

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

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: South Central ND and north central SD including McIntosh, Southern Emmons, southern Logan and Western Dickey counties in ND and McPherson, Campbell and northern Edmunds counties in SD

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

Center of Service Area or
Location of Position: 315 1st Street SW Ashley, ND 58413
Practice radius is 60 miles.

(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 main objective of this veterinarian will be to fill the void created by the recent loss of two food animal/mixed animal veterinarians. McIntosh County is home to 42,800 cattle (18,800 beef cows, 2000 dairy cattle and the remainder calves on feed). The surrounding counties' inventories are very similar so this practice area would include well over 100,000 cattle. Upon the departure of the two veterinarians, there will be only two mixed animal veterinarians remaining in Ashley to serve this area. There is only one other veterinarian (on the northern edge of this practice area) who provides any service to this area of ND, and that service is only to a limited part of the area. This veterinarian's objectives will include helping cattle producers be more successful and profitable leading to economic growth and stability for rural communities. The success of producers in disease prevention, treatment, food safety and animal welfare will be included in the goals. Objectives would also include being a community leader and helping rural communities survive and thrive in a time where rural America faces many economic and social challenges. Another goal would include seeing producers become more aware of state and federal animal movement regulations and to help producers adhere to these regulations, especially regarding interstate shipment of livestock.

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 veterinarian's duties would include providing routine care as well as emergency services to all classes of livestock as well as some companion animals in the practice area. He/she would also be designing and implementing herd health programs including proper vaccination, nutrition, biosecurity and disease testing. The issues of food safety and human health risks would also be addressed with producers by the veterinarian. The veterinary clinic in Ashley provides veterinary inspection services at Herreid Livestock Auction in Herreid, SD. The proximity of this market to the ND-SD border necessitates a large number of interstate CVI's to be produced as well as a large number of cattle to being individually identified for interstate shipment. Additionally, as the practice area straddles the ND-SD border, many clients frequently move cattle across the border and this necessitates additional regulatory work. A veterinarian filling this void would improve animal disease traceability and lead to a better job of inspection as well as getting livestock processed in a timely manner alleviating undo stress to the animals.

The veterinarian is also expected to become involved in civic organizations and community activities such as service clubs, school activities, extension service, and community development activities.

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).

Ashley Veterinary Clinic has had reasonable success in the past recruiting veterinarians, but retention has been difficult with young veterinarians most often wishing to move closer to family. Nearly all of the young veterinarians that have come and gone from the practice have had a rewarding experience and have not left due to poor mentorship. In fact, these veterinarians generally continue to foster good relationships with their former supervisor and speak highly of their time spent in this community. The loss of two veterinarians (husband and wife) at the same time is especially damaging to the area's livestock producers and adds to the already heavy workload of area veterinarians.

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).

If this position is not secured it could lead to the current area veterinary practitioners, many of whom have been practicing over 25 years, becoming overwhelmed and considering retirement leaving the area with an even more severe shortage. This could

lead to area producers not having a veterinary professional to turn to for advice and service regarding herd health, proper treatment protocols, access to effective prescription medicines which are properly labeled indication the proper dosage, administration procedures, withdrawal times for food safety, drug interactions and proper storage and handling. When a veterinarian is not available it leads to improper treatment leading to a decrease in treatment success and an increase in tissue residues due to poor producer education regarding food safety issues.

This area's rural communities are struggling and need young professionals to be part of the community. They are great potential community leaders. Failure to recruit and retain such young professionals to the area will make it more difficult for small communities in this area to survive. McIntosh and McPherson counties have two of the oldest median age populations in the United States. Recruiting young professionals and potential young families to this area is critical to the area's survival.

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: Susan J. Keller, DVM

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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.