



VSCP Core Values: Opportunity, Accessibility, Inclusion

FAQ: Overnight Summer Camps

Who can participate in Overnight Summer Camps?

- Any student, regardless of location or school type
- Students must be entering 9th -12th grade for the next school year
- College Station applicants must be a minimum of 15 on June 1st of their camp year

When can I apply for a camp?

- Applications open in January and close on March 1st each year

When will I be notified if I got into a camp?

- Applications are reviewed in the order they are received for scoring. You should be notified after March 1st and no later April 1st.

Do I have to apply to all locations?

- No! While we know students may have an idea of where they want to attend, that is not always the camp they get accepted to. We suggest applying to all that you are interested in. If you are accepted to multiple camps you will have the choice to select the camp. Students may only attend one camp per summer.

Can I attend more than one camp if I am accepted to multiple camps?

- No. Because we have limited seats available we limit each student to only one camp each summer. If accepted to multiple camps you will be only be able to accept one camp. We will remove the duplicates and drop down on the waiting list for others to be accepted.

How long are camps?

- Tarleton State University and West Texas A&M University are 3 days. This includes 2 full days and a half day on the last day.
- Texas A& M University in College Station camp is 4 days. This includes 3 full days and a half day on the last day.

Are their scholarships available?

- All camps have a scholarship application. These tend to vary year to year based on availability of funds. We notify accepted applicants of scholarship opportunities as they arise and will request needed information to assist the student. Normally these are based on financial need.

When will I have to pay for my camp?

- Once accepted applicants will be provided a payment link. All payments must be completed by May 15th and paid by credit/debit card or school purchase order.
- Payment options are available for all students as long as the balance is paid in full by the deadline of May 15th.
- Any scholarships awarded will be given prior to the final balance date and applied to the students account to reduce the total amount due.
- All students will have to pay even some of the fee. No scholarship offered pays the entirety of the fees required.

What is included in my camp fees?

- All meals,snacks, transportation, lodging and activities are included in your registration fees.
- Once a student checks in with us they will not need to pay for anything except personal items such as momentos or souvenirs to take home

Why does VSCP require an application?

- To keep our camps conducive for hands on learning and a more meaningful experience we limit each camp to 30 students.
- Since capacity is limited we want to ensure that the attendees have the ability to have the best experience possible and are truly passionate and working towards exploring veterinary medicine or animal science as a career option.
- Applications provide the ability to review applicants and give merit towards the work students have done and encourage them to continue working towards certification.

What camp should I apply to?

- We encourage you to apply to any camp that fits your schedule.
- Students are encouraged to apply to any of the listed locations a student might be interested in attending college to get a better idea of the campus and environment.
- Locations that a student hasn't attended in previous summers.
- More than one camp if interested.

How many students apply?

- We typically see over 300 applications for about 90-100 seats each year.
- Application numbers are increasing as our customer base is growing exponentially.

What does the application process look like?

- Each application is reviewed and scored based on the application rubric. It can be found on the VSCP Summer Camp Events website.
- Every student must complete an application that includes a short hand written essay that will be scored based on the response
- Students with the highest rubric score will be placed in order of score for a seat at the location they applied. The top 30 students will be given a seat and a chance to accept or decline the invitation.
- If a student declines the seat we will drop down in order of scoring to the next highest score on the waitlist. Waitlist students are only notified if this becomes available.
- Waitlist students are only given a short window to accept or decline so that we can fill the seat and complete our roster.

What is on the scoring application rubric?

- Students score are based on the many different aspects that the VSCP staff values. You can see the rubric posted on our website to view what items are scored.
- Applicants can increase their score in many ways. While their essay is worth many points we also give credit to students that are already working towards earning a veterinary assistant certification by completing clinical skills, clinical hours and participating in organizations, groups and activities that promote and educate students in the area of veterinary science.

Will I get clinical hours for attending this camp?

- Clinical hours are offered at each camp by our attending Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. The number of hours and skills offered is solely their discretion based on the activities at the camp.
- Typically 6-18 hours of clinical hours, 20+ clinical skills 20+ classroom hours are granted depending on if you attend a 3 or 4 day camp.

What camp should I submit an application for?

- While each camp is different we try to expose students to animals and activities that they would typically not see on a regular basis or on a regular day.
- All camps have a large animal aspect which includes horses and cows. Each camp and the activities to the respective species is different depending on the facilities and animals available.
- Each camp location has different opportunities so we encourage students to explore each location offered if possible.

What is the goal of the overnight summer camps?

- The goal of these camps is for students to explore the possibility of veterinary medicine and/or animal science as a career. As such students are exposed to many different areas of veterinary medicine such as laboratory, research and ambulatory aspects of the field.
- We strive to give students a real world hands on experience to what their journey could look like if they are truly interested in pursuing a degree in veterinary medicine or animal science.

Do you get a certification from attending this camp?

- No. Students can acquire clinical skills and clinical & classroom hours for attending the camps. These hours must be added to the total requirements needed to apply for the Veterinary Assistant Industry Based Certification offered through Texas A&M AgriLife Extension.