

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

Veterinary Shortage ID Code: CT121

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

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: Connecticut, USA
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or
 Location of Position: Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106
(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: CT Dept. of Agriculture Position Title: Field Veterinarian
 Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- Food Safety
- Public Health
- Epidemiology
- Other: Field work associated with the state's animal and poultry disease prevention and control programs

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 Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture is in need of the services of a state-employed field veterinarian to assist the State Veterinarian with animal and poultry disease prevention and control programs; assist with disease and natural disaster emergency response activities; assess production situations and conditions for compliance with acceptable agricultural practices and laws including sanitation, animal care and environmental and public health impacts and assist the Department's Livestock and State Animal Control Divisions with animal cruelty investigations. The expertise of an on-farm field veterinarian is needed to support and oversee work currently preformed by the Department's animal health technicians.

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 field veterinarian would conduct animal and poultry disease surveillance testing; establish protocols for surveillance testing conducted by Department employed animal health technicians; assist in the administration of disease prevention and control programs; recognize the early signs of infectious diseases and advise the State Veterinarian on the issuance of regulatory orders; conduct epidemiologic investigations of disease outbreaks; work in conjunction with USDA, APHIS, VS on certain disease control programs; assist the state veterinarian with emergency response plans and their implementation; conduct outreach with producers to enhance biosecurity practices, the production of safe and wholesome food products and adherence to accepted agricultural practices; assist in animal cruelty investigations; and assure compliance with and enforce state and federal laws.

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).

Two field veterinarian positions within the Department were eliminated in 1993 due to state budget cuts. Attempts have been made to fund at least one field veterinarian position but have been unsuccessful due to budgetary constraints even though the need exists.

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).

Currently, most all disease program surveillance testing is conducted by animal health technicians. The expertise of a veterinarian is needed to oversee this testing in field situations and to recognize early signs of disease to enhance response time. The expertise is also needed to interact with producers to promote animal and poultry health; to assure the production of safe animal-derived food products to reduce the risk of food born illnesses; to reduce the risk of transmission of zoonotic diseases and to maintain disease-free status of animals and poultry to facilitate interstate and international movement of animals and poultry and their products by Connecticut producers.

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: Mary Jane Lis, MS, DVM, PhD
Title: State Veterinarian
Organization: Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Email: Mary.Lis@ct.gov
Telephone Number: (860)713-2505 (clerical); (860)713-2546 (direct)
(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.