

LABORATORY ANIMAL MEDICINE

Graduate Program Head	Ronald P. Wilson
Program Code	LAM
Campus(es)	Hershey (M.S.)
Degrees Conferred	Master of Science (M.S.)
The Graduate Faculty	View (https://secure.gradsch.psu.edu/gpms/index.cfm?searchType=fac&prog=LAM)

All students entering the program must have completed a professional degree program in veterinary medicine and must hold the degree of D.V.M., V.M.D., or equivalent. This program is only offered at the Penn State College of Medicine, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

The Department of Comparative Medicine is a basic science, academic department of the College of Medicine. It is concerned with the range of variation of normal and abnormal structure, function, and behavior in a variety of species of animals used for teaching, testing, and research. Its faculty, staff, and students work in a multidisciplinary and collaborative fashion with all other departments in the college to advance the research mission.

Graduate study in laboratory animal medicine consists of advanced training in biology, medicine and methodology pertinent to animal-based research, and the development of scholarship and research capabilities within the specialty. The general plan is one that provides a broad, basic foundation upon which the individual can build a career in teaching and research and/or in the professional direction of research animal facilities.

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply>). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies>).

Degree Requirements

Master of Science (M.S.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies>)

To earn the master's degree, each student must complete at least 30 credits of course work at the 500 or 600 levels.

The curriculum of this training program includes:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
CMED 501	Biology and Care of Laboratory Animals	3
CMED 503	Laboratory Animal Genetics	3
CMED 507	Techniques of Laboratory Animal Experimentation	3
CMED 515	Experimental Surgery of Laboratory Animals	3
CMED 530	Diseases of Laboratory Animals I	3
CMED 531	Diseases of Laboratory Animals II	3

CMED 535	Comparative Pathology	3
CMED 590	Colloquium (1 credit per semester)	4
CMED 596	Individual Studies	1-3
BMS 591	Biomedical Research Ethics	1

Culminating Experience

Students completing a thesis enroll in CMED 600; students in the non-thesis option enroll in CMED 596. ¹

CMED 600 or CMED 596	Thesis Research (for M.S. thesis) ² Individual Studies	9
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Total Credits 36-38

¹ A non-thesis option may be elected by the student but must be approved in writing by the Program Director. A scholarly paper on a topic relevant to the fields of laboratory animal medicine or laboratory animal science must be written and presented. Up to 9 credits of independent study (CMED 596) may be earned for this work.

² The submission and defense of a thesis based on an original hypothesis-driven research project is required. A minimum of 9 credits of thesis research (CMED 600) are required (a maximum of 6 credits may receive a quality grade).

Students may, with the approval of the Program Director, enroll in graduate level courses offered at the Penn State College of Medicine, Penn State Harrisburg, University Park, or Penn State's World Campus.

Student Aid

Graduate assistantships available to students in this program and other forms of student aid are described in the Tuition & Funding (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-funding>) section of The Graduate School's website. Students on graduate assistantships must adhere to the course load limits (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gsad/gsad-900/gsad-901-graduate-assistants>) set by The Graduate School.

Courses

Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

Comparative Medicine (CMED) Course List (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/graduate/cmed>)

Contact

Campus	Hershey Med Ctr
Graduate Program Head	Ronald Paul Wilson
Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) or Professor-in-Charge (PIC)	Tiffany Lynn Whitcomb
Program Contact	Pamela J Dunn College of Medicine, Dept of Comparative Medicine, H054 500 University Drive Hershey PA 17033 pzd9@psu.edu (717) 948-6322
Program Website	View (http://med.psu.edu/ laboratory-animal-medicine-ms)