

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.

The area that includes the counties of Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, Warren, Page,
 Location of Veterinary Shortage: Rappahannock, Prince William, and Fauquier

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

Center of Service Area or
 Location of Position:

Intersection of routes 55 and 522, Front Royal, VA 22630

(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 50 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).

Conversations with three veterinarians in the area have supported the probability of a shortage of food supply veterinarians in the area.

Objectives for a food supply veterinarian in this designated area:

- Establish a new rural predominantly food animal practice in the area or join an existing practice and add food animal veterinary services capacity to the practice.
- Provide production management and emergency veterinary services for livestock producers in the area.
- Be available to local livestock markets to provide certificates of inspection for animals being sold at the markets.
- Assist local producers, in cooperation with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service, to look for ways to expand, diversify, or expand their livestock production to sustain the livestock industry in the area.
- Support state/federal animal health officials and the local health department by helping to recognize and manage potential foreign animal diseases, emerging diseases, and zoonotic diseases.
- Assist noncommercial poultry producers in the area by being available for pre-slaughter and live bird market avian influenza testing.
- Serve as a resource for local Animal Control on livestock animal health and welfare cases.

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 National Agricultural Statistics Service indicates that there are 60,300 mature beef cows, 9,600 milking dairy cows, and 8,900 sheep and lambs, and 5,590 swine in the area. In addition, there are 41,800 mature beef cows, 5,000 milking cows, 7,100 sheep and lambs in other counties adjacent to the designated area.

The successful applicant will be expected to provide predominantly food animal veterinary services in the designated counties. The veterinarian for this area will be expected to work with the established practices servicing the four livestock markets, the market owners, and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) to be certain that the markets in the area have the necessary access to an accredited veterinarian for assistance with disease surveillance in livestock at the market, providing certificates of veterinary inspection for animals moving out of state, animal identification consistent with the requirements of the state of Virginia, and providing health care and management services for the animals at the markets. In addition, the successful applicant will be expected to work with non-integrated poultry farms in the area to meet pre-movement avian influenza testing requirements for slaughter in Virginia or movement to live bird markets outside of the state.

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).

Organized recruitment efforts have been minimal. Two existing practices within the designated area have indicated that the livestock population in the area should support another food supply veterinarian. Both practice owners felt that a food supply veterinarian deficient designation for the area would enhance their efforts to recruit new veterinarians to the area. Area food supply practitioners have identified local students with an interest in food animal practice that are currently enrolled in veterinary and pre-veterinary programs, and availability of veterinary education loan assistance may allow these students to return to the area upon graduation.

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).

These counties are experiencing significant urbanization pressure, especially from the north of the designated area. Consequently, many formerly mixed animal practices are now companion animal exclusive.

There is significant interest nationwide in obtaining food from local producers and the proximity of this area to a large urban population makes this an attractive business plan for local, small farmers. There are several homestead cheese manufacturers, egg producers, and poultry producers in the area that may not be able to access the most current treatment recommendations and guidance on the appropriate drug withdrawal times which may negatively affect the safety of the locally produced food.

As maturing producers transition out of the livestock business, new producers may be reluctant to keep the existing premises in livestock production if they do not have access to a food supply veterinarian to provide them with guidance concerning livestock production and livestock health programs. If these farms go out of production, the land may be diverted to uses that will eliminate green space and have negative impacts on the local ecosystems.

Dulles and Reagan International Airports are very close to the northern aspect of the area which increases the possibility of an intentional or inadvertent exposure to a foreign animal disease (FAD). Access to a food supply veterinarian should reduce the time necessary to recognize and report a FAD. A timely FAD response will reduce the economic impact of the disease on the livestock industry and reduce the negative environmental impact resulting from the biomass that may have to be disposed by composting, burning or burying the livestock carcasses.

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.

Not required at this time according to instructions.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

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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.