

LSU CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ECFVG CANDIDATES

The Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA, offers a two-part clinical training program for ECFVG candidates designed to meet the needs of graduates of non-AVMA accredited schools who wish to:

1. Prepare for the ECFVG Clinical Proficiency Examination
2. Increase veterinary knowledge and skills applicable to North America
3. Become familiar with the culture of practice in North America
4. Improve communication in veterinary professional terminology
5. Develop skills in client communication in the U.S.

Part 1: The approximately 40 week-long (9 'blocks') LSU Baton Rouge Campus phase of the ECFVG Clinical Training Program will entail the following clinical training: (Duration in each discipline is approximate):

Special Topics	2 weeks
Small Animal Surgery – Soft Tissue	2 weeks
Small Animal Medicine:	4 weeks
Small Animal Surgery:	4 weeks
Equine Medicine and Surgery:	4 weeks
Food Animal Medicine and Surgery:	4 weeks
Anesthesiology:	4 weeks
Radiology:	4 weeks
Diagnostic Pathology	4 weeks
Microbiology/Parasitology:	2 weeks
Theriogenology	2 weeks

Instruction in additional disciplines to include Cardiology, Dermatology, and Ophthalmology will be covered during the initial special topics rotation

Part 2: In the 12 week-long Externship phase, enrolled trainees will gain further professional experience in veterinary practices and establishments. Externship locations must be pre-approved by the Director of Clinics, LSU and they must be in the U.S.

Trainees will be enrolled as full-time students at LSU during Parts 1 and 2 and Part 2 must follow immediately after the completion of Part 1 in order to maintain visa status.

Trainees participating in externships will be supported by a Curricular Practical Training (CPT) program permit and are eligible to take the CPE at any time.

The program will be offered each year on a competitive basis.

Application Deadline:	January 1, 2008
Notification of Acceptance:	February 1, 2008
Start Date:	May 13, 2008
End Date:	May 8, 2009

Criteria for acceptance:

Candidates must...

- ...be fluent in both written and spoken English.
- ...have graduated from an AVMA recognized school of veterinary medicine within the last 8 years.
- ...have received a passing score on the NAVLE.

Note: Four places are available at each intake; applicants will be accepted based on merit.

Materials to submit prior to the Application Deadline:

1. A non-refundable application fee of \$50 in the form of bank check or money order made payable to "LSU School of Veterinary Medicine"
2. Completed application form (available on VCS Website: www.vetmed.lsu.edu/vcs)
Provide a day-time phone number so you can be contacted for a telephone interview
Provide e-mail address
3. Letter of intent
4. Curriculum vitae
5. Photocopy of DVM (or equivalent) degree
6. Transcript of grades from veterinary school (translated)
7. Copy of NAVLE test score results
7. TOEFL test results (or equivalent) or proof of high school education in English
8. Three letters of reference
(Letters can be from instructors at your veterinary school or veterinary professionals you have worked with since graduation)

Acceptance/Selection:

Application materials received before the deadline will be considered by a selection committee. During consideration of the package, individuals who provide references and others may be contacted to obtain information about the candidate and the candidate may be called for a telephone interview.

Enrollment, Visa and Work Permits:

Participants will be enrolled in LSU as full-time students from the beginning of the program through to the completion of the Externship period. Assistance in acquisition of a Form I-20 through the LSU International Services Office will be available for participants eligible for an F-1 student visa. During the externship period, trainees will work under a CPT permit supported by the LSU International Students Office. All visa expenses are the responsibility of the candidate.

Trainees completing the ECFVG Clinical Program will be eligible for the Optional Practical Training (OPT) program.

Trainees must provide proof of rabies vaccination to participate in clinical rotations.

Fees:

Participants will pay tuition and fees equivalent to a full time, out of state student in the professional (DVM) program (currently approximately \$17,500 / semester) for 2 semesters. This includes additional student fees such as the student technology fee and is subject to change. Fees must be paid in full at the beginning of the program.

The LSU School of Veterinary Medicine does not handle loan applications. Previous participants have managed loans through Nellie Mae: 888-388-4846 and the LSU Office of Student Aid and Scholarships may be contacted at 225 578 3103.

Dismissal from the program will not qualify participants for a refund of fees.

Scheduling:

During the training period at LSU, trainees will rotate through various clinical disciplines on a regular basis. The sequence of rotation through the various clinical disciplines is dependent on scheduling limitations. For the Externship phase of the program, students must present the name, address, letter of offer, and job description of potential employers to LSU for prior approval. Beginning part 2 is contingent on successful completion of part 1. An Externship will not be allowed unless the candidate has shown satisfactory clinical proficiency and professionalism in part 1. The deadline dates for these submissions and other details will be explained on orientation.

Description/Responsibilities:

During the time in the LSU Baton Rouge phase of the clinical training program, trainees will accept the same duties as those required of LSU students in the LSU Veterinary Teaching Hospital & Clinics. During the Externship phase of the clinical training program, trainees are expected to follow the standards of behavior and performance as set by the individual practices/facilities they are assigned to.

Attendance/Leave:

During the Clinical Training Program, trainees must fulfill the requirements of each block rotation including the requirement for perfect attendance. Participants must recognize that they will be enrolled in courses as a full-time student. Failure to comply with attendance regulations could result in dismissal from the program with loss of visa status and no recourse for reimbursement of fees. For foreign nationals, unauthorized absences longer than 3 days must be reported to the LSU International Services Office and the Department of Homeland Security.

Orientation and Probationary Period:

LSU recognizes that it takes time to organize personal matters such as accommodation, etc. when first arriving in Baton Rouge. For this reason, participants are expected to arrive and be present for orientation 2 weeks prior to the start date of their training program. Following the start of the program, participants will be observed for a 4 week probationary period. Satisfactory performance during this period will result in final acceptance into the program.

Performance Evaluation:

As enrolled full-time students, participants will be evaluated at the end of each Block and Externship phase. A certificate will be issued by the VCS faculty upon successful completion of the Clinical Training Program.

Disclaimer:

The Clinical Training Program is designed to assist participants in their preparation for the ECFVG Clinical Proficiency Examination. However, Louisiana State University, the School of Veterinary Medicine and the Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences do not guarantee that participants will pass the CPE and accept no responsibility for participants who fail the CPE.

Mailing Address for Application Materials:

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