HISTORICAL REPORT

VETERINARY SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM (VSGP)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Food animal veterinarians are critical to maintaining a healthy, secure, and safe food supply and for safeguarding the health and well-being of food animals. Today, there is a critical shortage of food animal veterinarians in both private and public practice, particularly in rural communities in the United States and Insular Areas. Food animal producers rely on veterinarians and veterinary technicians with expertise in food animal medicine and surgery as well as advanced training in herd health, diagnostic medicine, epidemiology, public health, and food safety.

The Veterinary Services Grant Program (VSGP) is designed to help mitigate food animal veterinary service shortages in the U.S. and its territories. VSGP provides grants for two component programs: Education, Extension, and Training (EET) and Rural Practice Enhancement (RPE). EET grants have a three-year duration and up to $250,000 in funding for education and Extension activities that provide veterinarians, veterinary students and veterinary technicians with specialized skills and practices by establishing or expanding educational programs at American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)-accredited schools and organizations. RPE grants have a three-year duration and funds directly support veterinary clinics and practices by providing up to $125,000 to enhance food animal veterinary services in a designated veterinary shortage situation area.

The 2014 Farm Bill authorized the establishment of the VSGP as a companion to the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) to incentivize food animal veterinary services in veterinary shortage situation areas and to educate the next generation of food animal veterinarians. Congress appropriated $2.4 million for VSGP between fiscal years 2016 – 2018. In 2019 Congress increased appropriated funds for VSGP to $3 million.
EET PROGRAM SUMMARY

NIFA has funded over $10 million in grants to the EET program since its inception in 2016. EET funds are used to:

- Establish or expand veterinary education programs, veterinary residency and fellowship programs, or veterinary internship and externship programs carried out in coordination with AVMA-accredited colleges of veterinary medicine.
- Provide continuing education and Extension, including veterinary telemedicine and other distance-based education, for veterinarians, veterinary technicians and other health professionals needed to strengthen veterinary services and enhance food safety and public health.
- Cover travel and living expenses of veterinary students, veterinary interns and externs, fellows and residents, and veterinary technician students attending training programs in food safety, public health or food-animal medicine.
- Expose students in grades 11 and 12 to education and career opportunities in food-animal medicine.

EET Program Application and Award History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>EET Applications</th>
<th>EET Awards</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
<th>Funds distributed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$1,652,388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>$1,661,199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>$1,556,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>$2,002,459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>$1,678,731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2021</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>$1,653,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>$10,204,210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RPE SUMMARY
NIFA has funded over $5 million in grants to the RPE program since its inception in 2016. Uses of RPE funds include:

- Expand or enhance private practice capabilities, services, and resources.
  - Equipment purchases:
  - Overhead costs
  - Establish mobile veterinary facilities
- Expose students in grades 11 and 12 to education and career opportunities in food animal medicine.

RPE Application and Award History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>RPE Applications</th>
<th>RPE Awards</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
<th>Funds distributed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>$747,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>$816,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>$834,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>$873,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>$1,201,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2021</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$1,228,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>$5,702,618</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VETERINARY SHORTAGE SITUATION AREAS

Identifying areas experiencing shortages of food animal veterinary services is one of the primary goals of the VMLRP and VSGP. Therefore, at the beginning of each fiscal year the VMLRP solicits nominations of veterinary shortage situation areas by state animal health officials. Each U.S. state and territory, including the federal government and the District of Columbia, is allocated a maximum number of shortage nominations for submission. NIFA determines the maximum number to allocate to each entity based on data from the most recent USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service Census of Agriculture. The reasoning behind the use and development of the allocation table is provided on the Allocation Table and Rationale webpage. NIFA accepts all veterinary shortage area nominations after a review by a panel of food animal veterinary medical professionals. Each veterinary shortage nomination provides details of the geographic area where veterinary services are needed, agricultural species that must and may be served, and specific activities related to the must-and-may-serve species. Addressing veterinary shortage situations only applies to VSGP-RPE (and not VSGP-EET) grants. Applicants to the RPE program propose to serve one veterinary shortage situation area and are rated based on their ability to serve the specific needs of that area.

### Distribution of Must Cover Species for RPE Awarded Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Beef</th>
<th>Dairy</th>
<th>Swine</th>
<th>Poultry</th>
<th>Small Ruminant</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2021</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EET Funding History

2016 funded projects

- **The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System**: Advanced training in dairy cattle well-being to provide different models of veterinary practice in rural America.
- **Utah State University**: Collaborative diagnostic methods to enhance capabilities of early career rural veterinary practitioners.
- **Colorado State University**: A Holistic Approach to Expanding Rural Veterinary Services and Improving Retention of Rural Practitioners.
- **Regents of the University of Minnesota**: Support for further development and implementation of web-based educational materials in dairy production medicine and food safety.
- **Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association**: Food Armor Veterinary Student Educational Program: Optimizing food safety and proper drug use in the dairy industry.
- **University of Georgia**: Senior Veterinary Pathology residency program at the UGA Tifton Veterinary Diagnostic and Investigational Laboratory (TVDIL).
- **American Association of Bovine Practitioners**: Next Generation Veterinary Practice Analysis Workshops.
- **Kansas State University**: Enhancing rural practitioner aptitude for endemic, transboundary, and emerging diseases of production animals.

2017 funded Projects

- **University of Tennessee**: Supporting Early Career Veterinarians in Rural Practice in Tennessee.
- **University of Florida**: Comprehensive Aquaculture Veterinary Medicine Training for Veterinarians in Rural America.
- **Iowa State University of Science and Technology**: Parasitology residency to support rural areas that are underserved in veterinary medicine.
- **University of Kentucky**: Case-Based Distance Learning for Food Animal Veterinarians.
- **Auburn University**: Recruitment and support of veterinarians in underserved rural areas of Kentucky.
- **University of Hawaii**: Transforming all veterinarians into food-animal vets through focused CE.
- **North Carolina State University**: Training rural mixed-animal veterinarians in residue avoidance with support of a new collaborative food animal medicine internship.

2018 funded projects

- **American Association of Bovine Practitioners**: Manage Your Practice for Success.
- **Michigan State University**: Improving Food Animal Veterinary Service Shortage Situations in Rural Bovine Practice through Recruitment and Continuing Education of Early Career Veterinarians.
• **Pennsylvania State University**: Poultry Training for Large and Small Animal Veterinarians in Pennsylvania Counties with a Defined Veterinarian Shortage Situation.

• **University of Georgia**: Veterinary Microbiology Residency Program at the Tifton Veterinary Diagnostic and Investigational Laboratory.

• **Iowa State University of Science and Technology**: Zoonotic Disease Prevention Tools for Rural Veterinary Practices.

• **Texas A&M AgriLife Research**: Texas Panhandle and Plains Rural Veterinary Practice Revitalization.

### 2019 funded projects

• **Oklahoma State University**: Integrated Beef Cattle Program for Veterinarians to Enhance Practice Management and Services.

• **Lincoln Memorial U to U of Arizona**: Delivering a Comprehensive Food Safety Database to Support Early Career Veterinarians in Rural, Large-Animal Practice as an Amazon Alexa Skill.

• **Food Armor Foundation, Inc**: Food Armor Veterinary Student Educational and Outreach Program: Building On-Farm Antimicrobial Stewardship Plans.

• **University of Missouri**: Veterinary Education and Training in Beef Cattle Reproduction and Genomics.

• **University of Illinois**: A Multiaudience Online Educational Program for Rural Practitioners and Veterinary Students Entering Rural Veterinary Practice.

• **Iowa State University**: Telehealth for Swine Medicine: Tools to Support Shortage Situations, Expand Surge Capacity, and Teach Students with Less Biosecurity Risk.

• **Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**: Training the Veterinary Public Practitioner.

• **Kansas State University**: Summer Program for Aspiring Kansas (Spark) Veterinarians.

• **University of Kentucky**: Advanced Diagnostic Training for Food Animal Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians.

### 2020 funded projects

• **Regents of the University of Minnesota**: Collaborative food animal diagnostician and anatomic pathology training grant.

• **Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association, Inc.**: Building a Veterinary Medical Mastermind: Leaning on each other to improve professional development skills.

• **Food Armor Foundation, Inc**: Food Armor Veterinary Student Educational Program Expansion: Reaching more food animal students and early graduate veterinarians across the United States.

• **University of Missouri**: Show-Me VET ECHO: Veterinary Education and Training (VET) through Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) program.

• **University of Kentucky Research Foundation**: Online avian medicine course for veterinarians targeting small poultry producers to ensure early disease detection for animal/public health.

• **American Association of Bovine Practitioners**: Your Practice Now and Next Generation Workshops.
• **Texas A&M AgriLife Extension**: Improving the sustainability of rural veterinarians through mentoring, targeted education, telemedicine, and monitoring of disease syndromes.

**2021 funded projects**

- **Iowa State University**: Expanding Rural Veterinary Practice through Continuing Education in Organic and Nonconventional Livestock.
- **The Ohio State University**: Moving from Meows to Moos: Recruiting Teens to Food Animal Veterinary Medicine through Education, Experience and Engagement.
- **Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**: Training the Veterinary Public Practitioner.
- **Colorado State University**: CSU-UAF Hub Outpost Project: Educating for Veterinary Success in Rural Communities.
- **Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois**: Veterinary Microbiology Residency Program at the University of Illinois Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.
- **Prairie View A&M University**: Targeted training for veterinary students in goa medicine and production.
- **Kansas State University**: Developing a Food Animal Veterinary Toxicology Training Program at Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

**RPE funding history**

**2016 funded projects**

- **Lewistown Veterinary Service, LLC**: clinic location in Lewistown, Montana, serving MT151
- **Squared Circle Veterinary, LLC**: clinic location in Woodruff, Utah, serving UT165
- **Betsy the Vet, Inc.**: clinic location in Hardin, Montana, serving MT166
- **Town & Country Veterinary Clinic, P.C.**: clinic location in Auburn, Nebraska, serving NE152

**2017 funded projects**

- **Agrarian Veterinary Services**: clinic location in Buckingham, Virginia, serving VA124
- **Lodi Veterinary Care**: clinic location in Lodi, Wisconsin, serving WI174
- **West River Veterinary Clinic**: clinic location in Hettinger, North Dakota, serving ND174
- **Mondovi Veterinary Service, LLP**: clinic location in Mondovi, Wisconsin, serving WI165
- **Downs Veterinary Clinic, LLC**: clinic location in Downs, Kansas, serving KS171
- **Allegheny Equine Veterinary Service, PLLC**: clinic location in Montrose, West Virginia, serving WV152

**2018 funded projects**

- **KN Veterinary Services, DBA Clifton Veterinary Clinic**: clinic location in Clifton, Texas, serving TX152
- **Dutton Veterinary Services, PLLC**: clinic location in Walton, New York, serving NY182
- **Southwest Veterinary Services**: clinic location in Espanola, New Mexico, serving NM173
- **Uinta Veterinary Hospital**: clinic location in Fort Bridger, Wyoming, serving WY184
• **Stonehouse Veterinary Service**: clinic location in Saint Clairsville, Ohio, serving OH182
• **Mountain Legacy Veterinary Services, LLC**: clinic location in Gunnison, Colorado, serving CO171
• **Bear Lake Animal Hospital, LLC**: clinic location in Montpelier, Idaho, serving ID181

**2019 funded projects**

• **Flyin’ 3 Veterinary Service, Inc.**: clinic location in Eureka, Kansas, serving KS196
• **Solomon Valley Veterinary Hospital, P.A.**: clinic located in Beloit, Kansas, serving KS192
• **Central Veterinary Clinic, P.C.**: clinic location in Sioux Center, Iowa, serving IA163
• **Clover Acres Livestock Veterinary Services, LLC.**: clinic location in Mount Holly, Vermont, serving VT131
• **Stillwater Veterinary Clinic, P.C.**: clinic location in Absarokee, Montana, serving MT176
• **Betsy the Vet, Inc.**: clinic location in Hardin, Montana, serving MT166
• **Cattleman’s Resource, Inc.**: clinic location in Bush, Colorado, serving CO197

**2020 funded projects**

• **Greenwood Veterinary Clinic**: clinic location in West Lebanon, Indiana, serving IN205
• **Bar SL Veterinary Services, LLC**: clinic location in Commerce, Georgia, serving GA173
• **Christina Kyung-Eun Park Halpin**: clinic location in Edgewood, New Mexico, serving NM205
• **Monticello Veterinary Clinic**: clinic location in Monticello, Iowa, serving IA202
• **Leading Edge Veterinary Services**: clinic location in Hayward, Wisconsin, serving WI203
• **Agrarian Veterinary Services**: clinic location in Buckingham, Virginia, serving VA204
• **Crazy Mountain Veterinary Service, PLLC**: clinic location in Harlowton, Montana, serving MT205
• **Farm Call Vet, PLLC**: clinic location in Muskogee, Oklahoma, serving OK201
• **Mid-Michigan Equine Services, PLLC**: clinic location in Laingsburg, Michigan, serving MI201
• **Ark Veterinary Services, LLC**: clinic location in Sumter, South Carolina, serving SC163

**2021 funded projects**

• **GKW Blue Valley, Inc.**: clinic location in Beatrice, Nebraska, serving NE145
• **Animal Clinic West O Street, P.C.**: clinic location in Ogallala, Nebraska, serving NE206
• **Old Dominion Veterinary Services, LLC**: clinic location in Ruther Glen, Virginia, serving VA215
• **Urban Livestock and Equine Veterinary Services, LLC**: clinic location in San Tan Valley, Arizona, serving AZ172
• **Playa Veterinary Associates, PLLC**: clinic location in Panhandle, Texas, serving TX212
• **Twin Forks Clinic, Inc.**: clinic location in Benkelman, Nebraska, serving CO184
• **Ellis County Animal Hospital**: clinic location in Shattuck, Oklahoma, serving OK212
• **Siskiyou Veterinary Services**: clinic location in Montague, California, serving CA213
• **Headwaters Veterinary Services**: clinic location in Coudersport, Pennsylvania, serving PA213
• **Miller Veterinary Clinic, P.C.**: clinic location in Miller, South Dakota, serving SD213
VSGP TEAM
VSGP@usda.gov

National Program Leaders
Robert Smith, DVM, Ph.D.
Kathe Bjork, DVM, Ph.D.
Michelle Colby, DVM, M.S.

Program Specialist
Danielle Farley, M.A.

Program Assistant
Meridith Berry