VMLRP Shortage ID Code GA154

NIFA

NIFA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Control No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 11/30/2016

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: Georgia
(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): College of Veterinary Medicine, Athens and Tifton, Georgia 30602 and 31793
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: ❑ Moderate Priority xxx 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)	**May cover**
❑ Beef Cattle	❑ Beef Cattle
❑ Dairy Cattle	❑ Dairy Cattle
❑ Swine	❑ Swine
❑ Poultry	❑ Poultry
❑ Small Ruminant	❑ Small Ruminant
❑ Other: _____	❑ 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)	**May cover**
❑ Beef Cattle	❑ Beef Cattle
❑ Dairy Cattle	❑ Dairy Cattle
❑ Swine	❑ Swine
❑ Poultry	❑ Poultry
❑ Small Ruminant	❑ Small Ruminant
❑ Other: _____	❑ Other: _____

XXX **Type III Shortage: Public Practice** (awardee obligation: at least 49 percent time or 19.6 hr/week)
Employer: University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine Position Title: Assistant Professor or higher____
Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas:
xxFood Safety
xxPublic Health
xxEpidemiology
xxOther: _Veterinary Diagnostician

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).

Veterinarians in these underserved disciplines at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Georgia Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory system will assist with food animal and poultry disease surveillance. They will provide routine diagnostic testing and monitor for reportable and foreign animal diseases. They will serve as part of the National Animal Laboratory Monitoring program, Food Emergency Response Network and other State Emergency Management Program.

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).

Presently there is a shortage of veterinary diagnosticians in pathology, microbiology (diagnostic), public health, parasitology and toxicology. The veterinarians in these positions are responsible for fast, accurate diagnosis and disease surveillance for reportable diseases, foreign animal diseases, zoonotic diseases and emerging diseases, as well as providing support services for food supply veterinarians in the state as they work to improve the health of the livestock and poultry industry. These veterinarians are trained in the National Incident Management System and are prepared to respond to emergency situations involving animal agriculture.

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).

The College of Veterinary Medicine and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories provide training programs in pathology and microbiology to undergraduate and graduate veterinarians. Mentors have been assigned to all new faculty to encourage promotion and position stability in these underserved fields.

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).

Veterinary Diagnosticians, like practicing food animal veterinarians, are critical to the prompt, accurate recognition of reportable and foreign animal disease to prevent spread of the disease to other animals or humans and to help protect against the massive detrimental impact on the economy of Georgia and the United States. These diagnosticians are the ones that provide the quick turnaround needed for diagnosing foreign animal disease issues. Without rapid testing, transmissible diseases have the potential to rapidly spread, compounding the potential catastrophic losses of livestock. A key element in containing a highly contagious livestock disease agent is rapid identification of the causative agent in order to apply the appropriate control strategy. Also important is the ability to rapidly identify a suspect case as a non-threatening problem, thus more quickly lifting quarantine or containment costs from livestock producers.

(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.

%

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

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

XX 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: Robert M. Cobb, Jr. DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Georgia Department of Agriculture

Email: Robert.Cobb@agr.georgia.gov

Telephone Number: 404-656-3671
(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, OGFM, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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