

VETERINARY HEALTH CENTER POLICIES

The Veterinary Health Center (VHC) is an integral part of the College of Veterinary Medicine, and as such, it has three major missions: a) provide a clinical teaching facility for veterinary students and house officers (interns and residents), b) provide a facility for high-quality veterinary care for patients brought directly to the VHC by our clients, or for those referred by practicing veterinarians, and c) provide a facility for clinical veterinary research. As a veterinary student with assignment in the VHC, you will have an opportunity to learn from activities associated with each of these missions.

Quality patient care is a high priority of the VHC staff. The activities necessary for consistent, quality patient care in the VHC are not limited by the academic calendar, but continue throughout the year. During your assignment in the VHC, you will be a part of the health care team, and will be expected to share in our responsibility to provide high quality and consistent patient care throughout the year.

Senior clinicians with assignment in the VHC are members of the faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine. **They are ultimately responsible for all patient care in the VHC.** They are also responsible for clinical instruction to assist you in your mastery of clinical veterinary medicine.

You will be evaluated and graded on your ability to be responsible for assignments given to you in the VHC, as well as your knowledge and technical skills.

The VHC is divided into several core rotations: 1) Anesthesiology, 2) Clinical Orthopedic Surgery, 3) Clinical Soft Tissue Surgery, 4) Diagnostic Medicine, 5) Equine Medicine OR 6) Equine Surgery AND 7) Equine Field Service, 8) Food Animal Local Practice, 9) Food Animal Medicine & Surgery, 10) Small Animal General Medicine, 11) Small Animal Internal Medicine, 12) Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging I (Radiology), and 13) Ophthalmology. Because of the differences in the nature of the practice in each of these rotations, there are some differences in procedures and expectations from rotation to rotation. It will be your responsibility to learn the requirements for each rotation and to adhere to the procedures outlined.

Part of our professional responsibility to clients is to be courteous, friendly and show genuine concern for the health and well-being of their animal(s). As a member of the VHC health care team, you will share in the interaction with clients. This is an opportunity for you to develop your veterinarian-client communication skills. It is in everyone's best interest to serve our public in a prompt, competent and friendly manner.

*We intend to provide an opportunity for a consistently **high quality** clinical education for you. For us to achieve this goal, our health delivery systems must focus on **quality care** for all VHC patients and **quality service** for our clients.*