	MATH 11003 College Algebra (3) or higher	Placement	
☐	MATH 21003 Introduction to Statistical Methods (3)	See catalog	
☐	ENGL 10103 Composition I (3)	Placement	
☐	ENGL 10203 Composition II (3)	Composition I	
☐	A third English course (3), e.g., literature or technical writing (Oklahoma State asks for 9 hours)	See catalog	
☐	COMM 10073 Introduction to Communication (3) or another public speaking course (Texas A&M)	None	
☐	Humanities and social sciences, 15–22 hrs (e.g., PSYC 20043, SOCI 10103, PHIL 23093 Ethics and Society)	See catalog	

Experiences and plans

Item	Notes (hours, places, dates)
Veterinary experience (with a veterinarian)	
Animal experience	
Research	
Community service and leadership	

Item	Notes (hours, places, dates)
Schools you plan to apply to	

Department and campus contacts

For more information on prerequisites and course content, transfer equivalencies, finding classes and connecting with professors (please keep Dr. Ghosh or Dr. Flowers informed):

Contact	Email	Ask about
Dr. Sinead Ni Chadhain, Biology Chair	snichadhain@ualr.edu	Biology courses and transfer equivalencies
Dr. Juliette Rivero, Chemistry	jxriverocas@ualr.edu	Chemistry courses and sequencing
Dr. Georgy Guisbiers, Physics	gxguisbiers@ualr.edu	Physics courses and sequencing
Office of Transfer Student Services	transfer@ualr.edu; 501-916-3273	Articulating courses from other colleges

Requirements were checked on the schools' websites in October 2026 and change every year; confirm each school's current requirements before you apply.