

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: SC Low Country – 5 contiguous counties (Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun & Orangeburg)
(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): Intersection of US Highways 321 & 178 in Orangeburg County
(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).

The objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation include providing food animal services for dairy and beef cattle and small ruminants in Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun and Orangeburg counties. There are large and small dairy farms, cow-calf operations, some feeder calf operations and hog farms in this area. 2012 NASS data indicate over 51,000 food animals in this five county area including over 27,000 cattle and calves and over 34,000 hogs and pigs. Similar to other areas in SC, small ruminant (meat goats primarily) numbers are increasing in the area. There are no primarily food animal veterinarians in this area. We estimate the full time equivalent of less than 0.4 food animal veterinarians located in this area. Often producers must use veterinarians located far from their farms to provide routine food animal veterinary services needed. Four of the five counties in this area have rural populations in place of fewer than 13,000 and all five counties are under 50,000 according to 2010 Census data. Using a figure of at least one food animal veterinarian per 20,000 cows, a shortage and need is evident even without considering the age of the veterinarians in the area currently willing to work on food animals.

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 veterinarian meeting this shortage situation would provide veterinary services to the dairy, cow-calf and feeder calf producers in this area, helping them design herd health programs for their operations as well as biosecurity procedures for their operations. In addition this veterinarian will provide similar services for small ruminant producers that are a growing sector in this area. There may be opportunity to work with small scale and commercial hog farmers as well as small flock poultry operations. Initially 30% minimum time devoted to food supply veterinary medicine is expected for this area since producers in the area have not been accustomed to having such services regularly available. This position would have the opportunity to provide equine and companion animal veterinary services to supplement income. Opportunity also exists to serve other food animal producers in counties surrounding this area.

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).

There have not been extensive recruitment activities in the past that we are aware of other than a previously filled shortage situation that had some overlap with these counties. The veterinarian successfully filling that shortage situation is meeting his obligations in counties not included in this request. High student loan debt continues to make it difficult for a new graduate to earn sufficient income while working on food animals 30% and make loan payments without assistance. State Veterinarian's office and diagnostic lab continually receives calls requesting veterinary assistance with food animals.

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 area specified for this veterinarian shortage situation has a significant population of dairy cows, beef cows, commercial and backyard pigs and small ruminants with less than 0.4 full time equivalent veterinarians providing services for them from within the area. The production of a safe, wholesome, local food supply for this area in SC is directly impacted by the ability of producers to obtain competent and readily available veterinary services. New FDA antibiotic usage guidelines potentially will increase the need for veterinarians for these food-producing farms in the coming years, exacerbating the existing shortage situation. The area is experiencing growth in dairy and has significant potential for growth in forage-fed beef production. Availability of food supply veterinary services is a critical requirement for this growth to be able to occur. Food supply veterinarians are a critical link in emerging and foreign animal disease prevention, detection, and eradication. Both state and regional interests will be served by improving the level of food supply veterinarians in this area with benefits accruing to animal, human, and environmental health. Encouraging a veterinarian already in practice to offer at least 30% food animal services in this area or recruiting a new veterinarian to the same is the goal for this shortage situation.

(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.

30%

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: Boyd H. Parr, DVM

Title: SC State Veterinarian & Director

Organization: Clemson University Livestock Poultry Health

Email: bparr@clemson.edu

Telephone Number: 803-726-7813
(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.

Form NIFA 2009-0001
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