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Veterinary Medicine [A Career Paper]

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Veterinary Medicine

Large-animal veterinarians are becoming harder to find every year. More and more veterinarians are converting or attending school to work with small animals because there is more money and opportunities in that part of the industry. Personally, I would rather work with large animals but that is just my preference.

For this paper I researched the career of veterinary medicine. The sources I used gave me some really great information on every aspect of the career. The easiest source that I found that helped me the most was the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). This website has everything you need to know in getting started with school, your career, and public health information. The AVMA website helped me in finding the requirements for veterinary school and what schools are available.

Education is important, but what about once you graduate? The Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) helped with finding out the salary of veterinarians. This website helped me in finding out the outlook on the career, the salary, and the requirements. This was also a beneficial website for me when my questions turned towards the salary and whether this was the right career for me to pursue. Even though large animal veterinarian numbers are decreasing, there is still a strong need for them. This website helped me realize that and made my decision even stronger towards going down this career path.

The book <u>The American Veterinary Profession</u> gave me a lot of insight into the history of the career. It didn't necessarily give me the salary, education requirements, or the outlook of the profession in the future, but it did give me the background of the

profession. I enjoyed reading this book and learning more about how animal medicine came around and how far back in history people had started treating animals for sickness. I didn't realize what all humans have done to help animals in so many ways. These older methods of treatment are sometimes the only way to treat animals and most current veterinarians aren't paying attention to those methods enough.

The article that I read also dealt with information on animal sickness, but this kind of sickness is called zoonotic. Veterinarians are faced with all kinds of dangers in their line of work everyday. There are a lot of zoonotic diseases that animals carry that can be spread to humans. Many of them are highly dangerous and could be fatal. The veterinarians that are affected the most are the veterinarians that work with small animals. The most common disease that is spread is brucellosis. This disease is spread easily if the veterinarian is not careful.

After reviewing these sources, my view on becoming a veterinarian is still strong. I have started looking into veterinary schools and have started logging my experiences with veterinarians and my hours working on my farm. My research still continues on this career and what exactly I want to do with my degree once I obtain it. This paper has helped me decide what I want to do for sure with my future.

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