

4.1 THIRD YEAR CURRICULUM & CRITERIA FOR PRACTICE SITES

The third year curriculum consists entirely of required, core clinical courses for all students conducted either on campus or in partner practices/ institutions in Southern California. There are no elective courses.

At the beginning of the academic year, all students enroll in a one-week Practice Management course on campus. Students then rotate through clinical courses in four, 8-week blocks, in groups or multiples of three. Each 8-week block of coursework is followed by an assessment week. One 8-week block consists of on-campus courses in population medicine, epidemiology, regulatory veterinary medicine and public health. One 8-week block consists of an on-campus surgery course and off-campus courses in diagnostic pathology, laboratory animal medicine and zoo animal medicine. One 8-week block consists of off-campus courses in companion animal medicine and surgery (including emergency medicine), conducted in high volume, high quality primary care practices. One 8-week block consists of off-campus courses in equine and food animal medicine and surgery, conducted in high volume, high quality primary care practices.

CRITERIA for primary care practices that serve as clinical sites in the companion animal, equine and food animal clinical courses in the third year curriculum include requirements that:

- The facilities are in compliance with AVMA Council on Education *Standard 3. Physical Facilities and Equipment* for teaching hospitals, to include presence of or access to appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic service components such as pharmacy, diagnostic imaging, diagnostic support services, dedicated isolation facilities, intensive/critical care, ambulatory /field services vehicles, and necropsy facilities. Operational policies and procedures are posted in appropriate places. Facilities for the housing of animals are of sufficient number, construction and maintenance to be consistent with accepted animal welfare standards.
- A conference room is provided for small-group student learning.
- The caseload is of adequate number to provide a rich and varied clinical educational experience for the students.
- There are reference resources-on-site.
- There are 3 or more veterinarians and additional staff.
- There are no State Veterinary Licensing Board sanctions against the practice or clinician(s) in the practice.
- The site provides an environment of student interaction and hands-on participation in physical diagnosis, diagnostic problem-oriented decision making and case management.
- Supervision and monitoring of the student's performance by the site and the CVM and student assessment feedback are maintained.
- Veterinarians and lay staff agree to participate in training sessions by the CVM.