

September 4, 2019

Hello.

As a fourth-year veterinary student, I was interested in emergency medicine and knew I wanted to become an emergency veterinarian...but didn't want to experience an internship. I also want to go straight into emergency medicine without spending years in general practice, so I researched a host of new emergency programs for first-year veterinarians. These programs all seemed very similar and were very difficult to choose from.

Once I visited IndyVet, I knew that I had found a place where I could really learn how to become a proficient emergency veterinarian. From the team-based approach to the multitude of approachable specialists willing to teach, I knew I found a practice where I could develop competence and confidence.

The IndyVet Emergency Apprenticeship program has been an immersive experience perfect for new graduate life. The program is composed of a unique blend of didactic, problem-based learning from a seasoned emergency veterinarian and immersive, on-the-floor experience mentored by multiple emergency veterinarians. During our didactic sessions, we work through previous hospital cases, allowing us to develop an understanding of the all components of emergency medicine including triage, stabilization, hospitalization, transferring cases to specialists, communication, and finances.

Additionally, we have the opportunity to practice emergency skills including enucleation, FAST Scans, and more on cadaver or live patients. While on the floor, we see a wide variety of cases with the support of experienced emergency and specialty doctors as well as a highly trained technical staff. Time on the floor has allowed for numerous exciting experiences, including a thoracocentesis my first day!

This program has allowed me to quickly develop the hard and soft skills necessary for emergency work at a reasonable pace that allows for work-life balance. If you are a veterinary student with interest in this program or have general questions about life as a new emergency veterinarian, please feel free to e-mail me at **LLundewall@IndyVet.com**.

Leslie Lundewall, DVM