Indigenous Health, Education, and Resources Taskforce (IHEART)

VETERINARY

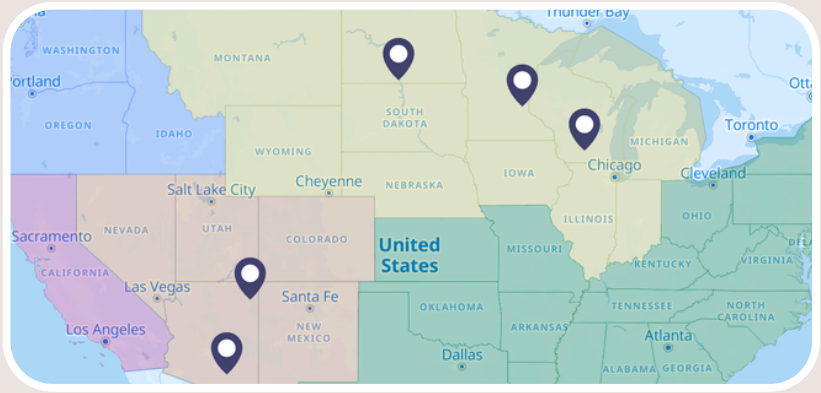
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How to become a veterinarian

- **Build foundations.** In high school, take science classes and volunteer at an animal shelter or farm.
- **Plan your finances.** Apply for every scholarship you can, and learn about loan repayment plans.
- **Prepare for veterinary school**. Check out which undergraduate classes you'll need to take: usually biology, math, English, chemistry, and physics. You can also start with a **vet tech certificate**.
- **Apply to veterinary school.** You will need to talk about your animal/other experience and get letters of recommendation when you apply. Check out more alternate pathways for becoming a veterinarian at the University of Minnesota: VetFAST and VetLEAD!
- **Attend veterinary school**. Typically takes 4 years after undergraduate school. Some graduates also choose to do additional training for specialty practice and get board certified, but this isn't required for general practice across species.
- **Get licensed** to practice in your state.

Recommended pathway programs

The veterinary schools and outreach programs listed on the IHEART healthcare pathways map provide specific academic, cultural, and/or financial support to Indigenous students. Learn more at iheartworkforce.org/map



Organizations

- Natives in VetMed

Started and run by students, with the mission of enhancing Indigenous representation in veterinary medicine.

- American Veterinary Medical Association
- We are Healers
- Urban Indian Health Institute
- Advancing Indigenous Science and Engineering Society
- Association of Native American Medical Students
- National Council of Urban Indian Health

Scholarships

- IHS Scholarships
- ANAMS Scholarships
- Dr. Eric Jayne, DVM Scholarship
- Jane White and Joe Amerling Veterinary Medicine Scholarship (Texas Tech School of VetMed only)
- University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine financial aid

See many more scholarship opportunities on the IHEART website. For help creating a financial plan, visit the AAMC Financial Aid Resources.

Keep up with IHEART:

iheartnativeworkforce.org

IHEART is a national collaborative body led by the Association of American Indian Physicians, American Indian Higher Education Consortium, Association of Native American Medical Students, Association of American Medical Colleges, and the Indian Health Service.