Shortage ID IL201
VMLRP USE ONLY

NIFA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
Form NIFA 2009-0001
OMB Control No. 0524-0050
Expiration Date: 9/30/2019

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: Kankakee, Will, Grundy, Livingston, Ford, and Iroquois Counties
(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): Kankakee, Illinois 60901
(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: _____

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.

[ ] %

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).

The primary objective of a veterinarian in this position is to provide food animal veterinary services to the citizens of Kankakee County and surrounding contiguous counties. The population of the counties in the service area ranges from 13,000 - 697,000 and the average household income range is $63,000 - $100,000. Rural homes in theses counties range from 4% - 72%. There are 18 food animal veterinarians providing services for 201,700 food animals which is an average of 11,200 animals per veterinarian. The practitioner should be prepared to provide herd health services for bovine and swine as well as individualized care for other species. An interest in poultry medicine is desirable as there has been an increase in backyard poultry operations within the state. It is important that the practitioner is able to recognize potential foreign animal and emerging disease occurrences and understands the procedures for reporting and providing appropriate recommendations to the client.

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).

A private practitioner in this position will be responsible for diagnosis and treatment of diseases of food animals. The veterinarian is expected to develop herd health programs for clients and provide educational services regarding livestock production and bio-security. The veterinarian is encouraged to become involved in local veterinary emergency response activities. Community involvement is important and the practitioner should provide assistance to local emergency management agencies on issues related to livestock disease outbreaks and public health issues. Involvement in the development of an animal emergency annex to the county emergency response plans is needed to assure an appropriate local response to an animal agriculture related emergency.

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).

Area food animal practices have posted position announcements and those positions have either remained unfilled or failed to retain a practitioner. It is hoped that the loan repayment program will be useful as a tool for recruiting and retaining food animal practitioners within the community.

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).

The area that this veterinarian is positioned is in the northeast area of the state bordering Indiana. Interstate movement of livestock occurs daily. Inadequate veterinary care can lead to increased disease incidence in livestock herds, mis-diagnosis or no diagnosis of disease processes. Producer education in the judicious use of antibiotics and other medications is important as inappropriate use of medications may result in drug withdrawal violations and food safety concerns. Humane care, animal handling, and proper feeding are all issues that veterinarians are uniquely qualified to address with clients. The veterinarian is critical in early recognition of foreign animal and emerging diseases. It is important that under-served areas such as this support and maintain a local veterinary practitioner to help ensure livestock health, food safety, and public health.

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: Mark J. Ernst

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Illinois Department of Agriculture

Email: mark.ernst@illinois.gov

Telephone Number: 217/782-4944
(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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Expiration Date:9/30/2019