

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for 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 position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: IA117

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

O'Brien county or contiguous county, Iowa

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or
Location of Position:

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other _____

Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- Beef Cattle
- Dairy Cattle
- Swine
- Poultry
- Small Ruminant
- Other : _____

Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: _____ Position Title: _____

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- Food Safety
- Public Health
- Epidemiology
- Other: _____

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting 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).

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 dedicated primarily to food animal veterinary practice in an underserved area of Iowa. The veterinarian shall dedicate at least 80% of their time to servicing livestock operations with cattle (dairy and/or beef), swine, small ruminants and poultry. The food animal veterinarian will need to develop working relationships with livestock producers, develop treatment protocols, detail to producer's proper movement requirements, develop herd health plans, provide diagnostic and surgical procedures, and detail livestock producers on biosecurity practices to ensure healthy production systems. The veterinarian should be knowledgeable about common agricultural practices, agricultural economics and livestock nutrition necessary for livestock production. 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. Also, the veterinarian shall be prepared to promote proper animal handling procedures. (197 words)

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located 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).

Over 80 percent of Iowa counties have a total population less than 40,000 each and significant livestock population that may be as high as 1.4 million animals. Food animal veterinary practices in Iowa continue

to seek large or mixed animal veterinarians annually through advertising in the Iowa Veterinary Medical Association newsletter, at the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine, and advertising at surrounding state veterinary colleges. Veterinary practices seek preceptor veterinary students with hopes of attracting a new veterinary graduate and in some instances food animal practices have paid a portion of veterinary student recruit's tuition. (96 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).

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.

The benefits provided by veterinarians in local rural communities are immeasurable and invaluable. Veterinarians in underserved areas are an expert resource of information to local public health authorities in regards to zoonotic diseases.

Improved animal production efficiencies, herd or flock health, and increased profitability are benefits livestock producers enjoy by maintaining a relationship with a food animal veterinarian. Animal agricultural is reported to be a 10 billion dollar industry in Iowa. Maintaining the viability of Iowa's livestock producers is essential for local economies, local food supply, as well as, contributing to a safe and wholesome national and international food supply. Food animal veterinary medical professionals are an integral element to the viability of Iowa's livestock industries. (227 words)

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: **David 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, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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