

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.

State of Indiana, District 7

Location of Veterinary Shortage:

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

Center of Service Area or
 Location of Position:

Counties of Vermillion, Parke, Putnam, Owen, Sullivan, Greene, Clay and Vigo

_____ (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).

Indiana is divided into ten districts that are utilized by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and the Indiana State Department of Health. Data was collected to determine the population of animals in District 7, as well as the number of veterinarians in the District that provide food animal veterinary services. Additionally, Indiana has a required livestock premises identification program that has been active since 2005, so the number of registered livestock premises was also considered. Finally, the area of the District in square miles was also factored into the final determination of need for veterinary services. When each of the ten Districts was ranked by number of registered farms per veterinarian, number of animals per veterinarian, and the area in square miles to be serviced per veterinarian, District 7 in West Central Indiana ranked third to the highest in terms of need for veterinary services.

The objectives of a veterinarian serving in District 7 are to provide veterinary medical services in an area that does not have sufficient veterinary coverage, to provide a means of disease treatment, detection and surveillance that currently is inadequate, and to support the local economy by providing services that enhance the viability of rural communities.

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 serving in District 7 will be expected to provide veterinary medical services in the predominantly rural areas of west central Indiana. This 8-county area is largely comprised of small livestock producers widely distributed throughout the area. It is expected that the veterinarian will be able to address a wide range of veterinary medical tasks on a variety of livestock species. Further, the expectation is that the veterinarian will become an integral part of the community by providing educational programming to producers, extension educators, 4-H members and the public. Another critically important role of the veterinarian in this District is the detection of foreign and reportable diseases. Indiana relies upon practicing veterinarians to constantly be aware of the threat of foreign animal diseases. In an area of the state that has inadequate veterinary coverage, the risk associated with undetected disease is enormous and the impacts could be catastrophic.

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).

District 7 in west central Indiana is an eight county area that is currently served by only eight food animal veterinarians. Most of these veterinarians have attempted to hire an associate practitioner to join them in the area without success. This District has the highest area in square miles per veterinarian of the ten Indiana districts, and many of the producers do not have large numbers of animals. Therefore, it has been very challenging for veterinarians in the District to provide services to many of these producers who often live great distances from the nearest veterinary clinic.

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).

District 7 is the area of the state with widely distributed producers over an eight county area. The District is home to many small producers, and the District ranked second statewide in the number of registered livestock premises. Because of the wide distribution of these producers, they are frequently large distances from veterinary clinics. The consequences of missing the diagnosis of a reportable or foreign animal disease would be catastrophic for the District and its producers, as well as an economic calamity for the nation. Therefore, due to its large geographic size and large number of livestock producers, it is a District that is underserved.

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH) considers adequate veterinary support in the District as essential to the goals of providing safe and wholesome food to citizens throughout the country, providing prompt detection, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases of livestock, providing professional advice on nutrition, biosecurity, and housing of animals, and providing services that maintain the viability of rural Indiana. BOAH's expectation is that the veterinarian in will become an integral part of the fabric of the District by providing local leadership and service to communities throughout the District.

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.

Indiana would indeed consider this position as a candidate for a service in emergency agreement. Indiana launched the Animal Surveillance and Emergency Response Teams (ASERT) several years ago, and several private veterinary practitioners have been trained and equipped to provide assistance in the event of an emergency. A candidate for this position would easily fit within the ASERT structure.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Bret D. Marsh, DVM

Title: Indiana State Veterinarian

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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.