

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: Northwest Missouri (Davies, Harrison 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): Bethany, MO
(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:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Must cover(check at least one)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Swine</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Poultry</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Small Ruminant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> | <p>May cover</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Swine</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Poultry</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Ruminant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> |
|--|--|

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 main objective, occupying 75% of the day, for the veterinarian is to provide veterinary service to the livestock producers of the area and surveillance for catastrophic diseases. The veterinarian: food producing animals ratio in adjoining counties range from 1:56,000 (Harrison County) to 1: 26,000 (Mercer County); Daviess County has a ratio of 0:160,199. The veterinarian will ensure 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 to keep producers informed and capable of making educated choices. The utilization of veterinary services would increase the health status of the livestock, resulting in increased reproductive and performance measures, thus decreasing the cost of production and increasing the value of the livestock marketed. The second objective is ensuring veterinary services are available for companion animals, which would constitute 25% of the daily workload. Economic growth is an objective of all small business owners on a personal and community level. The veterinarian should also serve as a mentor for inspiring veterinarians in the region and provide leadership and guidance to the community.

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 characters 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 swine. 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 currently struggling to acquire replacement veterinarians for the aging staff. The veterinarian would be involved in the surveillance for emerging diseases and engaged in emergency management protocols. The area is home to a community of Mennonite who are involved in a variety of livestock enterprises. Several are involved in pork production, ranging from confinement operations to dirt and a combination of both. The constituents of the region need the services of a veterinarian to provide services to their companion animals. 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 investigations and associated testing requirements. The veterinarian would become involved and integrated into the community, thus providing leadership and guidance to the area through a variety of opportunities.

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).

Veterinarians in the area have placed ads in professional publications, notified veterinary colleges and district veterinarians of the need and attempted to retain local inspiring veterinarians. The University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine has been contacted to illicit ideas to identify 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 as noted in 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 2000 characters or less).

Daviess County has 160,199 head of food animals and no veterinarians residing in the county, the producers rely on veterinarians in adjoining counties. The average age of veterinarians in the area continues to increase; the efforts to bridge this gap have been unsuccessful. A survey conducted by University of Missouri revealed livestock producers in the county anticipates the loss of their veterinary services within the next 5-10 years. The survey would indicate the producers feel their access to veterinary service will continue to diminish in the near future. The producers would have to travel further to obtain veterinary services, thus increasing their cost of production resulting in a decrease net income. The delay in availability of veterinary services would increase the suffering of animals and have a negative impact on the ability to recover quickly and completely. 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. Veterinarians are required at livestock markets 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, resulting in a loss of local employment and income. The multiplier effect for veterinary services in Missouri is 2.41 for each veterinary clinic conducting business; this represents an opportunity for an economic impact to the community.

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: Linda Hickam, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Missouri Department of Agriculture

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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.