

INTERNSHIP IN EQUINE MEDICINE & SURGERY

**Louisiana State University
School of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences
Veterinary Teaching Hospital
Equine Health Studies Program**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1.0** Introduction
- 2.0** Objectives
- 3.0** Prerequisites
- 4.0** Faculty Mentor
- 5.0** Clinical Program
- 6.0** House Officer Rounds and Seminar Program
- 7.0** Teaching Program
- 8.0** House Officer Committee
- 9.0** Employment and Benefits
- 10.0** Performance Evaluation
- 11.0** Post Internship Study
- 12.0** Application Procedure
- 13.0** Appendices
 - 13.1** House Officer Rounds Evaluation Form
 - 13.2** VCS Seminar Evaluation Form
 - 13.3** House Officer Leave Request
 - 13.4** House Officer Block Evaluation Form

**INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
IN
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Internship is a one year of post-DVM training in equine medicine and surgery and is part of the House Officer (HO) training program. The training program will utilize faculty of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences (VCS) and other participating departments as mentors. Clinical facilities of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) will be the primary training location. Each intern will be assigned an equine faculty advisor at the start the intern's program to oversee their program and be available for guidance.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1** To provide the opportunity for advanced training in diagnostic and therapeutic techniques in equine medicine and surgery.
- 2.2** To provide tutorial teaching and experience.
- 2.3** To prepare the individual for a residency and/or graduate study.

3.0 PREREQUISITES

- 3.1** Candidates must have a DVM or equivalent degree.
- 3.2** Candidates should have successfully completed the North American Veterinary Licensing Examination (NAVLE) or its equivalent.

4.0 FACULTY MENTOR

4.1 The Equine Internship Program Director will assign each intern a mentor. This 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. The intern's rotation schedule will parallel the Phase II professional curriculum (12 blocks, 4 to 6 weeks/block). Ten (10) blocks (or equivalent) will be in Equine Medicine and Surgery and 2 blocks or equivalent will be selected by the intern (elective).

5.2 Clinical Training

5.2.1 The intern will be involved in the diagnosis, treatment and care of equine patients under clinical faculty supervision. During occasional periods, the equine faculty and house officers support the care and management of farm animal in-house cases. The equine (and occasional farm animal) service cases will be assigned to the intern from both the general and referral practices at the discretion of the senior faculty member in charge.

5.2.2 Professionalism - Throughout the program, interns will serve as a role model for professional students, peers, and others. The intern will participate in clinical instruction. The intern will participate in the tutorial instruction of Phase II students and in Year III equine laboratories. The intern is expected to treat faculty, the referring DVMs, clients, trainers, and others with utmost professionalism and care for the patient. The intern must be readily accessible at all times.

5.2.3 Elective Rotations - Each intern will have 2 elective block rotations. This block rotation can be in Farm Animal, (In-house, Ambulatory or Herd Health Management), Equine Ambulatory, Theriogenology, Radiology, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Clinical Pathology or Pathology depending on the intern's interest and approval from the selected service. The intern must seek approval from the selected service at least 8 weeks in advance of the desired rotation. All services involved in scheduling the electives must be made aware of final elective schedule as soon as possible.

6.0 VCS HOUSE OFFICER ROUNDS AND SEMINAR PROGRAM

6.1 The VCS 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. It is encouraged that the intern strives to choose topics and produce a manuscript for publication based on the seminar topic.

6.3 A SVM faculty member will be selected by the intern to mentor both case presentations and seminar preparation. Any manuscript 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, Dean's Grand Rounds (3 Wednesdays each semester at 8 AM in SVM auditorium), House Officer Rounds and, other seminars which are requirements of the Intern's home section (see section 6.6).

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 or come late to the seminar more than twice (unexcused)

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. (Appendices)

6.6 Equine Health Studies Program (EHSP) House Officer Rounds

6.6.1 The intern will participate in weekly equine house officer rounds

either as the presenter (approximately 1 presentation every 4-6 weeks) or in attendance (Wednesday from 8:15-9 AM), and other scheduled conferences of the SVM-Equine Health Studies Program. These are discussion based rounds. Presentation of radiographs, ultrasound images, endoscopic pictures, images of patients, etc. are desirable. The following are options for rounds format:

6.6.1.1 Complex case - with a thorough review of the literature.

6.6.1.2 Morbidity/mortality case presentation - or 'what went wrong here?' - Presentation of a complicated case that may not have had a positive outcome; discussion of other possible ways to manage a case like this (including pertinent literature review).

6.6.1.3 VTH-LA Hospital Biosecurity Activity – focused cleaning and disinfection of the VTH

6.6.2 SVM-EHSP journal clubs, reading groups, and other discussion groups may be a required part of the intern's program and will be decided on a per semester basis by the SVM-EHSP faculty (eg. Eq medicine journal club, Eq surgery journal club, etc.).

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 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). 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** House Officers receive a Block Performance Evaluation at the end of each rotation to document his/her performance during the program. Every two weeks the house officer will assign a faculty member to evaluate them for the previous rotation using E*Value software.
- 10.2** The Intern is to meet with his/her Advisor at the beginning of each block to report accomplishments and plans.
- 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 Equine Medicine & Surgery by submitting:
- 1)** A standard application through 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: _____

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

Additional Comments: _____

13.2 VCS SEMINAR EVALUATION FORM

Presenter: _____ Date: _____

Audience: _____

Title/Topic: _____

Evaluation Criteria:

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

Comments:

Evaluator: _____

13.4 House Officer Block Evaluation Form (through E-Value)

<u>House Officer Evaluation Form in E-Value</u>	Needs Improvement	Satisfactory	Good	Excellent	Not Applicable
Professional Ability					
Theoretical Knowledge					
Knowledge Application					
Skills					
Patient Care					
Thoroughness					
Individual Characteristics					
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					
Hospital Service					
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					
Strengths:					
Areas for Improvement:					