



APPLY SMARTER CHECKLIST 2024

Target schools that will give you the best odds of getting in and will cost you the least. Set yourself up for success with these seven steps:

- STEP 1: Determine your projected total veterinary school costs**
 - ✓ Go to the [Cost of Education Toolkit](#)
 - ✓ Explore different veterinary school programs and the associated costs
 - ✓ View the school rankings on the map from the lowest to highest cost of attendance (COA)
 - ✓ Toggle among resident and non-resident cost profiles and estimated annual increases
 - ✓ *For extra credit: Estimate your student loan costs for your selected school using the VIN Foundation [In-School Loan Estimator](#)*

- STEP 2: Focus on discounted veterinary school seats**
 - ✓ In-State school option(s) based on your state of residency
 - ✓ Schools that allow you to obtain in-state tuition after the first year
 - ✓ [Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education \(WICHE\)](#) options
 - ✓ [Southern Regional Educational Board](#) options
 - ✓ Multi-location programs (AK+CSU, NE+ISU, UT+WSU, SD+UMN)

- STEP 3: Increase your odds of acceptance**
 - ✓ Visit veterinary school websites to research most recent admitted class statistics
 - ✓ Research combined DVM degree programs that fit your skill set
 - ✓ Visit with your top-choice admissions offices to see how to improve your application

- STEP 4: Explore new graduate and experienced veterinarian income data**
 - ✓ [AVMA Veterinary Salary Estimator](#)
 - ✓ Review the [2023 AVMA Report on ECONOMIC STATE OF THE VETERINARY PROFESSION](#)
 - ✓ Bureau of Labor Statistics [for veterinarians](#) nationally and in your area

- STEP 5: Explore the VIN Foundation Apply Smarter [Message Boards](#)**
 - ✓ [Sign up](#) for FREE VIN Foundation access to participate in the special Apply Smarter Message Boards
 - ✓ Browse previous posts from other pre-vet students to learn more
 - ✓ Start a post to ask your questions. The 100,000+ VIN member veterinarians and veterinary students are here to help you on your journey

- STEP 6: [VMCAS portal](#) - your gateway to applying to most veterinary schools**
 - ✓ Application service opens in January
 - ✓ Begin selecting your programs in May
 - ✓ Deadline for submission is in September for admission the following fall



STEP 7: Take advantage of helpful resources:

- ✓ Apply Smarter [webinar recording](#)
- ✓ Apply Smarter [Q&A](#) from webinars
- ✓ VIN Foundation [Vet School Bound website](#)
- ✓ VIN Foundation [Student Debt Center](#)
- ✓ APVMA [website](#) and [Facebook Group](#)
- ✓ National Pre-Vet Club [website](#) and [Instagram](#)
- ✓ Student Doctor Network [veterinary forums](#)
- ✓ AAVMC [Veterinary Medical College Application Service \(VMCAS\)](#)
- ✓ [Federal Student Aid](#) website

Visit VINFoundation.org/ApplySmarter for more details and join the VIN Foundation on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

Questions? Email ApplySmarter@VINFoundation.org.

