

# 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](http://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: Community in which a SD licensed livestock auction market is located  
(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): Pierre, SD  
(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: Auction Market Regulatory\_

**May cover**

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other: Captive Cervidae, Equine, & Bison

#### 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).

There are 35 licensed livestock auction markets in South Dakota at which state law requires a veterinarian to inspect all livestock presented for sale. The Auction Market Veterinarian is thus an agent of the South Dakota Animal Industry Board providing health inspections of all livestock presented for sale and change of ownership. Some of the duties they perform as an agent of the Board include enforcing state animal health regulations, recording animal identification upon change of ownership, and identifying sheep and goats according to Scrapie eradication guidelines. Auction Market Veterinarians are familiar with States' animal health import requirements, are federally accredited, and provide Certificates of Veterinary Inspection for interstate movement of livestock. This position will require designating at least one and possibly more days per week to be present at the market facility. All 35 markets in SD are located in communities that meet the definition of "rural communities." Outside of performing duties at the auction market this veterinarian will practice food animal medicine servicing the local community. Collectively between time spent at the auction market and private practice the successful candidate will commit at least 80% of his or her time practicing food animal medicine.

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 Auction Market Veterinarian inspects all livestock at the market being presented for sale, enforces state and federal regulations which apply to the market and animals sold through the market, and examines the premises and equipment used in handling livestock to determine sanitation and safety. He/She will be present at the market before, during, and after the sale for a reasonable time in order to complete his/her duties. He/She shall issue certificates of veterinary inspection for animals shipped from the auction, ensuring that the livestock entering interstate commerce are free from visible signs of infectious, contagious diseases. They will provide veterinary services to the consignors and consignees at the market.

They will provide food animal veterinary services to the surrounding communities. The practitioner would perform herd work, such as pregnancy diagnosis, vaccination, fertility testing, and animal processing. They would perform common surgical procedures relevant to the species. They would respond to disease outbreaks and provide guidance in managing effects of such disease incidents. The practitioner will perform necropsies and diagnostic procedures when necessary to establish proper diagnoses. The veterinarian would conduct on farm visits for routine herd health programs or conditions requiring timely attention.

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).

Several livestock auction markets throughout South Dakota have had difficulties in acquiring and retaining the services of a licensed, accredited veterinarian. Auction market inspection is crucial to maintaining health of livestock in commerce, but is often labor intensive and may not be attractive, particularly to recent graduates or a seasoned professional. The SD Animal Industry Board has combined efforts with auction market owners/operators to locate veterinarians for servicing markets through advertisements and personal contact with increasingly futile results.

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).

South Dakota has 35 licensed auction markets throughout the state. In fiscal year 2012 2,564,829 head of cattle, 206,743 sheep, 17,996 pigs, and 9,961 horses were marketed through South Dakota auction markets. Markets are required by state law to have a Board approved inspecting veterinarian at every sale. If these markets

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cannot acquire and retain the services of a veterinarian they will not be able to operate, making it more difficult for producers to market their animals. If qualified inspecting veterinarians are not available to perform the duties prescribed by law, Livestock Auction Market Associations and producer groups may challenge the need for veterinary inspection, in favor of keeping the livestock markets open. The presence of an inspecting veterinarian at an auction market aids in animal disease prevention and control. The rules and regulations which govern the markets have been written with the intent of a licensed, accredited veterinarian being present to oversee the health and welfare of animals moved through markets. A veterinarian being part of the auction process is essential in ensuring a safe and healthy food supply, as well as preserving the health and welfare of South Dakota livestock.

The surrounding communities will also benefit through increased availability of food animal veterinary services.

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: Dustin Oedekoven, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian and Executive Secretary

Organization: South Dakota Animal Industry Board

Email: Dustin.oedekoven@state.sd.us

Telephone Number: 605-773-3321  
(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 9<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.