

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: Bowman County and Slope County
(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): Bowman, North Dakota
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: Critical Priority

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

Type I: Private practice, Food animal medicine (awardee obligation: 80% FTE or 32hr/wk)

For Type I or II Private Practice:

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: Farmed Cervids

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).

This is one of the most critical areas in need of a veterinarian in the state. The objective of the veterinarian in this area would be to provide food animal services to the greater Bowman area, extending into both SD and MT. The practice is approximately 80% large animal (primarily beef cattle), 15% small animal and 5% equine. Bowman is located in the southwest corner of the state, a town the size of approximately 2000 people. According to NASS, there are 80,000 beef cattle and 6,000 sheep in Bowman and Slope Counties. There are several feedlots in this area, and there also is an auction market in Bowman. The closest practicing veterinarian is in Baker, Montana which is 45 miles away and Hettinger, North Dakota which is 45 miles away also. There are 2 other veterinarians in the Bowman County area; one is retired and the other is solely an equine veterinarian and travels throughout the Midwest for approximately ten months of the year.

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).

The activities of the veterinarian in this practice vary widely. Large animal includes everything from pregnancy testing, semen testing bulls, spaying heifers, bangs vaccinating heifers, calving calls and of course emergency call. These procedures are often done right on the ranches, but a fair amount of people do haul animals into the clinic. Equine care is mainly castration, lacerations and colic. Small animal procedures include spaying, neutering, declawing, general exams and of course vaccinations and all emergency care. Adding a veterinarian to this practice area would allow expansion of certain services, most notably feedlot medicine. Additionally, a veterinarian is needed to assist with outreach and education for young producers starting out, including 4-H and FFA youth.

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).

Outreach and recruitment has been done with graduates at vet conventions and also looking at university online resumes. They have also asked pharmaceutical companies to assist with word of mouth advertising.

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 large number of producers and animals in this area make it impossible for the sole veterinarian in the community to provide optimal care. Many of these operations are nationally recognized seedstock producers who ship animals throughout the country. The large number of beef cattle in this practice area with limited access to a veterinarian creates the risk for a disease outbreak to go undetected and spread not only to domestic animals, but also to the vibrant wildlife population in this area, including whitetail and mule deer, bighorn sheep, and elk. Additionally, travel can seriously impact the quality of care. Furthermore, the area is on the North Dakota/Montana/South Dakota border, and it is critical to have a veterinarian available to inspect livestock, perform testing, and issue certificates of veterinary inspection.

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: Susan J. Keller, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: North Dakota Department of Agriculture/North Dakota State Board of Animal Health

Email: skeller@nd.gov

Telephone Number: 701-328-2655
(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.