

Date

Dear Members of the Internship Selection Committee:

During the past year, I have attended a career planning conference and spoken to clinicians, residents, and interns regarding my post-graduation plans. One message is consistent; within the first two years in practice veterinarians develop habits that span their entire career. In order to practice high quality medicine throughout my career, I want to develop excellent habits initially and define my career path in veterinary medicine. I firmly believe that a small animal rotating internship will enable me to achieve these goals.

Prior to matriculation and during vacations, I worked part-time as a veterinary technician in a high volume emergency clinic. This experience has been valuable in adapting to the clinical setting of senior year, and sparked my interest in emergency medicine. At my college, senior students are assigned to individual emergency shifts. During these shifts, I have found the initial stabilization and diagnostic work-up of a patient to be mentally invigorating and rewarding. Complimentary to my interest in emergency medicine, my other focus is internal medicine, based upon clinical and classroom exposure. In addition, both of these fields can create a strong connection with clients and the community by helping owners understand their pets' health problems; this connection is very rewarding. I hope to expand my knowledge of emergency and internal medicine during my internship.

The most practical way to deeply explore these two fields of veterinary medicine in one year is with a high volume caseload and mentorship from multiple doctors and specialists. This experience will highlight my strengths and weaknesses and shape my career path beyond my internship year. Based on feedback from my mentors, I may choose to pursue a residency in internal medicine, further training in emergency and critical care, or general private practice.

As my resume demonstrates, my prior finance career enabled me to develop strong communication and organizational skills. My veterinary education and involvement with the Veterinary Business Management Association (VBMA) have allowed me to merge attributes from my prior career with veterinary medicine, including how to overcome daily challenges, problem solving and critical thinking, and communicating with clients and co-workers. Business skills are invaluable to the veterinary profession because a successful business supports superior quality medicine. As a Regional Leader of the National VBMA, I collaborated with four veterinary schools and had the opportunity to learn from students at different schools, and share their ideas. This leadership position was an invaluable part of my veterinary education. I look forward to bringing this versatile set of communication and management skills to my internship program.

My ideal internship will provide continuing education through daily rounds, presentations, and informal teaching to solidify and expand my knowledge base. In return, I will provide over 6 years of work experience, a strong desire to learn, and an interest in my community. By treating pets, we are able to give back to our community, which has been one of my most treasured aspects of senior year. I look forward to the opportunity for a small animal rotating internship position, particularly at a private practice in the Washington, D.C. area.

Sincerely,

Your Name