

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: Throughout Colorado
(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): Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, - Fort Collins, Colorado
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: Moderate Priority

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (select one) :

Type III: Public Practice (awardee obligation at least 49% FTE or 19 hr/week)

For Type I or II Private Practice:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Must cover (check at least one) | May cover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swine | <input type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Ruminant | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Ruminant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

For Type III Public Practice:

Employer: CSU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab Position Title: Pathologist

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas:

- Food Safety
- Public Health
- Epidemiology
- Other: Food/Fiber Animal Diagnostic Pathology

(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 above, 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.

%

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 1500 characters).

This veterinary pathologist would commit greater than 50% effort to recognize, investigate and diagnose disease outbreaks affecting food/fiber animals and work with the state veterinary office and public health officials in surveillance efforts directed at detecting exotic animal diseases and those of public health importance (e.g. last summers' Anthrax outbreak). The Colorado State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory System (CSUVDL) handles over 325,000 animal submissions and services the entire state, most of which is rural. The CSUVDL is part of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network and the Laboratory Response Network serving Colorado and the nation by testing for foreign and emerging diseases and environmental testing for disease or contamination outbreaks. The College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences has new leadership and is actively engaged in expanding its role in food/fiber medicine in the state. The College recently hired 2 new bovine veterinarians and the CSUVDL has hired a case coordinator to better serve producers and food animal veterinarians. This pathologist position would allow an individual to contribute to all the described Laboratory and College activities as they relate to food/fiber medicine and devote considerable energy to outreach in rural communities and building the Laboratories support of the state's agricultural industries.

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 1500 characters or less).

This position will perform necropsy procedures, interpret laboratory findings, suggest confirmatory diagnostics and provide a case summary for each submission. A pathologist in this position would be expected to build relationships with veterinarians, producer and producer groups in the region through regular and consistent interaction on diagnostic cases and other outreach activities including committee service and publication. This pathologist would focus on building case load and work as a team member among a larger group of university, industry, regulatory and private practice veterinarians and producer groups to investigate disease outbreaks, identify new, emerging or persistent disease problems that limit livestock productivity in the region. Additionally this pathologist would be a valuable team member in research projects addressing food/fiber animal diseases, livestock management systems, meat and dairy product safety. This pathologist would also instruct and mentor veterinary students and veterinary residents interested in careers in production medicine, helping to expand the cadre of young professionals who have the desire, knowledge and ability to sustain animal agriculture in this country and help create an advantage for US meat and fiber production systems in the world economy.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 750 characters or less).

The CSUVDL has performed successful searches for pathologists with an interest in food animals, but appointments were structured such that new faculty shared equally in all diagnostic/academic duties. This position structure would focus career development toward serving the food animal industry. The VMLRP program is critical in recruitment and retention of young faculty who wish to develop their career in public diagnostic service to the food animal industry but also have significant educational debt. Board certified pathologists eligible for this position are in demand can readily make much more money in private diagnostic or biopharmaceutical industry 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 2000 characters or less).

In the state of Colorado there are > 2 million cattle, > 700,000 pigs, >100,000 dairy cows and nearly 400,000 sheep contributing greater than \$3 billion a year to the state's economy. The margin in the respective production systems for the major food/fiber species in the state is narrow and production limiting disease can markedly affect producer viability. Beyond conventional diseases, the state industry is also at risk from the appearance of new, emerging or exotic animal diseases. Obviously, incursion of an exotic (ie "Foreign Animal") disease would be catastrophic for the state and regional economy. This position would be the point person in the CSUVDL system for detecting diseases of importance to animal agriculture. The risks associated with not securing the described position stems from potential economic loss from all of these. The CSU College of Veterinary Medicine and the CSUVDL are committed to an expanding role in production medicine and diagnostic service. The described position would help catalyze these efforts.

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: Keith A. Roehr, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Colorado Department of Agriculture

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(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.