

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be submitted under the authority of the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

This form must be used for Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations to the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP), Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each shortage situation. See the State Animal Health Official (SAHO) section of the VMLRP web site (www.nifa.usda.gov/vmlrp) for the number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Oklahoma County, Oklahoma (e.g., County, State/Insular Area; must be a logistically feasible veterinary practice service area)
Approximate Center of Shortage Area (or Location of Position if Type III): Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152 (e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: [] Moderate Priority X High Priority [] Critical Priority

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (Choose only one Type)

[] Type I Shortage: Private Practice Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 80 percent time or 32 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one) [] Beef Cattle [] Dairy Cattle [] Swine [] Poultry [] Small Ruminant [] Other:
May cover [] Beef Cattle [] Dairy Cattle [] Swine [] Poultry [] Small Ruminant [] Other:

[] Type II Shortage: Private Practice - Rural Area Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 30 percent time or 12 hr/week)

Must cover (check at least one) [] Beef Cattle [] Dairy Cattle [] Swine [] Poultry [] Small Ruminant [] Other:
May cover [] Beef Cattle [] Dairy Cattle [] Swine [] Poultry [] Small Ruminant [] Other:

X Type III Shortage: Public Practice (awardee obligation: at least 49 percent time or 19.6 hr/week)

Employer:
Position Title: Animal Disease Traceability and Emergency Management Coordinator
Please select one or more specialty/disciplinary areas:
[] Food Safety
X Public Health
X Epidemiology
X Other: Regulatory Animal Health

Please describe the **importance and objectives** of a veterinarian filling this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

A veterinarian meeting this shortage situation will fill the growing need for regulatory animal health officials across the U.S. Oklahoma is blessed with a rich and vital agriculture sector. Agriculture is first or second as the leading industry in Oklahoma depending upon how the oil and gas industry falls. The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry has decreasing budget dollars. USDA APHIS Veterinary Services, likewise, has decreasing resources available to Area Offices. It is of the utmost importance that efforts to recruit and keep good regulatory animal health professionals be made. The veterinary medical loan repayment program could be an incentive to a talented young veterinarian to accept a position or continue in a position with a lower pay scale range than he/she would receive in the private sector. At least 80% of the time will be dedicated to the programs described.

Please describe the **activities** of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The veterinarian filling this position will meet a state wide shortage. In Oklahoma, two of our field Veterinary Medical Officers have retired, one is eligible to retire, and two more are within five to seven years of eligibility to retire. This veterinarian will be located in either the Oklahoma City office of the State Veterinarian or the APHIS Assistant District Director. The activities would include animal disease traceability, disaster emergency response, program disease management, epidemiology, and the progression to a more electronically manageable data base. The service area would include the entire state and all animal agriculture stakeholders.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

It is difficult to recruit and retain veterinarians due to salaries and salary caps. This office has lost three talented young veterinarians that were trained by the state to more lucrative positions. The incentive of having a portion of veterinary student loans repaid will help to recruit and retain talented veterinarians to these positions.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

The risk is simple and vital, the mission is the protection of the health of the herd and flock of the state of Oklahoma and thereby the protection of the health of the herd and flock of the U.S. The risk is the loss of marketability of the food and fiber production within our state and the U.S. We are working to improve our ability to trace animals and animal movements which will help to stop the spread of foreign animal or infectious diseases. It is imperative we have a young veterinarian who understands the mission and can assist the older staff in understanding and utilizing the newer electronic methods of documentation.

(Optional) If the nominator wishes to specify a service time for this shortage situation that is higher than the minimum required for the shortage type checked on Page 1, please specify the percent time in the box below (based on a 40-hour work week). Leave the box blank if the service time for this shortage situation is for the minimum percent time of the shortage type indicated.

80%

Minimum Service time required for each shortage type

Type I: 80 percent time or 32 hours/week

Type II: 30 percent time or 12 hours/week

Type III: 49 percent time or 19.6 hours/week

SAHO nominator must check both boxes below in order for NIFA to consider this nomination for official designation

- By checking this box, I affirm that this form represents a nomination and is subject to NIFA review and approval.

- By checking this box, I affirm that it is my professional opinion that this is a bona fide food supply or public health-related veterinary shortage situation. I affirm due diligence has been invested to identify this area as a shortage situation of at least moderate priority (severity).

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Rod Hall, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry

Email: rod.hall@ag.ok.gov

Telephone Number: 405-522-0270
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OGF, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Information Collection Approval No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013