

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: Orange and Sullivan
(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): Wurtsboro 12790
(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: Moderate 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 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Beef Cattle |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy Cattle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poultry | <input type="checkbox"/> Poultry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Ruminant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Ruminant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 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).

Importance: The demands for locally produced foods, foods produced with or without particular farming practices, and a renewed interest in young people taking up livestock and poultry production as a business has created a sector in northeastern animal agriculture in which the owners and operators lack a strong background in animal health and husbandry. The lack of animal health professionals to guide and assist these persons has led to significant wastage of animal agriculture resources and has caused preventable animal disease and suffering. A veterinary professional willing and able to provide food animal service and guidance to these operations will bolster the local economy, improve animal welfare and most importantly serve as a sentinel for foreign animal diseases and serious animal diseases endemic to the US.

Objectives:

- 1) Create a well-qualified pool of candidates from diverse backgrounds to serve as a private practice veterinarian delivering food animal veterinary service in Sullivan and Orange Counties in New York State.
- 2) Help assure that talented students and graduates with aptitude for food animal practice are not prevented from serving due to financial constraints.
- 3) The person meeting this shortage situation will spend a minimum of 30% of their professional effort towards protecting the health of domestic livestock in food production.

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 veterinarian who responds to this shortage will help provide veterinary care in counties with a livestock population valued at approximately \$52 million according to the 2012 NASS Census of Agriculture. There are approximately 9,010 cattle in the counties. Milk and other dairy products from the two counties generated approximately \$16,645,000 in 2012. There are approximately 172 farm operations with poultry in the two counties and historically Sullivan County was the heart of New York's egg industry. The shortage area covers approximately 1,200 square miles.

The AVMA (<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/Pages/Food-Supply-Veterinary-Medicine-New-York-maps.aspx>) estimates that there are 5 food animal veterinarians in Orange County and none in Sullivan, but these figures are nearly 8 years old and are based on self reporting. I suspect many of the veterinarians claimed to food vets are actually retired, semi-retired, or will retire in the next 3 years. Continuity of service will benefit with younger veterinarians coming into the area. We expect this veterinarian to dedicate at least 30% of his or her professional efforts to food animal health and productivity. We have seen several instances of veterinarians who would prefer to be food animal practitioners in areas such as these having to leave food animal work for more lucrative companion animal practice in order to more easily repay student loans.

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).

This is the first attempt to address the veterinary shortage in these counties.

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).

Failure to alleviate the food animal veterinarian shortage in this area and other parts of New York may adversely impact individual animal health, human health, animal population health, animal well-being, and the economic viability of New York farms. Limited availability of veterinary care leads to delayed treatment of injuries and medical conditions, lessens the likelihood of early detection of a serious animal disease outbreak, and leads to the early loss of valuable animals. Veterinarians play crucial roles in helping farms use antibiotics and other animal medications properly. Recent changes to regulations pertaining to FDA Veterinary Feed Directives will require greater veterinary oversight of medications used on farms and frankly, I am concerned about who will be available to provide that oversight. With such increased concerns over drug resistant bacteria and drug residues in food, the veterinarian will play a key role in food safety and consumer confidence. Furthermore, as federally and state funded animal health spending declines, the role of private practitioners in detecting and reporting serious diseases of livestock grows.

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 C. Smith, DVM

Title: Director, Division of Animal Industry

Organization: NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets

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