

HOW TO ASSESS YOUR CHANCES OF FUTURE BVSc SELECTION

Many students who were unsuccessful in gaining selection into Semester 2 of the BVSc programme will want to persist with their ambition of gaining selection to the BVSc degree. In trying to assess the likelihood of being able to raise your Weighted Grade Point Average (WGPA) sufficiently to achieve selection, it is important to be realistic.

For example, it is only rarely that students who gain a “C” or “C+” average in Semester 1 of BVSc 1 can raise their WGPA sufficiently to achieve selection at a later date; those who have done so in the past have usually required two or more years extra University study to gain selection.

How to calculate your WGPA

From the year 2000, the University adopted a grade scoring system in which grades for University papers are given scores of 2 to 9 for grades C to A+. R grades are given a score of 1, while D and E grades have a score of 0. If you have attained any R, D or E grades in the pre-selection papers in Semester 1 towards selection into the BVSc degree, you are ineligible for selection as a minimum of C grade passes are required. Such subjects will need to be passed at a later date, prior to any further selection application, as they are pre-requisites for selection.

For Semester 1 of BVSc 1, the calculation of WGPA is very simple; for example if your grades were as follows:

Table 1:

Subject	Grade	Score
123.101	B	5
124.111	C+	3
162.101	C	2
199.101	B+	6
	Total Score	16

Divide total score by 4, hence WGPA is $16/4 = 4.0$ (divide by 4 as all papers in BVSc 1 are 15 credit papers)

Future grades required to achieve a WGPA of 7.0 (A-)

Table 2 below gives an indication of the WGPA required in either one or two future semesters, to raise your overall WGPA to 7.0 (A-) depending on the WGPA achieved in semester 1 of Veterinary Science Intermediate (both grades and grade scores are given):

Table 2:

BVSc Intermediate Semester 1 WGPA	Overall GPA Recommended	Required future WGPA over:	
		1 Semester (4 papers)	or 2 Semesters (8 papers)
B+/A- (6.5)	A- (7.0)	A-/A (7.5)	A-/A (7.25)
B+ (6)	A- (7.0)	A (8)	A-/A (7.5)
B/B+ (5.5)	A- (7.0)	A/A+ (8.5)	A-/A (7.75)
B (5)	A- (7.0)	A+ (9)	A (8)
B-/B(4.5)	A- (7.0)	A+(9) will get you to 6.75 max	A/A+ (8.25)
B- (4)	A- (7.0)	A+(9) will get you to 6.50 max	A/A+ (8.50)
C+ (3)	A- (7.0)	Impossible	A+ (9)
C (2)	A- (7.0)	Impossible	A+ (9) will get you to 6.67 max

Comments:

1. It is assumed that papers to the value of 60 credits will be passed in each future semester (4 papers).
2. Does not apply if R, D or E grades were obtained in Semester 1.
3. Takes not account of STAT F Test scores
4. Assumes a selection cut-off of A- (7.0).
5. To work out WGPAs for future semesters it may be necessary to take account of any varying credit values for different papers by using the formula:
Weighted Grade Point Average = $\frac{\sum (\text{Grade scores} \times \text{credits})}{\text{Total credits}}$

*Note: The above table 2 does not take into account STAT F Test results, which make up 20% of selection, therefore by obtaining an A- average, we cannot guarantee that you will be offered a place in the programme. STAT F Test results are added onto the WGPA calculation to give an overall “**Selection Score**”. It is this Selection Score that we rank the applicants from top to bottom, and from which we select the students into the Professional Phase of the Veterinary Programme.*

What if one or two semesters is not enough?

As you will see from the Table 2, if a student obtained a WGPA of 3.0 in Semester 1, it is impossible for them to raise their overall WGPA to 7.0 or above in one further semester of study. Also we must consider the improbability of a student raising a 3.0 WGPA in semester one to 7.0 overall by obtaining an A+ average (9.0 average) over the next two semesters.

In such cases, a longer period clearly is required: individual academic advice should be sought. This may require use of the above equation for calculation of overall WGPAs. Generally an additional four semesters beyond Veterinary Science Intermediate Semester 1 would be required to raise the WGPA to 7.0 or above. As only the grades attained in the last four semesters are used in calculating the WGPA, the Veterinary Science Intermediate Pre-selection papers in Semester 1 of the first year will drop out of the WGPA calculation, which would be an additional help in raising the students WGPA.

New Start?

To be considered “New Start” an applicant must have had a three year gap from full-time university study. After a three year gap, the student would return to full-time study and only the grades obtained in the new semester of full-time study would be used to calculate the WGPA for selection.

If a student had already passed the four pre-selection papers (or their equivalent at another University), then they will need to choose four alternative papers, as per the List of Approved Alternative Papers document available on this website. Papers must be approved by the Programme Administrator, Veterinary Science before the start of semester 1.

If you are wishing to apply as a “New Start” student you should contact the Programme Administrator, Veterinary Science before enrolling to confirm your status in this category.

Mrs Sue Gribbin
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