

# 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.**

**Veterinary Shortage ID Code: PA112**

#### Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

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

Location of Veterinary Shortage: Franklin, Adams, and York Counties  
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or  
Location of Position: Intersection of York Street (US Route 30) and Hanover Street (State Route 116)  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
(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).

- **Largely rural area with a significant population of food animals**
  - **2007 NASS Data**
    - **Beef Cattle** 184,200
    - **Dairy Cattle** 60,400
    - **Hogs** 152,900
    - **Poultry** 3,500,000
- **Extraordinary demand for veterinary services**
  - **Small number of food supply veterinary practices struggle to serve area**
  - **One major food animal practice in Franklin County has two 30-year career practitioners nearing retirement**
  - **Very limited availability of food animal practitioners in Adams Counties**
  - **Adjacent Fulton County reports critical need (served by Franklin County practice)**
- **Awardee objectives:**
  - **Develop proficiency as associate in food animal practice**
  - **Provide consultative herd health services**
    - **Reproduction management**
    - **Nutrition management**
    - **Disease control**
  - **Provide medical/surgical services, including farm calls and emergency services**
  - **Meet demand for veterinary services from diverse food animal farm operations of different sizes and with multiple species**
  - **Develop effective relationships in community**
    - **With clients through client educational initiatives**
      - **Herd/flock disease management programs**
      - **Bio-security**
      - **Foreign and dangerous transmissible animal disease awareness**
    - **With other health professionals in promoting improved public health, food safety, and animal health**
  - **Work effectively with a ethnically and culturally diverse client base including a sizeable Amish community**

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).

- **Work as associate in a >80% food animal practice**
  - **Perform routine veterinary medical and surgical procedures**
  - **Apply sound diagnostic methodology**
  - **Perform food animal emergency procedures**
  - **Perform reproductive health management and obstetrical procedures**
  - **Participate in state and federal animal disease regulatory activities as a USDA accredited veterinarian and acquire certification in specific programs related to food supply veterinary medicine**
  - **Evaluate, develop and implement herd health programs with goals to:**
    - **To optimize production and product quality**
    - **Address livestock well-being**

- Work with other technical experts to improve producer efficiency and economic sustainability
- Develop educational materials and present technical information at producer meetings
  - Bio-security, bio/agro-terrorism prevention
  - Recognition of potential foreign animal disease situations
  - Zoonotic disease, public health, and food safety
  - Responsible animal drug use
  - Animal disease eradication program information
- Provide educational outreach to rural/agricultural youth organizations
- Support of livestock emergency response activities in rural communities
- Expand client services where possible to underserved areas within the shortage area
- Provide essential food supply veterinary services to large and small food animal production enterprises
- Effectively serve an ethnically and culturally diverse clientele

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).

- A >80% food animal practice serving the area with a four-year history of unsuccessful recruitment will be seeking two associates.
- A formerly >80% food animal Franklin County practitioner suspended food animal services after unsuccessful recruitment attempts
- 2007 Project PA initiative-PVMA & University of Pennsylvania
  - Coalition: Department of Agriculture and numerous stakeholders
  - Recruit, retain, educate public, economic incentives
- 2008 Legislation: loan forgiveness to students in veterinary/agriculture careers
  - Average award \$800 per year for max. 5 years
- 2009 proposed forgiveness for LA veterinary students
  - Support - could not pass due to budget constraints

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).

- Food animal agriculture in the Franklin, Adams, and York Counties is a significant contributor to the local and regional economy
- Animal products remain an important source of high quality protein in human nutrition
- Pennsylvania is a critical component of the nation's food production infrastructure
  - It is in close proximity to large eastern US metropolitan areas
  - It has large food animal production and processing sectors including:
    - Several large scale livestock and poultry slaughter facilities
    - A large food animal product processing industry including milk, meat, and eggs

- Extensive rural areas with significant food animal production infrastructure
- Availability of highly qualified veterinarians dedicated to the health, productivity, and well-being of food animals is essential to:
  - Economic growth,
  - Food animal health,
  - Food safety,
  - Food accessibility
  - Public health
- At the local level food supply veterinarians provide a front line of protection of livestock resources against:
  - Bio/agro-terrorism targeting the food animals
  - Unintentional introductions of foreign animal disease
  - Endemic dangerous transmissible animal diseases
- Guidance from food animal veterinarians is essential to proper animal drug use, effective treatment, and ultimately to the safety and quality of food animal products.
- Pennsylvania will remain an important food animal product supplier
- Pennsylvania’s plan to reduce non-retention risk
  - Combine VMLRP incentive with support network of food animal practitioners, academicians, extension veterinarians
  - Develop a level of awardee confidence supporting a career-long commitment to the food supply veterinary medicine

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: Craig E. Shultz, DVM

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(Area code required)

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other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

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