

# 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](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

State of Indiana

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

(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):

Seymour, Indiana 47274

(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).

**Although Indiana is the smallest state geographically west of the Appalachian Mountains, it has a nationally-ranked poultry industry. Cash receipts from the sale of poultry and eggs reached nearly \$1B in 2010 or 10% of all cash receipts for Indiana agricultural commodities. Indiana ranks third in the nation for total chickens (30.6M), and egg production has reached 6.5B placing Indiana 4<sup>th</sup> among all states. Further, Indiana produced a record 16M turkeys in 2010 which places the state 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation. The duck industry in Indiana ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation, and egg-type hatch places Indiana second in the nation.**

**A veterinarian providing services to the Indiana poultry industry will improve flock health through the implementation of flock health programs. The veterinarian will also work closely with the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) and the Indiana State Poultry Association (ISPA) in the effective implementation of the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP). The detection, control and eradication of diseases in poultry populations in Indiana will be of utmost importance. Servicing the unmet veterinary needs of the large and diverse Indiana poultry industry will be the primary objective of the successful candidate.**

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 Indiana poultry industry is distributed throughout Indiana, although a veterinarian in Seymour, Indiana will be within 150 miles of over two-thirds of the industry. The veterinarian will provide veterinary medical services that will improve flock health through the early detection, diagnosis and control of avian diseases. The veterinarian will also be an advocate for the proper care of poultry depending upon the specific housing used for that species and production type. Further, the successful candidate will engage in statewide discussions about avian health policy, including issues associated with disease surveillance, response, research and advanced diagnostics.**

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).

**Although Indiana has over 30 million laying hens, there are no veterinarians providing services to this sector. The Indiana turkey industry is poised to grow significantly over the next 2 years because of the announcement by a local producer to building a new turkey processing plant, and yet only one veterinarian is currently employed by the Indiana turkey industry. The significance economic value of the poultry industry, coupled with the close collaborations with BOAH and ISPA, has compelled several Indiana poultry companies to seek the services of a veterinarian. Unfortunately, veterinarians with poultry training are difficult to find and recruit to Indiana. Indiana's poultry industries value the expertise of veterinarians, but they have repeatedly had difficulty finding a candidate.**

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).

**Indiana is vulnerable to a catastrophic avian disease event. Avian influenza, exotic Newcastle disease and mycoplasma present daunting challenges for the industry not only in the direct losses in birds and meat products, but also from the many multipliers that are inextricably tied to poultry production. The Indiana poultry industry recognizes and appreciates the consequences of an avian disease event, and they have put in place surveillance procedures to meet or exceed the NPIP requirements. Further, the industry knows that the long term impact of a disease event could create enough financial hardship that production is reduced, growers are no longer needed, grain purchases decrease, trucking services are no longer needed and jobs are lost. The inability to trade poultry products internationally is also a severe consequence of an avian disease event. Therefore, to mitigate this risk, the Indiana poultry industry seeks to improve their capability to detect, control and eliminate diseases in the poultry populations.**

**In addition to the role the successful candidate can provide with disease issues, the veterinarian will provide valuable information and insights on proper bird housing, nutrition, environmental management and community outreach. The veterinarian will become a credible source of quality information to neighbors, consumers and trading partners.**

(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.

Box containing a percentage sign (%)

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

- X [ ] By checking this box, I affirm that this form represents a nomination and is subject to NIFA review and approval.
X [ ] 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: Bret D. Marsh, DVM
Title: Indiana State Veterinarian
Organization: Indiana State Board of Animal Health
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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 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.