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| ***What?*** | Vet Up! is a federally funded pipeline program is housed at the Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine (PVM). This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling $3.2 million.  Vet Up! College is a 6-week summer program that allows participants to gain experiences and opportunities that increase their competitiveness as future veterinary school applicants. Participants gain a glimpse of what being a veterinary student is like by spending the first 4 weeks at PVM experiencing coursework, clinical skills labs, industry trips, study groups, and more. Then, 2 weeks are spent at a clinical placement site located in each participant’s local area, gaining veterinary experience.\* Many past participants have been offered part-time employment at their site after the program concluded!  Program participants with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher at the time of the program may be invited to apply to the Vet Up! College Early Admissions program to receive early, conditional acceptance to the DVM program at Purdue University’s College of Veterinary Medicine. |
| ***Who?*** | This program is for underserved students who will be rising undergraduate juniors or seniors at the time of the program in summer 2026. Applicants can be current undergraduate sophomores, juniors, or non-graduating seniors during the 2025-2026 academic year. Participants cannot confer a bachelor’s degree before the program’s completion on July 3, 2026.  Each cohort consists of 26 students, with one cohort selected to participate each summer. Due to the specific number of participants, a competitive admissions process is utilized to select which individuals receive a seat in each cohort. **To receive consideration for admission to the program, applicants must meet the eligibility requirements listed on page 2.** |
| ***Where?*** | Participants will spend the first 4 weeks of programming at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana and the last 2 weeks at a clinical site in the participant’s local area.\* |
| ***When?*** | **Application deadline:** February 1, 2026 at 11:59pm ET  **Programming dates & times:** May 26 to July 3, 2026  *Date range does not include travel days at the program’s start. Applicants must be present for every day of programming. If you have another program, course, or commitment that will not allow you to be present for the entire date range listed, you should not apply. Vet Up! College involves an intense curriculum 7 days a week with full days; participants are not allowed to be actively enrolled in courses or employed during the program dates listed.* |
| ***Cost?*** | Programming is cost-free, with stipends to offset expenses. A travel stipend is provided for reimbursement of the cost of travel up to $375. Housing for the four weeks on Purdue’s campus is provided in the form of a dorm room. Participants will also receive a daily expense stipend of $60/day to cover miscellaneous expenses. |

*\*Clinical placement site matching is not guaranteed, as there are many variables involved in locating an available and willing site in a particular geographic area. We utilize a partnership with National Veterinary Associates to assist with the search, and Vet Up! staff will make significant efforts to match all participants.*

**Vet Up! College Eligibility Criteria**

As a federally funded program supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), applicants must meet eligibility requirements to receive consideration for admission to the program. This ensures the program is purposefully supporting the goals that the grant intends to impact.

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| **Yes / No** | **Eligibility Criteria** |
|  | **Are you a U.S. citizen, a non-citizen national, or a foreign national in possession of a visa permitting permanent residence in the United States?** |
|  | **Are you considered an underserved student in the veterinary medical field?**  To achieve this, you must identify as or with **at least TWO** of the following:   * A first-generation college student.   *Neither parent has earned a bachelor’s degree or higher.*   * From a rural background.   *Predominant childhood home is/was in a sparsely populated area designated as rural by the USDA.*   * Low-income.   *Has been free/reduced price lunch or Pell Grant eligible. Can also achieve by falling at or below the household income listed on our website’s Eligibility tab using the household’s 2023 federal tax return information.*   * Attending or graduated from a high school that meets at least one of the following:   + ≥ 50% of enrolled students are eligible for free/reduced price lunch.   + < 60% of seniors receive a high school diploma.   + < 60% of graduates go on to college the first year after graduation.   *If you only meet one other criterion listed above & need to meet this one to gain eligibility, you may request assistance in checking your high school’s statistics by emailing* [***vetup@purdue.edu***](mailto:vetup@purdue.edu)*. Include your high school’s name, city, and state.* |
|  | **Will you be a rising undergraduate junior or senior during the time of the program in summer 2026?**  *In other words, are you a currently enrolled undergraduate sophomore, junior, or* ***non-graduating*** *senior for the*  *2025-2026 academic year? A bachelor’s degree cannot be conferred before the program’s completion*  *July 3, 2026.* |
|  | **Do you have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale?**  *All college-level grades are to be included when calculating, across multiple institutions if applicable.* |
|  | **Do you have a strong interest in and commitment to becoming a veterinarian with a plan to apply for admission to a DVM/VMD program within a few years’ time?** |
|  | **Are you an equity-minded individual who values, includes, and respects other individuals of diverse backgrounds?** |
| á | If you can place a “yes” in ALL the above boxes, then you are eligible to apply and receive consideration for admission to the Vet Up! College program that will commence in summer 2026. For questions regarding eligibility, please contact [**vetup@purdue.edu**](mailto:vetup@purdue.edu). Applicants who are not eligible will not receive admission consideration, so application submission is not encouraged from ineligible individuals. |

**Application Requirements & Instructions**

Please use the following addresses for application and material submission, using the instructions found for each below:

* **By Email**

VetUp@purdue.edu

* **By Mail**

Office of Engagement

Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine

Lynn Hall, Room 2133

625 Harrison Street

West Lafayette, IN 47909-2026

**Completed application & all materials listed below must be received by February 1, 2026 at**

**11:59pm ET to receive admission consideration for the 2026 Vet Up! College cohort.**

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| * Application * Completed applications are to be emailed or mailed using the addresses listed above. |
| * Official Transcripts * All transcripts must be **official** and sent **directly** from the institution to the Vet Up! program. * Official transcripts may be sent electronically or by mail using the addresses listed above but must be in hand by the application deadline. * Official Transcripts must be received from **ALL** colleges/universities from which college credit has been earned.   + *Includes dual credit courses from high school, community college courses in the summer, distance learning courses, etc. Even if a course transferred to your home institution, transcripts are needed from each original credit-granting institution.* * **Transcripts must include final grades for the fall 2025 term**; they should only be ordered from your institution once the term’s grades have posted or if a “hold for grades” option is available and selected. |
| * Current Class List (Spring Term) * Unless transcripts include courses for the **spring 2026 term**, a copy of your schedule or course enrollment will also need to be submitted by email or mail using the addresses listed above. |
| * References * **TWO** references are required from evaluators: counselors/advisors, teachers, or veterinary professionals. Each evaluator must submit their materials directly to the program and can be mailed or emailed to the addresses listed above.   + Each reference must include **both** of the following: * A reference letter. * A completed evaluation form. This form is specific to the program and can be found [**here**](https://vet.purdue.edu/vetup/college.php). |

**Application**

This application must be typed or handwritten in print (no cursive). If submitting an electronic copy, please *Save As* with the applicant’s name in the file name: “First Name Initial. Last Name Vet Up! College Application for 2026 Cohort.”

Example: “J. Doe Vet Up! College Application for 2026 Cohort”

**Purdue University is an equal access/equal opportunity/affirmative action university.**

**If you have trouble accessing this document because of a disability, please contact PVM Web Communications at**[**vetwebteam@purdue.edu**](mailto:vetwebteam@purdue.edu)**.**

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| **PERSONAL INFORMATION & ELIGIBLITY CRITERIA** | |
| **BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION** | |
| First Name |  |
| Middle Name |  |
| Last Name |  |
| Gender or Sex |  |
| Preferred Pronoun (He/She/They) |  |
| Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year) |  |
| **CONTACT INFORMATION** | |
| Email Address |  |
| Phone Number |  |
| Postal Address |  |
| **CITIZENSHIP STATUS** | |
| Citizenship (check one) | U.S. Citizen  Permanent Resident, Number:  Non-Resident Alien |
| State of Residence |  |

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| **RACE/ETHNICITY** | |
| Are you of Hispanic/Latinx origin? | Yes  No |
| Race (check ALL that apply) | African American (Black)  American Indian/Alaskan Native  Asian American  Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander  White  Other, please describe: |
| **OTHER INFORMATION** | |
| Are you a first-generation college student?  *Neither parent/legal guardian has completed a bachelor’s degree or higher.* | No  Yes |
| Parent/Legal Guardian 1 | No College  Some College  B.S./B.A. Degree  M.S. Degree  Ph.D. Degree  Other Degree: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Parent/Legal Guardian 2 | No College  Some College  B.S./B.A. Degree  M.S. Degree  Ph.D. Degree  Other Degree: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Have you ever been offered a Federal Pell Grant? | No  Yes |
| Your Military Status | Active Military  Veteran  No Military Service |
| Have you ever been disciplined for student conduct violations?  *(probation, dismissal, suspension)* | No  Yes, **explain**: |
| Have you ever been disciplined for academic performance?  *(academic probation, dismissal, suspension)* | No  Yes, **explain**: |
| Have you ever been convicted of a…  … felony?  … misdemeanor? | No  Yes  No  Yes |

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| **BACKGROUND AND INTERESTS** | |
| Describe the geographical area where you were raised. | Rural  Urban  Suburban |
| Describe the geographical area where you would like to live and work. | Rural  Urban  Suburban |
| Select ALL the veterinary medical career path(s) and species that most interest you.  *Veterinary shortage areas are listed in* ***bold****.* | Small Animal Practice (Cats & Dogs)  Exotic Animal Practice (Reptiles, Amphibians, Birds, Pocket  Pets)  Zoo Medicine and/or Wildlife Conservation  Equine Practice  **Food Animal Practice (Swine, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle,**  **Poultry, Sheep, Goats)**  Shelter Medicine Practice  Laboratory Animal Medicine (Rodents, Rabbits, Primates, etc.)  **Food Safety/ Food Security**  Veterinary Pathology  Veterinary Nursing  Research  Academia  **Government: Public Health, Regulatory/Preventative**  **Medicine**  Military  Pet Food Industry/Pharmaceutical Industry  Private Practice  **Rural Practice**  Other, please specify: |

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| **ACADEMIC HISTORY**  Please complete the following information for ALL high schools and colleges attended. | |
| **HIGH SCHOOL** | |
| **High School Attended/Attending:** | |
| High School Name |  |
| High School Dates of Attendance |  |
| High School Postal Address |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours |  |
| Cumulative GPA and grading scale |  |
| Graduation Date (Month/Year) |  |
| **Additional High School Attended (if applicable):** | |
| High School Name |  |
| High School Dates of Attendance |  |
| High School Postal Address |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours |  |
| Cumulative GPA and Grading Scale |  |

***Insert page and copy & paste table to include additional high schools, if needed.***

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| **COLLEGE** | |
| **College/University Currently Attending:** | |
| College/University Name |  |
| Dates of Attendance |  |
| College/University Postal Address |  |
| Major/Minor |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours Completed |  |
| Cumulative GPA and Grading Scale |  |
| Current Year in College Based on Credits Completed | Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior |
| Expected Graduation (Month/Year) |  |
| Degree Sought | Associate degree  Bachelor’s degree  None (non-degree seeking, only taking prerequisite courses for  application to veterinary school or another program)  Other, please specify: |
| **Additional College/University (if applicable):** | |
| College/University Name |  |
| Dates of Attendance |  |
| College/University Postal Address |  |
| Major/Minor |  |
| Cumulative Credit Hours Completed |  |
| Cumulative GPA and Grading Scale |  |

***Insert page and copy & paste table to include additional colleges, if needed.***

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| **POST-COLLEGE PLANS & PREVIOUS DVM APPLICATIONS** | |
| Have you ever applied to veterinary school—a DVM/VMD degree program at a school or college of veterinary medicine?  *Does not apply to early admission/ assurance programs.* | No  Yes |
| If yes, please list which DVM/VMD degree programs you applied to and indicate if you were accepted or not. |  |
| If you have NOT yet applied to a DVM program, do you plan on applying to an early admission/ assurance program to gain early, conditional admission to a school or college of veterinary medicine?  *May include intent to apply to the Vet Up! College Early Admission Program in the future, if invited.* | No  Yes |
| If yes, please name these programs for which you plan to apply in the future. |  |

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| **EXPERIENCES** |
| List past and current experiences in the following categories, **listing the most recent first**:   * **Animal Experience:** experiences with animals where a veterinarian is NOT present most of the time. Includes kennel assisting, walking dogs for a shelter, 4-H & FFA projects, farm & ranch experiences, pet sitting, etc. For personal pets, only include hours actively engaged: training classes, competition events, and medical care. * **Veterinary Experience:** time spent working alongside a veterinarian that provided realistic insight into the everyday life of a veterinary practitioner and your suitability for the profession. * **Research Experience:** participation in the gathering, entering, analyzing, or writing-up of data for research purposes. May be in a laboratory or in the field. May include assisting a faculty member, graduate student, etc. with their research. Even if animals or veterinarians are involved, all research should be entered in this category. * **Paid Employment:** any paid work not categorized as animal, veterinary, or research experience. * **Collegiate Extracurricular Activities:** an activity that falls outside the realm of the normal academic curriculum: sports/intramurals, clubs, fraternities/sororities, honor societies, committees, community activities, social activities, certifications, hobbies, etc.   ***Descriptions:*** *provide context such as who, what, when, where, and why, if needed. Include details about your role, tasks completed, responsibilities, skills gained, things you learned, etc.*  **You are encouraged to enter all your significant experiences for high school and college for categories other than extracurricular activities, for which you should only enter those you participated in during college. The application may not have space for all these experiences as it is now. Insert additional pages and copy & paste the appropriate tables if space is needed to add more experiences than space currently allows.\*** |

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| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE** | |
| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #1** | |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #2** | |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #3** | |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **ANIMAL EXPERIENCE #4** | |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Employer or Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name with Phone Number or Email Address | Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE** | |
| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #1** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #2** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #3** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **VETERINARY EXPERIENCE #4** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Clinic/Organization Name |  |
| Animal Species |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Veterinarian Name with Phone Number or Email Address |  |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE** | |
| **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE #1** | |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Location (Lab Name; Sponsoring Agency, Organization, or University) |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,  Phone Number and/or Email Address | Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |
| **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE #2** | |
| Position Title or Name of Experience |  |
| Location (Lab Name; Sponsoring Agency, Organization, or University) |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Number of Contact Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,  Phone Number and/or Email Address | Check if a veterinarian. |
| Type of Experience | Volunteer  Paid Employment  Academic Credit |
| Describe the experience and your role: |  |

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| **PAID EMPLOYEMENT** | |
| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #1** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year:  During the Summer: |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,  Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |
| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #2** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year:  During the Summer: |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,  Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |

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| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #3** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year:  During the Summer: |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,  Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |
| **PAID EMPLOYMENT #4** | |
| Position Title |  |
| Place of Employment |  |
| Dates |  |
| Hours Per Week | During the Academic Year:  During the Summer: |
| Total Hours |  |
| Supervisor Name & Title,  Phone Number and/or Email Address |  |
| Describe your role & responsibilities: |  |

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| **COLLEGIATE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** | |
| **COLLEGIATE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #1** | |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable  (include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |
| **COLLEGIATE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #2** | |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable  (include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |

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| **COLLEGIATE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #3** | |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable  (include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |
| **COLLEGIATE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #4** | |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable  (include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |

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| **COLLEGIATE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #5** | |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable  (include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |
| **COLLEGIATE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY #6** | |
| Activity Name |  |
| Sponsoring School/Organization |  |
| Dates |  |
| Total Hours |  |
| Leadership Roles, if applicable  (include dates) |  |
| Describe the activity & your participation: |  |

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| **COLLEGIATE AWARDS & HONORS** | |
| **COLLEGIATE AWARD/HONOR #1** | |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **COLLEGIATE AWARD/HONOR #2** | |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **COLLEGIATE AWARD/HONOR #3** | |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |

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| **COLLEGIATE AWARD/HONOR #4** | |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **COLLEGIATE AWARD/HONOR #5** | |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |
| **COLLEGIATE AWARD/HONOR #6** | |
| Award/Honor Name |  |
| Granting Organization/School |  |
| Date Awarded/Honored |  |
| Describe this award/honor: |  |

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| **ESSAYS** |
| **ESSAY #1**  **Describe how your identity has been informed by your life experiences and how these experiences have motivated you to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.**  ***300-word limit*** |
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| **ESSAY #2**  **Describe how you expect participation in Vet Up! College will benefit you in attaining the next level of your education and ultimately your career goals.**  ***300-word limit*** |
|  |