

# 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.

Beaver County

Location of Veterinary Shortage: \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or  
 Location of Position: City of Beaver, Beaver County, Oklahoma  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
(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).

Beaver County is the easternmost county in the Oklahoma Panhandle. It is home to 95,000 beef cattle, 29,000 beef cows, a small number of show swine herds, and approximately 300 sheep and goats. This is a very rural county of 5,600 people. 1,550 of them live in the largest town which is Beaver. The objectives of a veterinarian in this area will be to provide service to the livestock producers in the area as well as provide needed services to companion animals and equines. A veterinarian in this part of the state should plan on getting involved in community organizations and assisting with 4-H and FFA programs to build the public relations necessary to be successful in practice. A veterinarian is expected to devote at least 60% of his/her time to practicing food animal medicine.

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).

This county consists of mostly cow/calf beef operations with a significant stocker calf presence and a small feedlot. The cow/calf operations provide steady year around work, while the stocker cattle will peak in the fall and winter months. Most of the cow/calf operations are large so consultation and herd health will have a much larger role than in areas with smaller herd sizes. There are some show swine. There are some large commercial swine operations in the area that may provide some income for a food animal veterinarian. Sheep and goats make up a small part of the food animal population but are becoming more numerous. There is a good size livestock auction in the county that will provide the opportunity for a veterinarian. The veterinarian establishing a practice in this county will be required to fulfill the food animal needs as well as needs for equine, exotic, and companion animal veterinary care.

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).

Beaver County had a veterinarian several years ago who retired and was unable to hire an associate. This county may have difficulty retaining a veterinarian without assistance. A person living in this part of Oklahoma must love the land and the wide open spaces. This is cowboy country and the practitioner must be able to work with cowboys. High end shopping and entertainment is available in cities such as Amarillo, TX and Wichita, KS, but they are close to 100 miles away. There are some excellent veterinarians within a 50 mile radius to serve as 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).

The initial consequence of the position not being filled is that the livestock population and the producers will be underserved. General herd health will suffer and producers will have a more difficult time being profitable. Producers will have to transport their animals farther or pay more to have out of the area veterinarians to come to their premise. More far reaching and potentially more dangerous consequences are not having a veterinarian in the local area as the first line of defense to diagnose and report foreign animal diseases and/or zoonotic diseases that could have a detrimental impact on the health and economy of the area and possibly the entire state and the nation. A practicing veterinarian in local areas is a point of contact for state and federal animal health officials and is a valuable liaison between animal health officials and the livestock 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: Rod Hall, DVM  
Oklahoma State Veterinarian

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and

\_\_\_\_\_  
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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 9<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

OMB Information Collection Approval No.: 0524-0046

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