

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: Sampson, Duplin, Wayne, Lenoir, Greene, Jones, and Bladen counties, NC

(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): Goldsboro, NC (Wayne County) 27534

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

Overall Priority of Shortage: [] Moderate Priority [] High Priority [X] Critical Priority

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty (Choose only one Type)

[X] 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 [X] Swine [] Poultry [] Small Ruminant [] Other: _____

May cover

- [X] Beef Cattle [X] Dairy Cattle [] Swine [X] Poultry [X] 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: _____ 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).

This nomination would allow flexibility in the recruitment, hiring, and retention of veterinarians to support the swine industry in eastern North Carolina. The industry has primarily migrated towards an integrated, corporate structure. Most of these companies employ species specific veterinarians to support all aspects of husbandry and disease surveillance within the flow of the integrated system. Interstate movement of nursery and feeder pigs to the Midwest, as well as cull sows and boars to out of state slaughter plants, requires competent veterinary oversight for freedom from disease certification and interstate movement regulatory compliance. While primarily relying on experienced professional support by those with advanced training and experience, these individuals are becoming increasingly less available. The integration of young veterinarians with swine interest will be critical to support of the industry in the coming decades. Sampson, Duplin, Bladen, Wayne, Jones, Greene, and Lenoir counties rank 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 in total hog and pig concentration in North Carolina, the second largest swine producing state in the nation.

The critical nature of this nomination has been illustrated and exemplified by the recently emerged transboundary disease, Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PEDv). Since its introduction into the NC swine herd in June, 2013, the industry has confirmed the disease in over 900 farms with massive death losses in the newborn piglet and nursery pig populations. Veterinary support for control, enhanced biosecurity procedures, "feedback" protocols to stimulate immunity in the absence of effective vaccines, and diagnostic sampling has been overwhelmed. The swine industry would benefit greatly from additional incentives such as the NVMLP to attract young veterinarians to the profession.

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 major activity of a veterinarian working in this state would be disease surveillance, prevention, and control. He/she would be the first line of observation/contact for both FAD and pork specific regulatory diseases such as brucellosis, PRV, and CSF. Prevention and control of devastating program diseases such as PEDv and PRRS is critical to the economic viability of the industry and the economy of eastern North Carolina. This is critical in a state that weans more pigs than any other state in the US (approximately 16 % of all pigs weaned per recent USDA statistics) and heavily depends on the interstate shipment of pigs. In addition to the collection and evaluation of pertinent health data through disease surveillance, the veterinarian would be engaged in other activities related to the overall herd health management

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).

The industry has developed programs to identify, encourage and help students (in and out-of-state) in becoming swine veterinarians. Examples: summer internships, clinical rotations and mentoring with practicing swine veterinarians to allow on-farm experience and exposure to future professional opportunities; research projects developed in cooperation between pharmaceutical companies and industry to provide students experience and training; and scholarships for both graduate and undergraduate swine students through the NCSU's CVM Food Animals Scholars Program as well as those funded by the NC Pork Council. Because of the specialized nature of 100% swine practice, however, the industry still encounters challenges in attracting young professionals to the profession in North Carolina.

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).

Throughout the country, US pork producers need more veterinarians to care for their pigs. Pork producers rely on veterinarians to safeguard animal health and ensure proper care for their pigs. In North Carolina, our swine breeding inventory is estimated at 850,000 head (according to the latest released 2011USDA statistics). It represents 14.6% of the US breeding herd. However, there are less than 20 full-time practicing swine veterinarians. As mentioned above, the operational structure of NC's swine industry is such that it is heavily dependent on interstate shipment of pigs. In addition, there are two major pork processing plants in the state (one of which is the largest in the country with a daily slaughter capacity of over 30,000 head). Good animal health and disease surveillance are essential to the daily operations of a commercial industry that has an economic impact of more than \$9 billion on the state.

A safe U.S. food supply depends on good animal health. The impact of health services on food safety has never been more critical and an adequate supply of food animal veterinarians is crucial in this area.

(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: David T. Marshall, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: NC Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Email: David.marshall@ncagr.gov

Telephone Number: 919-733-7601
(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.

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