

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 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: Wapello county or contiguous county, Iowa (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 [x] 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: \_\_\_\_\_

[x] 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)

- [x] Beef Cattle [x] Dairy Cattle [x] Swine [ ] Poultry [x] Small Ruminant [ ] Other: \_\_\_\_\_

May cover

- [ ] Beef Cattle [ ] Dairy Cattle [ ] Swine [x] 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).

**Within Wapello county and contiguous counties there are approximately one million cattle and swine according to the most recent USDA NASS figures. There are also other livestock species including sheep flocks, goat herds and horses. Wapello County has three veterinary practices (2012 IVMA data). One is a solo practice for sale by a retiring owner. The other two practices have been attempting to hire associate veterinarians.**

**The objective of the veterinarian will be to establish a solo veterinary practice, purchase an existing veterinary practice or become an associate in a veterinary practice and dedicate at least 30% of their time to servicing livestock operations with cattle (dairy and/or beef), swine, small ruminants and poultry. The veterinarian will need to develop working relationships with livestock producers, develop treatment protocols, assist producers with proper livestock movement requirements, develop herd health plans, provide diagnostic and surgical procedures, and detail livestock producers on biosecurity practices to ensure healthy productions systems. In addition, the veterinarian shall become accredited and have a working knowledge of state and federal animal health laws, be knowledgeable about foreign animal diseases and who to report any case of suspected foreign animal disease, and a working knowledge of state reportable diseases. (200words)**

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).

**The activities of the veterinarian would include the use of skills and knowledge acquired from veterinary college and learned from mentors. They would apply this skill set to diagnose, treat, perform surgical procedures, obstetrical procedures, individual animal disease management, necropsies, prescribe appropriate drugs, conduct follow-ups and be available and responsive for emergency service. This would also include farm visits for herd health programs and state and federal disease surveillance testing programs upon request. Veterinary practice services could also include work at auction markets and exhibitions (county fair or local district livestock shows). The veterinarian shall be able to manage day-to-day business activities and work responsibly with office personnel.**

**To become integrated into the community, it is essential the veterinarian become involved in a local service organization, local governmental organization or local board of health leadership. The veterinarian should be willing to work with local 4-H and/or FFA youth sharing information about animal care, nutrition, animal health, biosecurity practices, public health, and promotion of the veterinary profession. The veterinarian should become involved with organized veterinary medical associations, be active in obtaining veterinary continuing education, become a member of the state veterinary emergency response team, and maintain a connection with veterinary college. (200 words)**

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 are three food animal veterinary practices in the Wapello county area and all are actively seeking veterinarians to complement each of their food animal veterinary practices and meet the increasing needs of their clients. One of these practices is a solo mixed animal practice for sale by a senior veterinarian.

The veterinary practices have advertised for large or mixed animal veterinarians annually through advertising in the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association newsletter and at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Veterinary practices in the area seek preceptor veterinary students with hopes of attracting a new veterinary graduate. (99 words)

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).

This county has only six food animal veterinarians (2012 IVMA data) and according to recent USDA NASS figures there are 59,524 cattle and swine in Wapello County and over 1,000,000 in the region comprised of a significant number of beef cow-calf and sheep operations and a growing number of goat dairy farms along with a substantial number of horse owners. According to the Iowa Department of Agriculture there are 128 dairy operations in this area.

Each and every food animal veterinarian is a key and trusted individual to every rural community as a knowledgeable professional being capable of early detection of diseases potentially causing significant impacts to livestock, public health and/or negative agricultural market impact. The risk of not securing or being able to retain a veterinarian in an underserved area includes a loss of early detection of diseases of severe economic impact, increases livestock producer costs, loss of timely care for livestock that are diseased or require emergency procedures, increases in livestock mortalities and loss of a community professional with a knowledge base of animal health, public health, animal care and welfare, and livestock industries. (186 words)

(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: David D. Schmitt, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian - Iowa

Organization: Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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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 9<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.