



Equine Hospital Externship Goals

- Development of handling and physical examination skills of horses including lameness evaluations
- Development of basic problem-solving and decision making skills
- Development of diagnostic and differential diagnosis skills
- Exposure to the management of a variety of medical and surgical cases
- Exposure to basic surgical procedures and techniques
- Use of isolation facilities and bio-security principles
- Exposure to the reproductive examination of the broodmare

Students working within the Equine Hospital are encouraged to take responsibility for their own cases and should be involved in all aspects of case management.

Responsibilities

The basic responsibilities of an extern is the same as a final year UCD veterinary student and consists of evaluating and treating hospitalised cases as well as assisting in the admission and evaluation of out-patient and emergency cases. Under the supervision of an Intern, the extern will be able to administer oral, intravenous, intramuscular and subcutaneous medications, draw blood for routine blood work, monitor intensive care cases, administer fluids and prepare patients for clinical procedures.

Morning and afternoon treatments consist of physical examinations and medication administration. Externs are scheduled for after-hours treatments and emergency service.

1. Active learning

- Get involved – ask questions – make the most of your externship

2. Patient care and case management

- Daily care of your assigned cases is your responsibility under the direction of a clinician.
- Treat every single one of your cases as if you were the sole person responsible for it – do not rely on the clinicians to pick up problems but do a thorough complete physical exam on all your cases in the hospital at least twice daily, try to make your own diagnostic and treatment plan to discuss with the clinicians and be active in your case's care.
- Do not enact any treatment or diagnostic procedure without direction from the clinician.
- You are responsible for all treatments on your cases from 8.00 am until 6.00 pm – this includes administration of medication (under supervision of interns or residents where necessary), examinations, blood draws, catheter flushes, preparing and hanging of intravenous fluids (with an intern/resident) etc. If you are busy in surgery during these hours, it is your responsibility to ascertain that one of your colleagues is taking care of your patients for you!

3. Patient Admission

- Take a history (including vaccination history, especially Tetanus).
- Complete a thorough physical exam (including body weight).
- Take an active part in the patient's diagnostic work-up and treatment planning.

4. Hospital Rounds

Each morning at 9.00am a hospital round is held to discuss the cases in the hospital and their diagnostic/treatment plan. Again, at the end of the day, a shorter round is held to discuss important findings of the day and to make a plan for the intensive care patients overnight.

5. Surgery

- Where the situation permits, you will have the opportunity to scrub into surgeries performed on your patients.
- Responsibilities include assistance in preparation of the surgical patient, assisting in induction, surgical preparation, intra-operative assistance.

How to apply

Externships will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. To get the most out of your externship *a minimum duration of two consecutive weeks is mandatory*. A week's Externship will run from 8am Monday morning to 8am on the following Monday which would cover on call duties. Please check the available dates below and submit your choice of dates via email. If available, the space will be reserved and you will receive a confirmation.

To qualify for the externship you must be a veterinary student in your 3rd year or higher (priority will be given to final or 4th year veterinary students). You must also have good fluency in both written and spoken English. Graduated veterinarians cannot apply for the externship.

This externship is not available to UCD undergraduate MVB students.

Please include a current curriculum vitae and a statement of pertinent experience in your email application. To apply please email vet.externships@ucd.ie

You will get confirmation of the clinical experience but no formal grades.

You will be expected to arrange travel and accommodation yourself and must ensure that you carry appropriate insurance.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call +353 (0)1 716 6060 or email vet.externships@ucd.ie

Dates available 2022: Monday 25 April 2022 to Sunday 31 July 2022.

We look forward to working with you!