

# **INTERNSHIP IN VETERINARY EMERGENCY AND CRITICAL CARE**

**Louisiana State University  
School of Veterinary Medicine  
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences  
Veterinary Teaching Hospital**

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**INTERNSHIP PROGRAM  
IN  
VETERINARY EMERGENCY AND CRITICAL CARE**

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**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Internship in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care at the School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) at Louisiana State University is designed to provide 1 year of intensive postgraduate training in the discipline of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care and to prepare the intern for a residency in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care.
- 1.2 The clinical facilities of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) will be the primary training site for this program. The training program will use primarily faculty from the Emergency and Critical Care Service in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences as mentors. Additional mentoring from faculty of the Internal Medicine, Surgery and Anesthesiology services will be provided.

**2.0 OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 To provide the opportunity to experience advanced training in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care.
- 2.2 To provide training and experience in clinical teaching.
- 2.3 To prepare the Intern for residency training and/or graduate study or entry in a high quality small animal practice.
- 2.4 To provide the opportunity for optional training and experience in basic research.
- 2.5 To provide experience in the preparation of scientific articles for publication through participation in the House Officer Rounds and House Officer Seminar Series.
- 2.6 To provide experience in the review and evaluation of the scientific literature through participation in the VTH journal clubs.

**3.0 PREREQUISITES**

- 3.1 Candidates must have a DVM or equivalent degree.
- 3.2 Candidates must have completed a rotating internship in medicine and

surgery or its equivalent post-graduate experience.

- 3.3** Candidates should have successfully completed the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) or its equivalent.

#### **4.0 FACULTY MENTOR**

- 4.1** The Intern will be assigned a Faculty Mentor who is a Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Specialist in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. The mentor will monitor the intern's progress through the program and also the intern's progress of case and seminar presentations to ensure timely and acceptable preparation. The mentor may suggest the intern seek other guidance from faculty more closely associated with the cases or topics. Manuscripts submitted for publication will be reviewed, revised and coauthored by a SVM faculty member(s).

#### **5.0 CLINICAL PROGRAM**

- 5.1 Introduction.** Under the direct supervision of the Faculty Mentor, the major thrust of the Internship program is to provide advanced training in veterinary emergency and critical care. The Intern's independent case responsibility will increase as the program progresses.

#### **5.2 Clinical Training.**

**5.2.1** In the 1-year program, there will be a total of 50 weeks (48 weeks on clinic blocks) of clinic duty. The intern will spend the majority of the time on the Emergency Service receiving cases and backing up rotating interns. Several weeks will be spent in the ICU focusing on intensive care.

**5.2.2** The Intern will be trained in all pertinent aspects of the delivery of emergency and critical care medicine to veterinary patients. The Intern will be responsible to see incoming emergencies and will help manage ICU patients along side the Faculty in Emergency and Critical Care. The training will include considerations of, but will not be limited to, evaluation of emergency and critical care patients, abdominal and thoracic FAST scans, venous and arterial blood gases interpretation, therapeutic and diagnostic thoracocentesis, pericardiocentesis and abdominocentesis, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, ventilator and dialysis patient monitoring, stabilization and medical management of emergency and critical care patients. All of the Intern's work in emergency and critical care will be under the supervision of a Faculty member. Early in the Intern's program, direct Faculty supervision will be significant. It is anticipated that as the program progresses, the Intern will require less supervision and will ultimately be capable of independently delivering emergency and critical care, while still consulting with the faculty in emergency and critical care.

**5.2.3** Four weeks of the year will be allocated to elective rotations through the following services if available: Small Animal Medicine, Surgery, Diagnostic Imaging, Neurology, and Anesthesia.

**5.2.4** The Intern will participate in the tutorial instruction of Phase II students.

**5.2.5** The Intern will participate in daily student rounds, Journal club, and special topic conferences presented in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences. Other seminars in the SVM will be attended as scheduling permits.

**5.3 Emergency Duty.** The Intern will participate in the emergency duty scheduled.

**5.3.1** The intern will participate in emergency duty scheduled with other members of the Medicine Service. This duty will commit the Intern to evening, weekend and holiday duty on a rotating schedule. Throughout in the Intern's program, Faculty supervision during emergency duty will be significant. A faculty in Emergency and Critical Care or a faculty in Medicine will always be available for back up when the intern is on emergency duty. The intern will also share daytime emergency duty with other small animal house officers on a rotating basis.

## **6.0 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS AND SEMINAR PROGRAM**

**6.1** The House Officer Rounds are designed to provide the intern an opportunity to receive and present interesting, unusual, or difficult clinical case material utilizing a problem oriented approach to professional colleagues and to develop manuscripts for publication. The intern will participate with other VCS house officers on a rotating basis and will make at least 1 case presentation in House Officer Rounds during the year.

**6.2** The House Officer Seminar series is designed to provide the intern with the opportunity to research and present scientific material to professional colleagues. One seminar will be presented during the year.

**6.3** A SVM faculty member will be selected by the intern to mentor both case presentations and seminar preparation. Any manuscript based on the seminar to be submitted for publication will be reviewed, revised and coauthored by a SVM faculty member(s).

**6.4** Attendance: The intern is required to attend and participate in the following: VMED 7001: VCS Seminar, Grand Rounds, House Officer Rounds and, other seminars which are requirements of the Intern's home section.

**6.4.1** VCS HO Rounds/Seminar Policy

- 6.4.1.1 HO attendance at all HO Rounds/Seminar sessions is required. HO attendance is required at only those rounds and seminars designated as VCS HO Rounds/Seminar sessions and that others occurring in the same time slot are not required by the House Officer Committee.
- 6.4.1.2 Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each session.
- 6.4.1.3 HO will be required to present an additional seminar if they have more than one unexcused absence during the program year.
- 6.4.1.4 All absences must be accounted for by completing a HO Leave Request Form and submitting it to the HOC chair.
- 6.4.1.5 Excused absences include the following: illness, annual leave, attendance or participation in a continuing education program, presentation of a student lecture, scheduled out-rotation or special service requirements per request of advisor. All other absences are unexcused unless deemed excusable by the HO advisor.

6.5 Evaluations of House Officer Rounds and House Officer Seminar presentations will be provided by those in attendance.

## **7.0 TEACHING PROGRAM**

7.1 Throughout the Internship program, the Intern will function as a role model for students in the DVM program. The Intern will participate in the clinical instruction and evaluation of Phase II veterinary students assigned to the Emergency and Critical Care Service.

## **8.0 HOUSE OFFICER COMMITTEE**

8.1 The Committee is comprised of a representative of each House Officer program. It is responsible for the year-end review of each house officer's progress. This review is based on block evaluations received throughout the course of the program. The Committee grants a certificate to those who successfully complete the program.

8.2 All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted.

## **9.0 EMPLOYMENT AND BENEFITS**

9.1 Louisiana State University classifies interns and residents as University employees. As such, they (and their eligible dependents) qualify for the Louisiana State University Baton Rouge health insurance and benefits. The School of Veterinary Medicine provides malpractice insurance

coverage. The salary (not a stipend) is published in the Directory of Internships and Residencies as published by the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians ([www.virmp.org](http://www.virmp.org)). Salary is payable in monthly increments via direct deposit. Retirement contributions are required and withheld from each paycheck. No social security tax is withheld. Federal and state income tax is withheld. The employee may be eligible to petition the IRS for exemption from federal tax on part of his/her salary.

**9.2** The Veterinary Teaching Hospital operates year round. House officers will share emergency duty with other house officers within their specialty. House Officers will also share evening, weekend and holiday duty on a scheduled basis.

**9.3** The University offers accrual of annual time off following either the University accrual rate (14 hours/month with a maximum accumulation of 176 hours) or the Civil Service Schedule rate (8 hours/month with no maximum accumulation). Sick time off accrual is 8 hours/month. All time off, except for illness and emergencies, should be requested and approved 30 days in advance. Time off requests must be entered into Workday (via the employee's MyLSU account) by the employee and approved by the supervisor before time off will be granted. Annual time off will be granted on an individual basis taking into account the reason for the requested absence and the needs of the service and hospital. Annual time off for personal business is to be taken during elective or research blocks. Emergency absence such as for illness or a death in the immediate family should be brought to the attention of the clinician to whom the House Officer is assigned as soon as the House Officer learns that he/she will be absent. The official request should be entered into Workday upon the House Officer's return. Except in unusual circumstances, approval will not be granted for time off during the final month of the program.

## **10.0 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

**10.1** The Intern will receive a Block Performance Evaluation through the E\*Value software every two weeks to provide continual evaluation of their progress within the program. Failure to respond to the email prompts/links to generate evaluations sent to faculty supervisors may lead to failure of completion of the program.

**10.2** The Intern is to meet with their assigned advisor every quarter to discuss such evaluations and the intern's progress throughout the program.

**10.3** The House Officer Committee reviews block evaluations and has the capability to recommend continuation, probation or termination of the house officer's program at any time based on these evaluations.

**10.4** The House Officer Committee meets in May of each year to determine if the house officer has successfully completed his/her program. This determination will be based on all evaluations received for the house

officer.

- 10.5** All House Officers are required to complete an annual evaluation of their program with suggestions for improvement before continuation or completion of their program is granted.

## **11.0 POST INTERNSHIP STUDY**

- 11.1** If the intern is considering a residency or graduate program following completion of the internship, it is suggested that he/she consult with relevant faculty to maximize preparation for that program.

## **12.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

- 12.1** Candidates may apply for the Internship in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care by submitting:
- 1)** A standard Internship application form through [www.virmp.org](http://www.virmp.org).
  - 2)** A statement of Internship objectives and career goals.
  - 3)** Official academic transcripts.
  - 4)** A minimum of three letters of reference from individuals currently familiar with the applicant's professional status.

## 13.0 APPENDICES

### 13.1 HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS EVALUATION FORM

House Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>Evaluation</b> E=Excellent G=Good N=Needs Improvement	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
<b>Case Selection</b>		
Complexity of case		
Appropriate follow-up		
<b>Content</b>		
Format of presentation		
Discussion		
Conclusions		
Use of problem-oriented approach		
<b>Delivery</b>		
Clarity of speech		
Rate of delivery		
<b>Effectiveness of Visual Presentation</b>		
Use of visual aids		
Body language and enthusiasm		
Questions handled appropriately		

**Additional Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### 13.2 VCS SEMINAR EVALUATION FORM

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Audience: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

**Evaluation Criteria:**

	Points	Evaluation
<b>Definition of subject: introduction, importance, clinical significance</b>	<b>0-5</b>	
<b>Organization</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Quality of material</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Presence: speaking ability</b>		
<b>Clarity</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Rate of delivery</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Enthusiasm, expressiveness</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Support Materials</b>		
<b>Handouts, manuscript</b>	<b>0-15</b>	
<b>Visual aids</b>	<b>0-5</b>	
<b>Appropriate Summary</b>	<b>0-5</b>	
<b>Presentation consistent with audience level</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
<b>Questions/discussion handled appropriately</b>	<b>0-10</b>	
	<b>Total</b>	

**Comments:**

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Evaluator: \_\_\_\_\_



### 13.4 HOUSE OFFICER BLOCK EVALUATION FORM (through E\*Value)

**House Officer Evaluation Form in E-Value**

Needs Improvement  
Satisfactory  
Good  
Excellent  
Not Applicable

<b>Professional Ability</b>					
Theoretical Knowledge					
Knowledge Application					
Skills					
Patient Care					
Thoroughness					
<b>Individual Characteristics</b>					
Communication with clinicians					
Communication with students					
Communication with staff					
Independent study & initiative					
Awareness of current literature					
Contribution to student education					
Performance under stress					
Ability to accept criticism					
Organizational skills					
Ability to work in a team					
Reliability					
Motivation					
Attendance at seminars & rounds					
Presentation at seminars & rounds					
Ability to make independent decisions					
<b>Hospital Service</b>					
Completion of duties					
Quality of work					
Emergency services duty					
Communication with veterinarians					
Client communication					
Referral letters & record keeping					
Acceptance of service & case responsibility					
Adherence to VTH protocol					
<b>Strengths:</b>					
<b>Areas for Improvement:</b>					

## 13.5 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION FORM

### EMERGENCY AND CRITICAL CARE INTERN

BLOCK NO. \_\_\_\_\_

QUARTER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

INTERN: \_\_\_\_\_

	NA	Unsat 1	2	Average 3	4	Excell 5
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**Professional Ability:**

1. Theoretical Knowledge	___	___	___	___	___	___
2. Application of knowledge	___	___	___	___	___	___
a. Clinical skills	___	___	___	___	___	___
b. Scholarly activity	___	___	___	___	___	___
c. Small group teaching skills	___	___	___	___	___	___

**Hospital Service:**

1. Communication skills	___	___	___	___	___	___
2. Patient care	___	___	___	___	___	___
3. Record keeping	___	___	___	___	___	___
4. Emergency duty	___	___	___	___	___	___
5. Adherence to VTH Protocol	___	___	___	___	___	___

**Personal Characteristics**

1. Responsibility and Initiative	___	___	___	___	___	___
2. Interaction	___	___	___	___	___	___
3. Deportment	___	___	___	___	___	___
4. Leadership	___	___	___	___	___	___

Specific Comments:

General Comments:

Signatures:

Intern \_\_\_\_\_

Block Mentor \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

## 13.6 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE EVALUATION CRITERIA

### Professional Ability:

1. Theoretical Knowledge: Familiarity with current literature and basic science concepts.
2. Application of Knowledge:
  - a. Clinical Skills: Problem solving ability, technical ability, facility with ophthalmology equipment.
  - b. Scholarly activities: Seminars, publications.
  - c. Small group teaching skills: Rounds, clinics, etc.

### Hospital Service:

1. Communication skills: Communication with staff, students, interns, residents, faculty and clients. Communication skills include the ability to resolve conflict and negotiate solutions to identified problems.
2. Patient Care: Supervision and care of patients in the peri-anesthetic period.
3. Medical Records: Quality of record keeping
4. Emergency Duty: Availability, punctuality, quality/thoroughness of work
5. Adherence to VTH protocol: Described in the Student Handbook and associated memos.

### Personal Characteristics:

1. Responsibility and initiative: responsibility towards cases and the teaching program. Initiative in case management, scholarly activity etc.
2. Interaction: Ability to work harmoniously with faculty, staff and students.
3. Department: Behavior and conduct.
4. Leadership: Initiative in coordinating student activities, facilitating staff performance. Liaison function.