

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

Roger Mills and Beckham Counties, Oklahoma

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):

Junction of US Highway 283 and State Highway 6 in Beckham County, Oklahoma

(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
Dairy Cattle
X Swine
Poultry
X Small Ruminant
Other:

May cover

- Beef Cattle
X 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).

This area is comprised of two counties that border the Texas panhandle to the west and straddle Interstate 40. This has always been cattle country since the mid to late 1800s. The human population is 26,000 with half of that being in Elk City. The area is situated 2 hours from Oklahoma City and Amarillo for more varied shopping and entertainment possibilities. Veterinarians in the area care for 94,000 beef cattle, with about half being breeding cows. There are some small dairies that total 1,000 cows. There are several show pig herds, so a veterinarian will need to work with those herds and the 4-H and FFA students and parents who raise and show the swine, sheep, goats, and calves. There are about 800 sheep and goats in the area, and the goat population is growing.

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).

There are four practices in the area that historically have provided food animal veterinary services, but two of them do mostly companion animal practice now, and one only does about 50% food animal. A successful candidate for this position must be willing to work hard and be willing to learn to be proficient at medicine and surgery on multiple food animal species as well as some companion animals. Communities in this area tend to be static and word of mouth advertising will be a large part of a food animal veterinarian's success. It is essential that a young veterinarian become involved in the community organizations and let the residents know he/she wants to be part of the community structure. A veterinarian who successfully applies for this position is expected to work at least 60% of the time on food animals.

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).

One practice that historically did mostly food animal practice has actively tried to recruit a young veterinarian for several years. One veterinarian who did a lot of food animal practice in the past has moved to mostly small animal due to age and finances, and this increases the need for a veterinarian who practices food animal medicine in the area. There are some older veterinarians in this area who would be wonderful mentors to a young veterinarian.

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 area is bisected east to west by Interstate 40 which is one of the most traveled highways in the U.S. It is split by U.S. Highway 283 which is a very busy north south livestock moving route. Trained veterinarians who are knowledgeable about foreign animal diseases and highly contagious diseases are essential in areas such as this where animals are moving all the time. Veterinarians are a great resource to livestock producers to help with herd health to prevent infectious disease, consult on dosages and use of antibiotics and other drugs, and to be a liaison between the local producers and state and federal regulatory officials.

(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.

60%

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: Rod Hall, DVM

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry

Email: rod.hall@ag.ok.gov

Telephone Number: 405-522-0270

(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
OMB Information Collection Approval No. 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013