

VNDL Large Animal Mentorship Lab Opportunities

NOTE: Rabies vaccination is required to attend these labs. To be considered vaccinated, the two-dose series must be completed at least 14 days prior to the lab.

Over the years, many VNDL students have been able to come to Purdue's West Lafayette campus in May or June to complete a limited number of required clinical mentorship skills related to farm animals and horses. As the program has grown, we no longer have the space or animals needed to accommodate everyone on Purdue's campus for on-campus labs in the summer. *Labs for the completion of lab/exotic animal (VM 22600) and small animal diagnostic imaging (VM 21600) mentorships will continue to be offered on Purdue's West Lafayette campus in May/June every year.*

On-Campus & Fast Track Labs

In order to provide students with more options and opportunities to complete farm animal and equine clinical mentorship tasks, we have partnered with several other facilities for the completion of mentorships. Moving forward, **On-campus labs** (formerly summer workshops) are opportunities for VNDL students to come to Purdue's West Lafayette campus to fulfill selected mentorship task requirements.

Fast Track labs are sites located around the country and offer opportunities at different times of the year for VNDL students to fulfill selected mentorship task requirements. Like on-campus labs, attending a Fast Track lab has the benefit of having a DVM or credentialed veterinary technician present to approve skills, so there will be no video requirements. All animals, equipment, and supplies are provided by the lab. It is important for students to consider attending these Fast Track lab locations to stay on track for graduation. Both types of labs provide opportunities for students to perform skills (there is no guarantee of passing the course just for attending) and each task must be completed successfully.

The large animal clinical mentorship courses that you will have an opportunity to complete are outlined in the table below. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from the labs, housing, and meals as these are not provided with the lab. Only students who have met all the prerequisite requirements for the mentorship courses offered are eligible for the labs. **Please be advised the fast-track lab sites have minimum enrollment requirements.** If a lab location has not reached its minimum enrollment by four weeks prior to the lab date, the lab will be cancelled.

Registering for the Labs and Mentorship Courses

Students have the option of registering for the mentorship course(s) they will be completing at a Fast Track/On-Campus lab in the same semester they attend the lab, or in the semester following the lab. For example, if you attend a lab in April and complete tasks for VM 20800, 20900, and 21700, you have the option of registering and paying tuition for those three mentorship courses in the spring semester, or in the summer semester. **Course tuition is a separate fee (\$270/credit hour) from the instructor and lab fees.**

The On-Campus labs will continue to be by invitation only; students closest to graduation are given priority. Invitations to On-Campus Labs are sent out to students via email every year in February.

Students interested in attending a Fast Track lab should contact Pam Phegley (phegleyp@purdue.edu), stating which lab they wish to attend. More details regarding the lab registration will then be provided.

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Which Mentorships Can I Complete at Each Location?

Lab	Location	Mentorship tasks available to complete		
		VM 20800	VM 20900	VM 21700
Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN	x	x	x
Huntington University*	Huntington, IN	x	x	x
Winsome Farm	Spotsylvania, VA	x	x	x
High Valley Farm	Coudersport, PA	x	x	x
Sandy's Haven	Preston, ID	x	x	x

* For this lab, students will spend the first day on Huntington University's campus completing tasks for VM 20800 and VM 20900. Tasks for VM 21700 can be completed the following day as a half-day lab on Purdue's campus.

How Much do the Labs Cost?

Lab	Location	Lab Fee*
Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN	\$550-600
Huntington University	Huntington, IN	\$500
Winsome Farm	Spotsylvania, VA	\$400
High Valley Farm	Coudersport, PA	\$350
Sandy's Haven	Preston, ID	\$500

***All fees are estimated based on total student registration and are subject to change.**

Upcoming Lab Dates

The VNDL program has worked with the Fast Track lab sites to set up specific dates for groups of Purdue students to attend. **Please be advised the fast-track lab sites have minimum enrollment requirements.** If a lab location has not reached its minimum enrollment by four weeks prior to the lab date, **the lab will be cancelled.** Any students who had expressed interest in attending a lab that is cancelled will be notified about the cancellation so they can make plans to attend a different lab.

Lab	Location	Dates (Spring 2025)	Dates (Summer 2025)	Dates (Fall 2025)
Purdue University	West Lafayette, IN	N/A	May 31-June 1 (large animal) June 7-8 (lab animal/SA imaging II) June 14-15 (large animal)	N/A
Huntington University	Huntington, IN	May 10-11	July 25-26	Sept. 27-28
Winsome Farm	Spotsylvania, VA	April 27	July 6	Sept. 21
High Valley Farm	Coudersport, PA	April 15-16	June 24-25	Sept. 16-17
Sandy's Haven	Preston, ID	April 19	June 28	Sept. 13

Please contact Pam Phegley at phegleyp@purdue.edu if you are interested in attending a lab or have further questions.

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