

SMALL ANIMAL ROTATING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
GHENT UNIVERSITY

Salisburylaan 133, B- 9820 Merelbeke, Belgium

Organising departments:

Department of Medicine and Clinical Biology of Small Animals

Prof. Dr. L. Van Ham

Department of Medical Imaging

Prof. Dr. H. Van Bree

Coordinator of the program:

Prof. Dr. S. Daminet

Prof. Internal Medicine

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Start of the program: October 1st.

From August 15th to October 1st, a 'run in' training period is planned.

End of the program: September 30st of the next year.

Goals / General description of the program:

The objective of the Small Animal Rotating Internship is to allow recently graduated veterinarians to acquire more experience and exposure in several clinical disciplines. The intern will rotate under supervision of several diplomates and staff within 6 rotations (2 months each). These rotations are: medicine (internal medicine, neurology, cardiology, dermatology), surgery, medical imaging, emergency, hospitalisation and intensive care, and anaesthesiology. This internship can prepare the veterinarian for high care standards in practice or prepare the intern for application for an official specialisation (residency program).

Residency

The internship program is the basis for a residency program organised by one of the following European Colleges

- European College of Veterinary Surgery (ECVS)
- European College of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging (ECVDI)
- European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ECVIM-ca, Internal Medicine)
- European College of Veterinary Dermatology (ECVD)
- European College of Neurology (ECVN)
- European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ECVIM-ca, Cardiology)
- European College of Animal reproduction (ECAR-small animals)

Nevertheless, the completion of an internship program is no guarantee for admission as a resident.

Conditions for admission:

- Candidates should have obtained the diploma of "Veterinary Medicine at a University from the EU. Candidates that have obtained their diploma outside the European Union will be evaluated on an individual basis.
- Applications from last-year students will also be accepted.
- A profound knowledge of the English language is essential for candidates that are not Dutch-speaking.

Applications:

- Internship positions will be declared vacant in the month of April
- By the 15th of May, each applicant should submit a file to Dr. S. Vandenabeele, consisting of:
 - An application letter with the motivation of the candidate for participation to the program.
 - Curriculum vitae including a list of the results obtained during the different study years and the title of the thesis.
 - A copy of the diploma of Veterinary Medicine (except for last year students)
 - For candidates that did not obtain their diploma at the University of Ghent: a letter of reference from a University professor or a Diplomate. This letter should be mailed directly to the coordinator of the internship program and should give a clear description of the clinical capacities of the applicant.
- Late applications can only be considered in exceptional cases, and should be discussed with the coordinator.

Selection of the candidates:

A jury will evaluate all applications and the selection will be based on:

- The file of the candidates
- An interview
- External candidates should contact the coordinator of the program and Dr. S. Vandenaabeele well before the official deadline. Indeed, non-Dutch speaking candidates will be asked to send in results of the TOEFL exam before the deadline. Further, a 2 week rotation at the University of Ghent might be required before May 15th.

Candidates will be classified according to their curriculum, study results, clinical education and motivation for participation to the program.

Statute of the interns:

Interns should subscribe as students of the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Ghent University, Belgium. They receive a one-year scholarship with a monthly payment of 700 euro (tax-free) for 12 months. No reimbursement is provided for evening-, night- and weekend duties or for travel expenses.

Education of the interns:

Teaching: Interns will benefit from clinical teaching during their rotation in different disciplines. Further, theoretical lessons (20 hours a year), daily rounds, and weekly seminars are organised. Participation to post academic teaching is encouraged.

Evaluation of the interns

Two intermediate evaluations of the interns will be held during the year according to a standard evaluation document. These evaluations will be discussed with the intern. The final evaluation is performed at the end of September and includes a permanent evaluation of the clinical work, the evaluations of the education afternoons and the participation to the post-academic courses/congresses. A positive evaluation results in a “certificate of small animal rotating internship”, delivered by Ghent University.

The organising department has the possibility to cancel the participation of an intern to the program when the intern does not comply with the rules or after several negative evaluations.