



National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
 US Department of Agriculture  
 OMB Information Collection  
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# 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: Major County, southern Alfalfa County, and southern Woods County in northwestern Oklahoma

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

Center of Service Area or Location of Position: Cleo Springs in Major 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).

There are 120,000 cattle, 33,000 beef cows, 600 dairy cows, 500 sows, and 2,000 sheep and goats in this rural area of 12,000 people. 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. There are six veterinarians in this area that provide at least some food animal practice. All of them are mixed practitioners and devote differing degrees of their practice to food animal work. Most of them also have personal farming/ranching businesses which take some of their time away from practice. Two of the veterinarians are over 70 years old and do not devote much time to food animal work. One of them works at three separate livestock markets so is unavailable to do much work for individual food animal producers. A veterinarian is expected to devote at least 50% of his/her time to practicing food animal medicine. It is important that a veterinarian in this area be involved in civic organizations and activities such as 4-H and FFA.

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).

There are a fairly large number of cow/calf beef operations in this area which provide year around work for food animal veterinarians. In the fall of most years around 70,000 stocker calves are grazed on wheat pasture. The veterinarians are usually very busy processing the incoming cattle and assisting the producers in managing disease and nutritional problems in those cattle throughout the winter. The commercial swine industry uses some private veterinarians for testing of their sows, and there is a fairly strong presence of sows representing the show pig industry. The successful applicant for this position must be willing to learn the cow/calf business, stocker calf business, dairy business, feedlot business, swine business, and sheep and goat business and be able to develop relationships with the producers who own and manage those animals. There are needs for equine, exotics, and companion animals in the area and this person is expected to help fill those needs.

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).

One town in the area has actively tried to attract a veterinarian. When one looks at the number of food animals, the age of the veterinarians, and the practice types in the area I believe a nomination is warranted. A veterinarian in this area will have the opportunity to become established in a new or established practice and will provide service to the area for many years to come. Three cities of approximately 25,000 people are within 40 miles to provide opportunities for dining, shopping, and entertainment. Multiple veterinarians in those centers can provide mentoring 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  
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Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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