VMLRP Shortage ID Code MO145

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
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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: Southcentral Missouri (Douglass, Howell and surrounding 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): _____
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: ❑ Moderate Priority X 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: _____

X **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**
X Beef Cattle	❑ Beef Cattle
❑ Dairy Cattle	X Dairy Cattle
❑ Swine	X Swine
❑ Poultry	❑ Poultry
❑ Small Ruminant	X Small Ruminant
❑ Other: _____	X Other: _Aquaculture_____

❑ **Type III Shortage: Public Practice** (awardee obligation: at least 49 percent time or 19.6 hr/week)
Employer: _____ Position Title: _____
Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas:
❑ Food Safety
❑ Public Health
❑ Epidemiology
❑ Other: _____

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).

The main objective for the veterinarian is to provide veterinary service to the livestock producers of the area and surveillance for catastrophic diseases. The practitioner will increase the veterinarian: food producing animals ratio which is currently 1:45,000 (Douglass) and 1:50,000 (Howell). The veterinarian will face the task of ensuring his/her clients are equipped to utilize the technology and informed of the methods of adding value to their livestock by documenting their health status. Educating the clientele regarding emerging diseases, new regulations and marketing requirements is a necessary task of practitioners to keep their producers informed and capable of making educated choices. The acquisition of a veterinarian in this area would decrease the distance and time required to obtain veterinary services, thus decreasing the cost of production and suffering of animals. The aforementioned objectives would occupy approximately 65% of the day-to-day operation. The second objective (35% of their time) is ensuring veterinary services are available for companion animals. Economic growth is an objective of all small business owners on a personal and community level. The addition of a veterinarian to the community has a financial multiplier effect of 2.41 via jobs created and services and goods purchased.

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).

A veterinarian obtaining employment in this region would provide veterinarian services for a variety of food animal producers ranging from beef to dairy to captive cervids to aquaculture. The type of service would range from clinical cases, consulting, livestock markets and small animal clientele. He/she would provide veterinarian service to livestock markets in the region seeking veterinary services. The veterinarian would be involved in the surveillance for emerging diseases and engaged in emergency management protocols. The region has several breeding kennels that require veterinary services in addition to the companion animals in the rural population. The activities would also include aiding with the demands of regulatory medicine from the needs of the producer to fulfill the requirements to enter livestock into commerce to assisting the State Veterinarian with epidemiological investigation s and associated testing requirements. Aquaculture has a strong prominence in the area; these producers desperately need veterinarians to provide regulatory and consulting services. The veterinarian would become involved and integrated into the community, thus providing leadership and guidance to the area through a variety of opportunities. This would include mentoring inspiring veterinarians to ensure the continuation of veterinary services in the future.

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).

Veterinarians in the area have placed ads in professional publications and attempted to retain local inspiring veterinarians. The University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine has been contacted to illicit ideas to identity and obtain the services of a veterinarian to their area. Livestock Market owners have attempted to obtain the services of veterinarians through financial enticements and providing support to inspiring veterinarians in the area. Livestock producers have voiced their concerns to community groups, district veterinarians and via a survey conducted by the University of Missouri Extension.

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).

The livestock producers and markets in the area would not be able to obtain the services of a veterinarian which would be financially devastating. Livestock markets are required to have a veterinarian to provide inspections of the livestock to ensure the health and welfare of the animals marketed**.** Without these services, the livestock markets would have to close, thus eliminating a major marketing opportunity for the livestock producers of the region. The producers would have to travel further to market their livestock and obtain veterinary services, thus increasing their cost of production resulting in a decrease net income. The increase cost of veterinary services, due to increased travel or farm call fees would result in a reduction of services utilized. Animals would not receive the veterinary care necessary or in a timely manner to ensure their health and well being. The loss of income to livestock producers would have a negative impact on the economy of the region resulting in a reduction of funds available for local schools, community projects and services. A survey conducted by University of Missouri revealed livestock producers in Douglass and Howell county anticipate the loss of their veterinary services within the next 5-10 years, thus resulting in 1 veterinarian to service approximately 100,000 head of food animals. The loss of a veterinarian and livestock market has a dramatic negative impact on the local economy due to the loss of employment opportunities and the purchase of goods and services.

(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

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

X 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: Linda Hickam, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

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

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