

Here's what some former students had to say about their time at CVM:

"My experience reinforced my desire to pursue government regulatory medicine."

- Diane Heinz, MBA, DVM, ONADE, Regulatory Policy Analyst, completed clerkship in 2000

"My Clerkship at OR was a great experience and I met people who have proved to be great resources for me."

- Ruth Barratt, PhD, DVM, reviewer Biologist, ONADE, Division of Human Food Safety, completed Clerkship in 2001

"Overall, the experience is unlike any other and I highly recommend it for anyone interested in regulatory medicine."

- Eric Anderson, DVM, Staff Fellow, ONADE, Aquaculture Team, completed Clerkship in 2007

I'm interested! How do I apply?

1. Talk with your school's academic affairs counselor about your interest in the program.
2. Send or email a letter of intent that includes your proposed clerkship dates, your areas of interest, a copy of your current resume, and two letters of reference to:

Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine

University of Maryland
8075 Greenmead Drive
College Park, MD 20742-3711

For more information, contact Dr. Bettye Walters, Director, Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine, at bwalter1@umd.edu, or Dr. Donald Prater, Office of New Animal Drug Evaluation, FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine, at Donald.Prater@fda.hhs.gov.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



The Federal Regulatory Veterinary Medicine Clerkship Program



Sponsored by The Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine's Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Veterinary Medicine

Background

The Federal Regulatory Clerkship Program, run by VMRCVM's Center for Public and Corporate Veterinary Medicine (CPCVM), is the only one of its kind in the U.S. The program is designed to give fourth year veterinary students like you a real-world opportunity to see how policies guiding the approval of new animal drugs are developed and implemented by the CVM.

CVM is one of FDA's six Centers. It's unique mission is to protect the health of both animals and people. CVM is responsible for ensuring that animal drugs and medicated feeds are safe and effective, and ensuring that food from treated animals is safe to eat.

The Program

As a fourth year veterinary student, you will spend three to six weeks exploring various aspects of CVM's day-to-day workload and policy issues. You will be paired with a CVM mentor who will guide you throughout your Clerkship. While here, you will have many opportunities to interact and participate with CVM staff. For example, you may:

- learn how screening tests for drug residues in animal tissues are developed,
- participate in discussions of biotechnology issues like genetic engineering of animals,
- see how CVM assesses the risks of antimicrobial use in food animals,
- attend drug development meetings between CVM and drug sponsors,
- learn how to submit and review adverse drug experience reports for approved veterinary products,
- learn what types of claims and comments are permitted in promoting and advertising approved veterinary products,
- learn what options sponsors have when trying to get veterinary products marketed for treatment of minor species (like honeybees and sheep) or minor uses in major species (e.g., cattle and dogs), and
- attend upper-level management meetings on public health policy issues such as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and the Animal Feed Safety System.

Why would I want to do a Clerkship at CVM?

You may be wondering why a Clerkship at CVM would benefit you. The Clerkship will provide:

- a broader perspective on the different roles veterinarians play in animal and human health,
- an opportunity to decide if a Federal regulatory veterinary medicine career is right for you,
- an understanding of the variety of veterinary and human health issues that CVM deals with on a daily basis,
- a high-profile employment experience to include on your resume, and
- an opportunity to network and make professional contacts within CVM.

What else should I know about the program?

- You should apply if you are a third year veterinary medical student in good standing.
- If you're accepted, you will be considered a "student volunteer", so you won't receive a stipend for your work at CVM.
- CVM can help you locate appropriate housing during your Clerkship.
- At the end of your Clerkship, you will write and send an evaluation of your Clerkship experience to CVM and to CPCVM.
- Your mentor will also write a one-page evaluation of your work. It will be sent to your school and to CPCVM.

