



Zoo Science

Aquarium Science

Admissions Policies/Procedures

Fall 2018

ALL COMMUNICATIONS WILL BE DONE THROUGH DCCC EMAIL SYSTEM ONLY

Zoo Science and Aquarium Science admission policies and procedures are subject to change as necessary, **without notice**. Davidson County Community College's Zoo Science (**24 seats**) and Aquarium Science (**20 seats**) programs accept students for this full time day program. A DCCC current student must have a 2.8 GPA within the past 5 years. High school students must have a 2.8 un-weighted GPA within the past 5 years.

NOTE: Meeting all enrollment requirements by the deadline (May 11th 2018) does not guarantee entry into the Zoo Science or Aquarium Science program.

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES

- **Phase 1 (Completed OFF or ON CAMPUS)**
 - Complete a Davidson County Community College Application for Admission (*for those not currently enrolled at DCCC*)
 - Submit high school or GED transcripts to DCCC (*high school seniors are required to submit a current transcript by the program's competition deadline and a final transcript after graduation*).
 - Submit ALL official college transcripts from college(s) attended to DCCC (*only transcripts in which you plan to transfer credit(s) must be submitted*). College transcripts **MUST BE OFFICIAL**. Transcripts must be in the original sealed envelope and either mailed to:

P.O. Box 1287 Lexington, N.C. 27295

Or sent electronically to: admissions@davidsonccc.edu

- **Phase 2 (Completed ON CAMPUS)**
 - Complete an ADMISSIONS REVIEW with an **Enrollment Specialist starting February 15:**

After DCCC has received your general admission application and all transcripts have been received and processed (for those not currently enrolled), complete an ADMISSION REVIEW in person in the Enrollment Center located in Mendenhall Bldg., first floor of Davidson campus or the Administration Bldg. at Davie campus. NO appointment is required.

One placement for each subject must be met to achieve program eligibility. Other placement tests are

subject to approval.

COMPUTER SKILLS	Computer Skills score of 60 or above within the last 5 years	Satisfactory completion of CTS 080 within the last 5 years.	Satisfactory completion (grade "C" or above) of an acceptable college-level (associate degree or higher) or high school computer course within the last 5 years.
WRITING	ACCUPLACER DRE Composite Score of 151 or above within the last 5 years	Satisfactory completion of ENG 090 or ENG 095	Satisfactory completion ("C" or above) of an acceptable college-level (associate degree or higher) course in English composition.
READING	ACCUPLACER DRE Composite Score of 151 or above within the last 5 years	Satisfactory completion of RED 090 or ENG 095	Satisfactory completion ("C" or above) of an acceptable college-level (associate degree or higher) course in English composition
ARITHMETIC	ACCUPLACER Arithmetic Skills score of 55 or above within the last 5 years; or NCDAP score of 7 or higher	Satisfactory completion of MAT 060 or DMA 040	Satisfactory completion ("C" or above) of an acceptable college-level (associate degree or higher) math course
ALGEBRA	ACCUPLACER Algebra skills score of 55 or above within the last 5 years; or NCDAP score of 7 or higher.	Satisfactory completion of MAT 070 or DMA 040	Satisfactory completion ("C" or above) of an acceptable college-level (associate degree or higher) math course

- **Phase 3 (Completed ON CAMPUS)**
 - Attend a Zoo Science or Aquarium Science **MANDATORY** Information Sessions (Zoo Science or Aquarium Science information sessions are separate from **New Student Orientation and Enrollment Information Session**).

- Zoo Science and Aquarium Science information sessions are held in the:

Mary E. Rittling Conference Center, Room #110

6:00pm to 8:00pm on the following dates:

Tuesday April 24th
OR

Tuesday May 1st
OR

Thursday May 3rd

All Zoo Science and Aquarium Science applicants only need to attend one session listed above!

- **Phase 4**

- Ranking Process

The Admission Counselor will begin the ranking process after ALL information sessions have been held (Monday May 14th). The ranking process awards points to applicants based on the completion of required Zoo Science and Aquarium Science support courses completed by the end of the spring semester 2018. Not all Zoo and Aquarium support courses have to be completed, applicants are awarded points for completed courses only.

College Course Work

Applicants are awarded points for the following completed courses:

ENG 111 (Expository Writing)

MAT 143 (Quantitative Literacy) - **Zoo Track Only**

BIO 111 (General Biology I)

BIO 242 (Natural Resources Conservation)

COM 231 (Public Speaking)

PSY 150 (General Psychology)

BIO 112 (General Bio II)

BIO 243 (Marine Bio) – **Aquarium Track Only**

CHM 131/131A (Introduction to Chemistry) - **Aquarium Track Only**

PHI 240 (Introduction to Ethics)

Competition points are awarded based on the follow final grade scale:

A=3 points; B=2 points; C=1 point

Bonus Points may be awarded for the following:

- Work or volunteer experience at an animal facility: **0 - 10** points may be awarded based upon documentation of length and type of experience. This must be documented on the Employment/Volunteer Experience Form (included in this packet) with a letter on facility letterhead for authentication. You may submit multiple Employment/Volunteer Experience Forms for consideration.
- See attached Employment and/or Volunteer Experience Form
- Prior college degree in a biological or animal science major completed prior to application deadline at an accredited institution and documented with an official transcript, earns the following points: Associate degree: **2 points**; Bachelor's degree: **5 points**

Applicants with the highest awarded points will be admitted!

- **Phase 5**

- Acceptance Process

- An email (emailed to your DCCC email account **only**) of acceptance will be sent out to all applicants admitted into DCCC's Zoo Science and Aquarium Science programs by Thursday, **May 31, 2018**. A Confirmation Form will be attached.
 - After notification of acceptance, your Confirmation Form must be returned to the Admission Counselor for Programs with Special Criteria by Friday, **June 15, 2018**.
 - On Thursday, **June 28, 2018** (Room 110, Rittling Conference Center, 6-8 PM) **admitted** students must attend a mandatory Zoo Science or Aquarium Science Orientation session to finalize course enrollment (*this session is separate from DCCC's New Student Orientation, and Zoo Science or Aquarium Science Information Session you are required to attend*).

Alternate List for Zoo and Aquarium Science:

- Applicants meeting the primary deadline and attending the Zoo Science or Aquarium Science Information Session, but not accepted into the program, will be placed on an alternate list and admitted if space becomes available.
 - **Alternates will not be carried over to the next year and will need to reapply for the next Zoo and Aquarium cycle.**

Late program applicants:

- Late applicants may be considered if Zoo Science or Aquarium Science does not fill all designated seats.
 - Applicants qualifying after the May 11th deadline may also be placed on the alternate list, but will only be considered after all applicants meeting the May 11th deadline have been considered and finalized. Late applicants must contact an Enrollment Specialist in admissions for an admission review; no appointment is required.
 - Placement on the alternate list will be based upon the date of review and the date applicant meets eligibility.

For further explanation of this process, contact:

Allen Hightower

Admission Counselor for Program with Special Criteria

Mendenhall Office #104

allen_hightower@davidsonccc.edu

Scheduling of Classes, Labs and Work-Based Learning Experiences (WBL):

Enrollment in the Zoo and Aquarium Science Program will require attendance at class, and WBL at varying times of the day or evening and varying days of the week. Travel to and from regional (state-wide) and local animal facilities is expected. Students are responsible for their own transportation.

Legal Requirements for Labs and Internships (Background Check):

In the first semester students register for lab and internship experiences at animal facility partners. The paperwork required for these labs and internship experiences mirrors the employment application process each of these animal facilities has established. While conviction of a misdemeanor/felony does not exclude the applicant to the program, a criminal background check and/or drug test may be required by the animal clinical site and DCCC prior to participation in the clinical experience.

Health Evaluation:

Applicants should be aware that admission to the Zoo and Aquarium Science Program is dependent upon physical and emotional health, compatible with the ability to provide safe animal care. An applicant with problems in physical or emotional health must provide evidence that appropriate treatment and/or counseling has taken place and that the problem has been alleviated. Persons with physical or emotional problems, which have not responded to treatment within a reasonable time, may be denied admission to the program.

For Zoo track students only, a physical examination performed no more than one year prior to the prospective program date of entry is required, and students will be responsible for the cost of health evaluations and inoculations, where applicable. Required vaccinations include measles, TB, tetanus, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, and rabies. Information about obtaining the hepatitis A & B and rabies inoculation will be included in your acceptance letter.

For Aquarium track students only, a physical examination performed no more than one year prior to the prospective program date of entry is required, and students will be responsible for the cost of health evaluations. There are no required vaccinations for the aquarium track.

PERFORMANCE STANDARDS:

If an accepted applicant believes that he/she cannot meet one or more of the standards listed below without accommodations or modifications, the applicant should consult with an instructor of the program.

Performance Standards for Zoo and Aquarium Science students include but are not limited to:

1. Display professionalism by projecting a positive attitude, working as a team member, and showing initiative and responsibility.
2. Integrate legal and ethical principles of animal welfare into job responsibilities including, but not limited to, animal nutrition, animal husbandry and preventative health procedures.
3. Recognize, analyze, and solve problems related to the daily care of assigned animal collection.
4. Demonstrate academic knowledge and technical skills for entry-level zookeeper positions.
5. Maintain regular animal health, environmental enrichment and behavioral records of assigned animal collection according to professional standards.
6. Demonstrate effective written and oral communication skills with consumers and co-workers.
7. Demonstrate effective written presentation and oral communication skills with the general public. Topics include but are not limited to animal welfare (nutrition, healthcare, etc.), basic animal ethics issues, species natural history, conservation and the history and purpose of each animal facility partner.



Zoo Science Or Aquarium Science
Employment and/or Volunteer Experience Form, Optional*

**Only required for applicants seeking bonus points for animal care experience.*

This section must be filled out by the applicant and submitted to the agency for completion.

I authorize the facility listed below to provide information to Davidson County Community College for the purpose of determining eligibility for the Zoo / Aquarium Science Program for Fall 2018.

Applicant: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____
Printed Name

Name of Animal Facility: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of Contact person: _____ Title: _____

This section must be filled out by the facility staff member and submitted by 5/11/18.

NOTE: This form must be accompanied by a letter, on facility letterhead, confirming participation as a volunteer or employee to receive bonus points.

Please answer the following questions about the applicant:

- The applicant has served as an employee / a volunteer at the animal care facility indicated above.
(circle one)
- The applicant has served at the facility from _____ until _____.
(start date) (end date)
- The applicant has participated in the following experiences (Mark and rate performance for all areas that apply):

Participated in (check all that apply)	Describe their Work/Experience
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Enrichment	
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Dietary preparation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Animal Behavior	
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide Tours and Information	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clean Animal Areas	
<input type="checkbox"/> Assist Zoo Staff (Jr. Keeper)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Provide Educational Programs to the Public	
<input type="checkbox"/> Animal Healthcare/Rehabilitation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Maintenance	
<input type="checkbox"/> General Facility Cleaning and Landscaping	
Additional Comments:	

Signature & Title of Staff Member: _____

Contact Phone #: _____ e-mail: _____ Date: _____