

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

Island of Oahu, Hawaii

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

(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):

Aiea, Oahu 96701

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage:

- Moderate Priority 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:

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

Employer: Hawaii Dept of Agriculture Position Title: Veterinary Medical Officer II

Please select one or more specialty/disciplinary areas:

- Food Safety Public Health Epidemiology Other: Regulatory Production Animal Health Service

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).

This position is within the Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry Division, Animal Disease Control Branch. The importance and objectives of the veterinarian in this shortage situation is to attain the objective of the Division to provide regulatory animal health service for the State with the mission of reducing incidence of animal diseases, of economic importance to animal industry including those with zoonotic implications through the detection, control and eradication of these diseases.

This position will function as a Veterinary Medical Officer-in-charge of veterinary medical, scientific, regulatory activities in the detection, control and/or eradication of animal diseases for Oahu and elsewhere in the State as required, and collaborate with University, State & Federal Officials regarding Honolulu County Food Animal Health on the island of Oahu. Collaboration with University of Hawaii Extension personnel (Agents, Specialists, and Veterinarian) and with State/Federal Veterinary Officials related to food animal health will be a key duty.

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 activities of the veterinarian in this shortage situation will include three primary areas: responsibility for planning, scheduling and conducting veterinary field work in connection with State and cooperative State-Federal-Industry animal disease control and eradication programs; responsibility for enforcement of regulations, including those governing interstate and inter-island movement of animals; and responsibility for implementation of emergency disease control plans and other program activities in the state. The areas of greatest need for activities are with swine and poultry production although cattle, horses and other production species are included. Activities also include providing information and consultation to industry, the public and other government agencies in regard to all division programs.

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).

Efforts to recruit a veterinarian have focused on national (AVMA, USAHA, etc.) and state & local (State Department of Human Resources Development and veterinary associations) venues. However, recruitment advertisements have been unsuccessful in yielding any qualified candidate. The starting salary for this shortage position is lower in comparison to several other states for public agency positions and lower than equivalent large animal private practices. The ability to recruit a qualified veterinarian for this shortage would be greatly facilitated with the VMLRP to offset the high cost of living on Oahu, Hawaii and compensate for the salary established for this position.

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).

Food security and sustainability are very important issues to Hawaii. Disease and animal health issue mitigation are critical components of ensuring and promoting food security and sustainability. Regulating animal health programs, disease surveillance & eradication efforts, enforcement of interstate and intrastate movement of animals, and emergency disease control responses are negatively affected by not securing this veterinarian position. Hawaii imports substantial amounts of food, including products that could come from local food animal producers. Hawaii is a major location for tourism and the island of Oahu in particular functions as a central hub of commerce for imports and exports. This functional aspect however, also increases the risk of introducing foreign animal disease and other animal health threats. In turn this increases the importance and significance of an effective regulatory Animal Disease Control program staffed with adequate veterinarian support.

The swine industry generates an annual income of approximately \$7 million in market hog sales and contributes to the local economy and employment through pork processing and retail marketing, the feed industry, veterinary supply, and other related activities. In 1990 the poultry industry peaked at approximately 227 million eggs produced with a value of \$16.1 million. With adequate support of the industry, these production numbers can be attained on Oahu. Although the national average for the labor force employed by agriculture is 2%; Hawaii's agricultural labor force accounts for ~5% of the population which emphasizes the cultural and economic importance of these industries. Sustainable agriculture requires animal health, food security, and support of Pacific and International veterinary capabilities.

(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.

100%

**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: Isaac Maeda

Title: Acting Administrator, Animal Industry Division

Organization: Hawaii Department of Agriculture  
Isaac.m.maeda@hawaii.gov

Email: (808) 483-7111

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
(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  
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