



Valleywide Veterinary Services Student Externships

We are happy to be able to provide 1-3 week externship opportunities for veterinary students. Preference is given to students in their 3rd and 4th years who have demonstrated a serious interest in working in food animal veterinary medicine.

Description of Student Experience

Students will shadow one or more veterinarians in the practice. There will be opportunities to practice diagnostic skills, examine records, palpate/ultrasound cows (student would need to arrange ultrasound usage), assist with surgeries, discuss practice management and regulatory compliance, work in our milk quality lab, and participate in all other aspects of a dairy practice. The level of hands-on opportunity will depend on the student's comfort level, demonstrated skills and the case load. Longer externships provide greater opportunities to practice these skills.

This externship offers a thorough cross-section of a private food animal practice for students with a strong interest in dairy medicine. Work with beef cows, small ruminants and camelids may also be part of the experience. We hope students benefit from our collective experience and diverse backgrounds, while we benefit from their energy, ideas, and questions.

Institutional and Educational Resources

- Ultrasound (students should arrange a loaner if planning significant use)
- Dairy management software: DairyComp and PC Dart
- Milk culture lab with mycoplasma capability
- Embryo transfer equipment and freezer
- 4 full-time veterinarians

Student Responsibilities

Students are expected to assist with all calls covered during regular business hours. They should bring rubber boots that can be disinfected between farm visits and clean overalls daily. We may be able to help facilitate housing but the student will need their own transportation. Veterinary supervision is available at all times.

Typical hours:

- 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Monday through Friday

After-hours and weekend emergencies may be included but are not required.