



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Research,
Education, and
Economics

National Institute
of Food
and Agriculture

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January 28, 2010

TO: Andrew Perraut, Desk Officer
Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Michel Desbois, Deputy Administrator
ISTM

SUBJECT: Emergency clearance for request of a new information collection for the
Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is requesting an emergency clearance for the VMLRP application forms. With the enactment of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008, it is the expectation of Congress that NIFA would be able to make its first VMLRP agreements by the end of Fiscal Year 2010. A notice on the VMLRP Application Package and Reporting Requirements was published in the Federal Register on January 20, 2010 with a 60-day public comment period.

NIFA is requesting emergency clearance in order to collect information from interested applicants from April 30 to June 30, 2010. Adherence to this timeframe is critical in enabling the agency to execute its first agreements by September 30, 2010. Failure to successfully execute the first round of awards by the end of the fiscal year will result in NIFA not being able to comply with the intent of this authorizing legislation and thereby, the expectations of the public.

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