

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: Clarke, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Shenandoah, and Warren Counties (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 Routes 55 and 522, Front Royal, Virginia 22630 (e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Overall Priority of Shortage: [X] 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) and May cover checkboxes for Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Swine, Poultry, Small Ruminant, and 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) and May cover checkboxes for Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Swine, Poultry, Small Ruminant, and 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, and Other checkboxes.

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).

Conversations with veterinarians in the area have supported the designation of a shortage of food supply veterinarians in the area. The only food supply food supply veterinary practice in Loudoun County closed in 2013 and that county, which includes 11,595 mature beef cows was added to the previously approved designation.

Objectives for a food supply veterinarian in this designated area:

- Establish a new practice providing food animal services in the area or offer food supply veterinary services at an existing practice.
- Provide production management and emergency veterinary services for livestock producers in the area.
- Be available to local livestock markets to provide certificates of inspection for animals being sold at the markets.
- Assist local producer associations and the Virginia Cooperative Extension agents to provide animal health updates to the local livestock industry.
- Support state/federal animal health officials and the local health department by helping to recognize and manage potential foreign animal diseases, emerging diseases, and zoonotic diseases.
- Provide technical and professional support and avian influenza testing for a live bird market in Prince William County and any production units associated with the markets in the designated area.

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).

NASS indicates that there are 71,895 mature beef cows, 9,814 dairy cows, 11,310 sheep and lambs, and 5,727 swine in the area with average annual beef cattle sales for the area at \$65.1 million. In addition, there are 30,205 mature beef cows, 5,000 dairy cows, and 7,100 sheep and lambs in adjacent counties.

The successful applicant will be expected to provide predominantly food animal veterinary services in the designated counties. The veterinarian for this area will be expected to work with the established practices, the local livestock markets, and the local livestock producers to be certain that livestock owners have the necessary access to accredited veterinarians to comply with the new animal disease traceability regulations and oversight of prescription drug use. The veterinarian will assist livestock markets with disease surveillance by providing certificates of veterinary inspection for animals moving out of the state, providing animal identification consistent with the requirements of the state of Virginia, and providing health care and management services for the animals at the markets. The successful applicant will be expected to work with non-integrated poultry farms in the area to meet pre-movement avian influenza testing requirements for slaughter in Virginia or movement to live bird markets.

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).

Organized recruitment efforts have been minimal. Two existing practices within the designated area have indicated that the livestock population in the area should support another food supply veterinarian. Both practice owners felt that a food supply veterinarian deficient designation for the area would enhance their efforts to recruit new veterinarians to the area. Area food supply practitioners have identified local students with an interest in food animal practice that are currently enrolled in veterinary or pre-veterinary programs, and availability of veterinary education loan assistance may allow these students to return to the area upon graduation.

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).

These counties are experiencing significant urbanization pressure, especially from north of the designated area. Consequently, many formerly mixed animal practices have stopped food animal practice.

There is significant interest in obtaining food from local producers and the proximity of this area to an urban population makes direct local marketing an attractive business plan. There are homestead cheese manufacturers, egg producers, and

poultry producers in the area that may not be able to access the most current treatment and drug withdrawal information for their animals, which may negatively affect the safety of the locally produced food.

As livestock producers retire, the new landowners may not keep the existing premises in livestock production without access to a veterinarian to provide guidance concerning livestock production and health. If these farms go out of production, the land may be diverted to uses that will eliminate green space and have negative impacts on the local ecosystems.

Dulles and Reagan International Airports are very close to the northern part of the area, which increases the possibility of an intentional or inadvertent exposure to foreign animal disease (FAD). Access to a food supply veterinarian should enhance FAD disease surveillance and reporting. A timely FAD response will reduce the economic impact of the disease on the livestock industry and reduce the negative environmental impact of livestock depopulation. Area food animal practices have associates that may move to companion animal practice if they do not receive loan assistance.

(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.

50%

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: Richard L. Wilkes, D.V.M.

Title: State Veterinarian

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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.