



Senior Training Scholarship in Veterinary Pathology: Combined Residency and MSc

Scholarship: £22,000

Working hours: Full time

Tenure: 3 years (starting no later than 1st February 2026)

Location: Leahurst campus, Wirral

Faculty: Health and Life Sciences, Institute of Infection, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences, Department of Veterinary Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology

To apply please send cover letter and CV to: danielle.magner@liverpool.ac.uk

Informal enquiries contact: Richard Blundell, rblund@liverpool.ac.uk

Advert

This training post provides an exciting opportunity for a veterinarian interested in a career in veterinary pathology. You will be trained in undertaking diagnostic pathology work on a range of species for the University's veterinary hospitals and outside clients, contribute to the small group veterinary undergraduate teaching and undertake a collaborative research project. The training will prepare you for the ECVF certifying examinations and you will complete a Diploma and MSc in Veterinary Professional Studies as part of the programme. You must have an RCVS registrable veterinary degree and must have at least one year's experience as a veterinarian in a field relevant to veterinary pathology. The position must be taken up no later than 1st February 2026; it will run until January 2029.

The Role

Role overview and University context:

Prime objectives:

- Intensive post-graduate training in the field of veterinary pathology to enable the successful candidate to pursue a career in the field
- Completion of post-graduate Diploma in Veterinary Professional Studies and Masters in Veterinary Professional Studies
- Completion of a post-graduate qualification in veterinary pathology (Dipl.ECVF)

The Department of Veterinary Anatomy, Physiology and Pathology is a department within the School of Veterinary Science and Institute of Infection, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences, bringing together the disciplines of veterinary pathology, anatomy, physiology and veterinary microbiology. The veterinary pathology group within the department is comprised of 7 lecturers in veterinary pathology (2 Professors, 3 Senior Lecturers, 2 Lecturers). There are several training scholars in veterinary pathology that complement the veterinary pathology group, one of those posts are now available. The primary supervisor of the residency programme is Dr Richard Blundell, although residents will work with and receive day to day supervision from all academic members of the group.

The Veterinary Pathology Diagnostic Service (part of Veterinary Laboratory Services) is based within the department. It is provided by the 7 pathology lecturers and currently 4 senior training scholars with the support of technical and administrative staff. It offers post-mortem examinations and services in histopathology (biopsies) and immunohistochemistry. The service performs ~300 post-mortem examinations per year across a range of domestic and exotic species – the majority of the caseload being dog, cat and horse. One of the members of academic staff (Prof Julian Chantrey) specialises in zoo animal pathology. An important component of the caseload is veterinary forensic pathology, a field in which the University of Liverpool has a particularly strong reputation. Experience of other areas of veterinary pathology

may be gained through specific short external placements which are encouraged to complement the training offered.

Key responsibilities and duties:

The bulk of the training will consist of working on the diagnostic rota alongside one of the senior pathologists. The rota consists of blocks of 3 weeks consisting of post-mortem duty, biopsy duty and a consolidation week which gives residents time to work up and report post-mortem cases, work towards the MSc, and allows the pursuit of research activities, particularly during the MSc research project module. There are also opportunities also to gain experience in exotic animal pathology. This rota may be altered according to operational needs as required. Scholars will be trained in all the roles of the pathologist: post-mortem examination, recording of gross findings in a preliminary report, selection and preparation of tissues for further examination, rigorous and detailed histopathological examination and the writing of pathological reports. Senior pathologists will supervise all elements, and this interaction will comprise the majority of the training. The training post is designed to enable candidates to be successful in the ECVP examination and to prepare them to be competent pathologists in their future careers.

There is no specific requirement for out of hours duty, as the service is unable to offer this routinely. There may be some exceptional circumstances in which we may request scholars to be available outside of regular hours, but this is rare.

Senior training scholars will have no formal teaching responsibility, but they will assist the academic staff in the delivery of undergraduate teaching. This comprises small group teaching during pathology practical classes and a necropsy class to third year students; scholars will also help supervise final year students on pathology rotation.

Postgraduate qualifications

Training scholars are expected to register as trainees of the European College of Veterinary Pathologists. The University of Liverpool is a registered training centre and 4 of the senior pathologists are diplomates of the college. The other senior pathologists are Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists or Fellows of the Royal College of Pathologists. After 36 months of continuous attendance candidates are entitled to take the qualifying examination for the European College (Dipl.ECVP). Our residency programme is designed with training for this qualification as one of its main objectives and we have an excellent track record of successful candidates. Specific exam focused training within the scholarship includes participation in the Joint Pathology Center Wednesday Slide Conferences where the skills of histopathological description are perfected. We also run journal clubs where contemporary scientific papers are analysed for experience in data analysis and comprehension of current scientific techniques, and where scholars can keep up to date with the relevant literature as it is published. We have a wealth of digital gross pathology images for training for that part of the exam. Mock exams are available for use towards the end of the position for specific exam preparation. Scholars will attend the ECVP Summer School in each of the 3 years of the programme. Attendance at other CPD events and scientific meetings e.g. ESVP Congress, may be supported provided time and budgetary considerations allow.

Training scholars will also register as a postgraduate student with the University of Liverpool on a programme in Veterinary Professional Studies, administered by the Veterinary Postgraduate Unit. This will comprise a series of modules to be undertaken throughout the 3 years of the scholarship, leading to the award of the postgraduate Diploma and culminating with a research project leading to the award of an MSc. Modules include pathology-specific subjects such as zoo animal pathology and forensic pathology, and also clinically- based modules. The final MSc project will be supervised by one of the academic members of staff from the pathology group, the specific details of which will be confirmed once the scholarship is in progress.

Research interests within the group focus of infectious disease, oncology, neuropathology, image analysis and forensic veterinary pathology. We also collaborate widely with clinical colleagues on a broad variety of clinical research projects.

Duties:

- Undertake work on diagnostic pathology rota under supervision of senior pathologist.
- Complete requirements for Diploma and MSc in Veterinary Professional Studies.
- Prepare for candidature of ECVP examination.
- Contribute to veterinary undergraduate teaching
- Undertake other duties commensurate with the grade as required.

Additional requirements:

Manual Handling

Bio Hazards

Pathogens

Exposure to Animals

Gluteraldehyde/Asthmagens

In addition to the above, all University of Liverpool staff are required to:

- Adhere to all University policies and procedures, completing all obligatory training and induction modules, including Equality & Diversity and Health & Safety.
- Respect confidentiality: all confidential information should be kept in confidence and not released to unauthorised persons.
- Participate in the University's Professional Development Review scheme and take a proactive approach to own professional development.
- Demonstrate customer service excellence in dealing with all stakeholders.
- Embody and uphold the University's Vision and Values.

About you

Experience

Essential

1. Postgraduate experience as a veterinarian in a field relevant to veterinary pathology (minimum 1 year, due to the requirements of ECVP)

Desirable

1. Experience in teaching veterinary undergraduates
2. Experience in pathology

Education, qualifications and training

Essential

1. EU and RCVS-recognised veterinary degree. MRCVS, or eligible for membership

Desirable

1. PhD or other postgraduate research degree

Skills, general and specialist Knowledge

Essential

1. High level of general veterinary knowledge
2. Ability to communicate clearly and confidently at all levels
3. Good interpersonal, organisational and communication skills (spoken and written English)

Desirable

1. Specific awareness of aspects of veterinary pathology

Personal attributes

Essential

1. Enthusiasm for the application of veterinary pathology to animal and public health and research, and for working in multidisciplinary teams
2. Ability to work in a team
3. Ambition to embark on a career in veterinary pathology and to take the ECVP certifying examination

Desirable

About us

Established in 1881, we are an internationally renowned Russell Group university recognised for our high-quality teaching and research. We are consistently ranked as one of the best [universities](#) both nationally and globally, and the majority of our research is rated world leading or internationally excellent. [Find out more about us.](#)

Why Work Here

We recognise, appreciate and celebrate the incredible work our staff do every day. As well as generous terms and conditions, we offer a range of enviable benefits and provide support for colleague's wellbeing and development. Discover more [about working here.](#)

Moving from abroad

As a global institute, we welcome applicants from all nationalities, moving from a different country can be challenging and we would like to help as much as we can, we have put together some information on eligibility to work documentation, accommodation, schools, healthcare, life in Liverpool and the UK as well as other practical information. Discover more about [moving from abroad.](#)

Our Staff

Whether it be their friendly colleagues, supportive managers or our outstanding facilities, our staff can explain better than anyone what it is like to work for us and why they enjoy their role. See what our [colleagues have to say.](#)

Job description

After the closing date this job description will be removed from our website. Should you wish to refer to this information at a later date please ensure you save a copy of this document.

Contacting us

Shortlisting and interview arrangements are the responsibility of the recruiting department, please email: danielle.magner@liverpool.ac.uk

Right to work

We have a legal responsibility to ensure that you have the right to work in the UK before you can start working for us. If you do not have the right to work in the UK already, any

offer of employment we make to you will be conditional upon you gaining it. The UKVI have an interactive tool allowing you to immediately see if vacancies are eligible for a Skilled Worker visa. You will need to know the SOC code for the role, view our [most used SOC codes](#), if none of these apply to this role, there are more codes on the eligibility checker. The skilled worker eligibility checker can be found on [GOV.UK](#).

Disabilities and alternative formats

If you have any other requirements which will help you access the application or interview process or employment opportunities at the University, or if you require copies documentation in alternative formats, please email:

danielle.magner@liverpool.ac.uk.

