

## **Clinical Nutrition Residency**

### **I. Introduction**

The American College of Veterinary Nutrition recognizes advanced training in clinical nutrition through Board Certification of Diplomates of the College. Training programs can be small animal, large animal, or comparative. The VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine offers either a combined nutrition residency/PhD or residency/MS program in Veterinary Medical Sciences.

### **II. Objectives**

1. Advanced clinical training in veterinary nutrition.
2. Complete requirements for Board Certification (in small animal, large animal, or comparative track) by the American College of Veterinary Nutrition.
3. Participate in clinical teaching of senior students and didactic teaching of preclinical students.
4. Prepare and present seminars on clinical cases and/or research.
5. Concurrent graduate studies for a PhD or MS degree in Veterinary Clinical Sciences.

### **III. Prerequisites**

1. DVM degree or equivalent.
2. Eligibility for admission to the Graduate School.
3. Prefer candidates with practice experience and/or MS degree (if interested in pursuing a PhD).

### **IV. Application Procedures**

Applications will be submitted to the Graduate School, Virginia Tech.

Candidates approved by the Graduate School will then be reviewed by the Graduate Studies Committee of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

Qualified candidates will then be considered by the Nutrition Faculty of the College of Veterinary Medicine.

### **V. Criteria for Selection**

Candidates will be judged on the criteria listed below:

1. Letter of Intent
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. University transcripts
4. Three letters of reference
5. Experience, both clinical and research

### **VI. Administration of the Program**

Individual residents will be responsible to a resident advisor who will be a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Nutrition.

A graduate advisor will be selected who may or may not be the same individual as the resident advisor. This individual will be responsible for mentoring the applicant through the research and teaching aspects of the combined residency program.

## **VII. Evaluation**

### **Evaluation of Resident**

Residents will be formally evaluated twice each year by their resident advisor with input from other section members.

Students will be formally evaluated a minimum of twice each year by their graduate advisor and committee members regarding progress in the research aspect of their program.

Evaluations will be returned and discussed with the residents and copies retained by the advisor and department head.

## **VIII. Responsibilities**

### **Case Management**

Residents will function in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH) as a clinician under the direction of the resident advisor and under the supervision of clinical faculty. The resident may be assigned to small animal and/or large animal clinical consultations depending on program chosen.

### **Emergency Duty**

Residents may participate in the emergency rotations for Production Management Medicine if they choose a large animal track. Residents will participate in offering Clinical Nutrition Consultation on a 7-day per week basis.

### **Rounds**

Residents will attend, participate in, and lead rounds in the VTH under the direction of their advisor.

### **Seminars**

Residents will present seminars in the resident seminar program of the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences. Presentation at other College programs will be encouraged.

### **Instruction**

Residents will participate in the clinical instruction of senior veterinary students.

Residents will present didactic teaching in the preclinical program of the College. This teaching will be in the form of lecture and/or laboratory and will be limited to a maximum of 2 lectures the first year and 5 lectures in subsequent years. Laboratory instruction will not exceed 18 hours per year.

### **Continuing Education/Outreach Programs**

Residents will be encouraged to assist or participate in the Continuing Education/Outreach programs in their disciplines offered by the College. All requests for CE programs must be approved by the resident's advisor.

Residents may participate or assist in Outreach Programs delivered to Animal Owners.

**Administrative**

Residents will not serve on policy or administrative committees within the College unless approval is granted by the Departmental Resident/Graduate Committee and the resident's advisor(s).

**Research**

Residents will contribute to the design and completion of a MS or PhD project under the guidance of the graduate professor and graduate committee. Results of the project will be submitted as a manuscript(s) for publication in a refereed journal prior to completion of the graduate/residency program.

**Other**

Other duties and responsibilities may be instituted at the discretion of the advisor and Section with approval of the Department Resident/Graduate Committee or Department Head

**IX. Off-Site Training**

Off-site training can be an integral part of the residency program. Funds and time off for off-site training will be decided on an individual basis dependent upon funds needed, funds available, and on the training needs in question with approval of the resident and/or graduate advisor and Department Head.

**X. Travel - Media Services**

The Department will provide professional development funds when available for residents to travel to and attend scientific meetings. Such professional development funds can also be used for media, reprographic and library services.

**XI. Certificate of Residency**

A Certificate of Residency will be issued when the program has been completed as described by the specialty organization. Completion of a graduate degree is considered necessary to fulfill the residency program and to earn a Certificate of Residency.

[American Association of Veterinary Clinicians](#)