

# 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:

Floyd county or contiguous county, Iowa  
(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or

Location of Position:

\_\_\_\_\_ (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).

Presently Floyd County has a human population of 16,000 and does not have a veterinarian (2012 data from IVMA). In Floyd county and contiguous counties there are approximately 2.4 million cattle and swine, according to the most recent USDA NASS figures, plus several other livestock species requiring the services of food animal veterinarians. According to the Iowa Department of Agriculture there are 235 dairy farms in this area.

The objective of the veterinarian will be to establish a solo veterinary practice, purchase an existing veterinary practice or become an associate in a veterinary practice with a food animal veterinary practice component in the Floyd County area of approximately 40 mile radius. The veterinarian shall dedicate at least 30% of their time to servicing livestock operations with cattle (dairy and/or beef), swine, small ruminants and poultry. The veterinarian will need to develop working relationships with livestock producers, develop treatment protocols, assist producers with proper livestock movement requirements, develop herd health plans, provide diagnostic and surgical procedures, and detail livestock producers on biosecurity practices to ensure healthy productions systems. In addition, the veterinarian shall become accredited and have a working knowledge of state and federal animal health laws. (196 words)

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 activities of the veterinarian would include the use of skills and knowledge acquired from veterinary college and learned from mentors. They would apply this skill set to diagnose, treat, perform surgical procedures, obstetrical procedures, individual animal disease management, necropsies, prescribe appropriate drugs, conduct follow-ups and be available and responsive for emergency service. This would also include farm visits for herd health programs and state and federal disease surveillance testing programs upon request. Veterinary practice services could also include work at auction markets and exhibitions (county fair or local district livestock shows). The veterinarian shall be able to manage day-to-day business activities and work responsibility with office personnel.

To become integrated into the community, it is essential the veterinarian become involved in a local service organization, local governmental organization or local board of health leadership. The veterinarian should be willing to work with local 4-H and/or FFA youth sharing information about animal care, nutrition, animal health, biosecurity practices, public health, and promotion of the veterinary profession. The veterinarian should become involved with organized veterinary medical associations, be active in obtaining veterinary continuing education, become a member of the state veterinary emergency response team, and maintain a connection with veterinary college. (200 words)

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).

The local community development corporation has recognized the critical need for a veterinarian in their community. They are working with two senior veterinarians in separate practices within this area

to search for a veterinarian to locate within this county and serve the needs of local livestock producers. Concern has been expressed about losing livestock producers who do not have access to a veterinarian.

The two veterinary practices in the area of Floyd County have tried unsuccessfully to recruit and hire a food animal veterinarian. One of these practices is advertised for sale due to solo practicing veterinarian's intent to retire. (100 words)

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).

This county has no food animal veterinarian and according to recent USDA NASS figures there are 184,245 cattle and swine in Floyd County. In addition, there are several traditional family operated dairy cow and dairy goat farms in this area, sheep producers and horse owners.

Each and every food animal veterinarian is a key and trusted individual to every rural community as a knowledgeable professional being capable of early detection of diseases potentially causing significant impacts to livestock, public health and/or negative agricultural market impact. The risk of not securing or being able to retain a veterinarian in an underserved area includes a loss of early detection of diseases of severe economic impact, increases livestock producer costs, loss of timely care for livestock that are diseased or require emergency procedures, increases in livestock mortalities and loss of a community professional with a knowledge base of animal health, public health, animal care and welfare, and livestock industries. (156 words)

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.

No. We encourage all veterinarians to register for NAHERC and become members of state veterinary emergency response team.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: **David Schmitt, DVM**

Title: **State Veterinarian - Iowa**

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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.

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