

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: Belmont County, Ohio
(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 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)

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other: _____

May cover

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- 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).

Rural communities are vital to Ohio's way of life, but face challenges regarding economic development, agriculture, education, health and more, not found in most other communities in the state. Much of the veterinary profession's impact is felt in Ohio's rural-based agricultural sector, assuring an abundant, relatively inexpensive and safe food supply. With 21,483 food animals, nearly all of the 700 farms in Belmont County are small family farms, where beef cattle (19,800 head), dairy cattle (900 head), hogs, and sheep/goats are raised. Few veterinarians in this county are food animal practitioners. Protecting and promoting Ohio's livestock and poultry industry serves both the state and our nation, and would consume 35-40% of the practitioner's time in Belmont County and surrounding counties within a 60 mile radius.

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).

Assisting farmers, livestock producers, and other stakeholders with preventive medicine programs, providing clinical medicine for sick and diseased animals, assuring adequate surveillance for dangerous and contagious infectious diseases, and assisting regulatory officials as appropriate. Being knowledgeable of both the unique characteristics of the geo-economic area and of specific requirements of many small farms in Mennonite and Amish communities.

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).

Past efforts have involved actively seeking veterinarians, vet students and pre-vet students interested in food animal medicine and advising them of the opportunities available by serving in underrepresented areas. We are developing a plan not yet implemented by being more proactive in matching demographics of the target area(s) with the expectations of the practitioners. Further, we intend to provide easy access to conferences and workshops devoted specifically to food animal practitioners to help insure their success both economically and professionally. Belmont County and surrounding counties are markedly underserved for food animal veterinary service and are ones in which the need is growing.

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 counties we have targeted for food animal veterinary care have many smaller operations than some other areas that have large commercial operations. However, these counties are nevertheless very important from a disease prevention and surveillance perspective. Without adequate veterinary resources readily available, these counties could serve as an incubator for very serious, highly infectious and contagious diseases including zoonotic diseases. Further, the lack of veterinary resources exacerbates the problems associated with the implementation of the one health-one medicine concept and all that it implies. Finally, small producers, and other citizens of these counties deserve for their animals adequate and meaningful access to veterinarians.

(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

- 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: Tony M. Forshey, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: The Ohio Department of Agriculture

Email: tforshey@agri.ohio.gov

Telephone Number: 614-728-6220
(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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