

North Dakota State University Veterinary Technology Program

Future Directions Essay

PROMPT: Using experiences you have had with animals personally, from your core coursework and your observation hours; describe how these experiences sparked your interest in working with animals, how each influenced your thoughts on the human-animal bond and how they may shape your future in veterinary medicine.

Directions: Word processed, double spaced and printed on white paper. Minimum of one page.

ADMISSION ESSAY SCORING RUBRIC				
CRITERIA	DISTINGUISHED	ACCEPTABLE	WEAK	UNACCEPTABLE
Depth of Reflection (4 pts)	Demonstrates thorough and conscious understanding of the writing task and subject matter. (4)	Demonstrates a thoughtful understanding of the writing task and subject matter. (3)	Demonstrates a limited understanding of the writing task. (2)	Demonstrates little or no understanding of the writing task and subject matter. (1)
Development of examples, evidence (4 pts)	Uses specific, convincing and thoughtful examples to support ideas and makes insightful connections. (4)	Uses relevant examples from experiences to support claims. Makes applicable connections between ideas. (3)	Uses some vaguely developed examples to support claims. (2)	None or very few specific examples used to support claims made in essay. (1)
Language use/style (3 pts)	Uses stylistically sophisticated language that is precise and engaging with a good sense of voice and awareness of audience and purpose. Skillful sentence structure. (3)	Uses language that is usually fresh and original with a sense of awareness of audience and purpose. Able to vary sentence structure. (2)	Uses some imprecise language with little sense of voice and limited awareness of how to vary sentence structure. (1)	Uses language that is unsuitable for the audience and purpose with little or no awareness of sentence structure. (0)
Grammar/Conventions (4 pts)	Demonstrates total control of grammar and conventions with essentially no errors, even with sophisticated language that does not hinder comprehension. (4)	Demonstrates control of grammar and conventions with only slight errors when using sophisticated language that does not hinder comprehension. (3)	Demonstrates partial control of grammar and conventions with occasional errors that may hinder comprehension. (2)	Demonstrates little or no control of grammar and conventions, making comprehension difficult. (1)
READER COMMENTS				
SCORE (circle score)	15 - A+ 14 - A 13 - A-	13.5 - B+ 12 - B 11.5 - B-	11 - C+ 10 - C 9.5 - C-	9 - D

Office Use Only: Student ID _____ Instructor ID _____ Averaged score _____