

Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences

FOOD ANIMAL INTERNSHIP

General Information

I. Introduction

The food animal internship program is offered by the Production Management Medicine Section (PMM) within the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences (DLACS) in the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech.

II. Objectives

The objectives of the food animal internship program are to:

1. Improve the knowledge and skills of the intern in food animal medicine to prepare the intern for a residency program or private practice.
2. Assist in the instruction of senior and underclass veterinary students.
3. Provide care for food animal patients in the field as well as in Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH).

III. Prerequisite

Prerequisite for acceptance into the food animal internship program is a DVM degree or equivalent.

IV. Application Procedures

Application will proceed through the Veterinary Intern/Resident Matching Program. The Matching Program will be administered by the Chairman of DLACS.

V. Criteria for Selection

Candidates for the food animal internship program will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Letter of intent
2. Curriculum vitae
3. Transcripts of university performance
4. Three letters of reference
5. Experience

VI. Administration of the Food Animal Internship Program

The program will be administered by the Chairman of DLACS. The large animal intern will be responsible to the Food Animal Internship Advisor who is a member of the DLACS.

VII. Responsibilities

- a. Intern will participate in the Production Management Medicine Service. Assignments will be made by the section head of PMM. Activities will be

- assigned in order to maximize the intern's experience with all species encountered in the PMM service.
- b. The intern will be responsible, under the supervision of a clinical faculty member, for hospitalized cases. The intern will be responsible for completing records which will be reviewed by the faculty member associated with the case.
 - c. The intern will be responsible for completing invoices and medical records in a timely manner for cases that he/she is responsible.
 - d. Emergency duty: The intern will be on call every other night and every other weekend, except during times off clinic. Emergency duty for holidays will be assigned.
 - e. The intern will participate in the instruction of students assigned to the PMM clerkship.
 - f. The intern will participate in assigned pre-clinical laboratories. These pre-clinical laboratories take precedent over PMM service responsibilities.
 - g. The intern will participate in the grading of PMM clerkship students.
 - h. The intern will keep a log of the cases observed during the internship program. The log will be reviewed on a monthly basis.
 - i. The intern will present a minimum of one case at the Intern/Resident Rounds.
 - j. The intern will participate in the weekly journal club.
 - k. The intern will be encouraged to assist in the presentation of continuing education programs offered by the Department. All requests for the intern to participate in continuing education programs must be approved by the Food Animal Internship Advisor.
 - l. The intern must prepare a case report or review article suitable for publication in a refereed journal.
 - m. The intern will participate in a two three-week elective rotations during the appointment. The timing and location of this rotation will be approved in advance by the Food Animal Internship Advisor.
 - n. The intern will be evaluated every six months by faculty in PMM. The evaluation will include medical knowledge, clinical skills, responsibility, attitude and communication skills. An assessment of the intern's strength and weakness will be made by faculty in PMM. Results of these evaluations will be discussed with the intern and forwarded to the Chairman of DLACS. The intern will submit a written evaluation of the program or discuss the strength and weakness of the program during an exit interview with the Chairman of DLACS.