The College of Veterinary Medicine educates veterinarians for a wide variety of positions. The overarching areas of competence we want our graduates to have are veterinary medical knowledge, skills, awareness and a dedication to life-long learning.

Knowledge: Graduates of the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine will be able to effectively use their knowledge of comparative medical science in the provision of veterinary clinical care and other contexts in which veterinary medicine plays a key role. This will be characterized as the ability to:

- possess and apply the knowledge needed to solve animal health problems
- locate the needed knowledge efficiently and successfully, using contemporary media and technology to access and manage information
- critically evaluate information and its sources
- integrate medical and scientific information and apply it to the solution of animal health problems

Skills: Graduates of the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine will be able to effectively use cognitive and psychomotor skills in the practice of veterinary clinical care and other contexts in which veterinary medicine plays a key role. This will be characterized as the ability to:

- identify, define and analyze clinical problems of a diverse range of species
- identify or create processes to solve clinical problems in a diverse range of species
- interpret facts and data in the context of the clinical problems to be solved
- design preventative and therapeutic plans for common medical problems of animals and animal-human disease interactions
- perform surgical and medical procedures needed to care for veterinary patients, demonstrating acceptable standards of animal handling, pain control, sterility, instrument and device handling, tissue handling and safety
- perform imaging and other diagnostic procedures and accurately interpret obtained data used for the diagnosis and treatment of disease in animals
- use scientific methods for the investigation of problems and use research-based information in the clinical care of veterinary patients

Awareness: Graduates of the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine will be able to use their awareness of local, national, international and professional communities in which they practice to meet the needs of society in an effective and ethical manner. This will be characterized as the ability to:

- acknowledge personal responsibility for one’s value judgments and behavior
- understand and accept social, cultural, global and environmental responsibilities, particularly as they relate to animal welfare, sustainability of animal resources, and one health
• demonstrate professionalism in the face of societal diversity, including racial, ethnic, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic and cultural differences
• work with, manage, and lead others in ways that facilitate their contribution to the organization and the wider community
• use communication as a tool for interacting and relating to others, demonstrating patience, compassion and empathy
• make effective use of oral, written, and visual means to critique, negotiate, create and communicate understanding
• apply sound business and management principles to the organizations in which one works
• operate within the legal constraints of the society in which one lives
• exhibit truth, honesty, integrity, open-mindedness, fairness and generosity

**Lifelong Learning:** Graduates of the NC State College of Veterinary Medicine will be life-long learners, continuously updating their knowledge, skills and awareness. This will be characterized as the ability to:

• be independent learners who take responsibility for their own learning and practice continuous reflection, self-evaluation and self-improvement
• critically evaluate one’s current knowledge, skills and awareness, recognizing areas for improvement
• be open to new ideas, methods and ways of thinking
• be able to identify processes and strategies to learn and meet new challenges
• have a personal vision and goals and be able to work towards these in a sustainable way