

**Accreditation Results**  
**(Accreditation Results for School of Veterinary Medicine)**

**Major in Veterinary Medical Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture,  
The University of Tokyo**



<b>Basic Information of the Institution</b>	
Ownership: National	Location: Tokyo, Japan
<b>Accreditation Status</b>	
Year of the Review: 2023	
Accreditation Status: accredited (Accreditation Period: April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2031)	

## **Accreditation Results for the Major in Veterinary Medical Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, the University of Tokyo**

In light of its university-wide basic educational goals, the Major in Veterinary Medical Sciences, Faculty of Agriculture, the University of Tokyo, has established the educational philosophy of providing (1) “veterinary medical education for the prevention and treatment of animal diseases”; (2) “public health education focusing on zoonosis and food hygiene”; (3) “education to promote life science (basic research)”; (4) “education on veterinary and livestock administration and environmental issues”; and (5) “education with an international perspective.” To fulfill its educational philosophy, the Major sets forth the objectives of “cultivating a strong sense of mission, the will and ability to solve global issues, a deep understanding of social mechanisms, and a high level of ethics and love for humanity through teaching advanced veterinary sciences based on a wide range of disciplines that include life sciences, thereby nurturing future leaders successful in the field of veterinary medicine in Japan and overseas.”

In line with the Model Core Curriculum, the Major’s curriculum is divided into Introductory and Basic Subjects, Pathological Subjects, Applied Subjects, Clinical Subjects, and Participatory Clinical Training, and is systematically designed to help students take courses step by step according to grade level. In the exchange programs with credit transfers with overseas universities, students enrolled in the Major join as tutors with international students in lectures and practical training courses offered in English to develop their English language skills and international mindset. The Major also provides students with opportunities to participate in compulsory field training (internships) abroad as well as in Japan, resulting in about half the students participating in training at overseas universities and institutions. In these ways, the Major provides ample opportunities for international education, which as a distinctive approach is commendable.

In terms of social cooperation and contribution, the Major offers many courses of interest to the general public, including the Science Café provided by the Research Center for Food Safety. This is also a commendable and distinctive feature.

There are several areas of improvement identified in the current accreditation process, however. The areas of serious concern include the lack of requirements for promotion to the next level after advancing to the Major from the Junior Division of the College of Arts and Sciences. While this concerns the entire system of the Faculty of

Agriculture, veterinary education, which is closely connected to the Veterinarian National Examination, should set out the advancement requirements to help students take courses in a systematic way. The Major is advised to set forth and communicate the advancement requirements to all students. In addition, with respect to faculty organization, the number of full-time faculty members is below 60% of the prescribed standard necessary for veterinary education. It is advised that the Major urgently increase the number of faculty members.

As for other issues to be considered, the first area pointed out is practical training. The number of animal carcasses used in pathological training is low, and the Veterinary Medical Center has an insufficient number of cases involving large animals, such as cattle and horses, as well as farm animals, including swine, cotton goats, goats, and fowls. The Major is advised to take corrective actions to increase the number of these cases.

Next, the syllabuses of some subjects do not set clear standards for grading, and the Major is advised to reinforce the mechanism to check the syllabuses by defining the specific ratios of examinations, reports, and regular attendance considered for grading.

In addition, an imbalance was identified in the faculty's age and gender profiles, and the Major should give attention to the age structure and gender balance.

As for facilities and equipment, the Major provides lecture rooms, laboratories, and research rooms necessary for veterinary education. The Major is advised to provide an isolation room in the laboratory animal facility for quarantine and animals suffering from epidemic diseases, and an isolation and hospitalization room for small animals in the Veterinary Medical Center.

Finally, the Major should offer academic courses and training for local veterinarians and publish the results of its self-study activities on its website and elsewhere.

To make the improvements mentioned above, the Major should adopt the results of this accreditation for schools of veterinary medicine, continue its self-study activities for improvement, and assure and improve the quality of its education to further enhance its distinctive features.