Shortage ID IA162
VMLRP USE ONLY

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: Cass county including contiguous counties (Adair, Adams, Audubon, Guthrie, Montgomery, Pottawattamie, Shelby)
(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): 300 North Highway 148, Anita, 50020
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: High Priority

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

Type II: Private Practice - Rural Area, Food Animal Medicine (awardee obligation: at least 30% FTE or 12hr/week)

For Type I or II Private Practice:

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: Camelids

For Type III Public Practice:

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

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

- ☐ Food Safety
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Epidemiology
- ☐ Other: _____

(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.

55 %

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).

Within Cass county and contiguous counties there are approximately 1.12 million cattle and swine, including a number of dairies and a growing number of cattle and swine feeding operations, according to the most recent USDA NASS figures. This area has approximately 1,730 known registered premises with livestock and is one of the most densely populated swine and cattle areas of the state. There are approximately 9 dairies and all other major livestock species are present in this area. This has created a need for a veterinarian that will dedicate at least 55% of their time to servicing the livestock operations within this area. Only 53 food animal veterinarians serve this 8 county area. There are no county census numbers for small ruminants but several counties in this area have reported substantial sheep and goat production. Supporting a food animal veterinarian in this area will provide critical production animal veterinary services, provide necessary regulatory services to producers and enhance the area's entire animal agriculture economy. This underserved area also supports 5 major livestock markets that require veterinary services. VMLRP support will reduce the pressure on a recent graduate to be sustainable in the first few years of practice.

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 characteers or less).

The activities of the veterinarian would include the use of skills and knowledge acquired from veterinary college and learned from mentors. They would apply this skill set to diagnose, treat, perform surgical procedures, obstetrical procedures, individual animal disease management, necropsies, prescribe appropriate drugs, conduct follow-ups and be available and responsive for emergency service. This would also include farm visits for herd health programs and state and federal disease surveillance testing programs upon request. Veterinary practice services could also include work at auction markets and exhibitions (county fair or local district livestock shows). The veterinarian shall be able to manage day-to-day business activities and work responsibly with office personnel.

To become integrated into the community, it is essential the veterinarian become involved in a local service organization, local governmental organization or local board of health leadership. The veterinarian should be willing to work with local 4-H and/or FFA youth sharing information about animal care, nutrition, animal health, biosecurity practices, public health, and promotion of the veterinary profession. The veterinarian should become involved with organized veterinary medical associations, be active in obtaining veterinary continuing education, become a member of the state veterinary emergency response team, and maintain a connection with veterinary college.

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).

Two food animal veterinary practices have actively sought a veterinarian to complement their veterinary practice for the growing needs of their clients annually through advertising in the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association newsletter and at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine, and elsewhere. In 2015 two young veterinarians applied for VMLRP in this shortage area. The veterinary practices within this area continue to seek preceptor veterinary students with hopes of attracting a new veterinary graduate. Due to the high student loan payments, it is difficult to attract and retain veterinarians aspiring to be established permanently in a rural setting.

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).

Sufficient veterinary involvement in food animal production systems provides critical steps in advancing animal and public health through disease prevention and treatment, adequate pre-harvest food practices, and surveillance, recognition, and reporting of disease outbreaks. The proposed shortage area covers approximately 4,556 square miles with a livestock population of approximately 1.11 million animals. Within this area, there are only 53 licensed food animal veterinarians with a veterinarian/animal ratio of one veterinarian per 20,954 livestock animals. This county and its contiguous counties have an expanding livestock industry in an area that already has a high density of food animals, making it critical to have adequate veterinary services for disease management and profitable production. There are 5,903 farms in this county and approximately 1,730 farms have livestock, plus there are numerous sheep and goat producers, 9 dairy farms and a growing number of horse owners.

Food animal veterinarians are regarded by rural communities as knowledgeable professionals who are capable of early detection and reporting of diseases potentially causing negative impacts to livestock, public health and/or agricultural trade. Failure to secure and retain adequate veterinary infrastructure in an underserved area contributes to an unacceptable increase in the risk of timely disease detection of diseases of severe economic impact, increases livestock producer costs, loss of timely care for livestock that are diseased or require emergency procedures, increases in livestock mortalities and loss of a community professional with a knowledge base of animal health, public health, animal care and welfare, and livestock industries.

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: David Schmitt,DVM

Title: State Veterinarian - Iowa

Organization: Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

Email: David.Schmitt@iowaagriculture.gov

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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, OGFM, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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