

# Survey of Animal Health Officials Completing VMLRP Veterinarian Shortage Nomination Form

National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
USDA

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OMB No. 0524-0050

Form Approved For Use through XX/XX/XXXX

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) seeks information from State Animal Health Officials (SAHOs) to evaluate and improve services provided to our stakeholders. SAHOs are an essential stakeholder group for VMLRP. We anticipate this survey taking 20 minutes.

Public reporting for collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes, 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, OGF, 2312 East Bannister Road, Mail Stop 10,000, Kansas City, MO 64131, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

\* Required

## Section 1: Identification of Shortage Areas

1. State \*

2. What data sources other than NASS data are used to justify veterinary needs nominated shortage areas?

3. Which methods are used to identify shortage situations? (Select all that apply)

- State Animal Health Official or agency staff actively seeks input from stakeholders
- Field staff recommend/identify shortages
- Stakeholders independently recommend shortage situations (e.g., calls from producers, veterinarians, associations/organizations)
- Other

4. Which methods are used to assess and accept an area to a nominate? (Select all that apply)

- Communication with stakeholders in the area
- Review of data, such as livestock, poultry and other animal population data, or farm and ranch data
- Review of numbers and types of veterinarians serving the area, e.g, census or other data
- Other

5. Do you have an established committee or workgroup for identifying, assessing, and/or nominating shortage situations in your state?

Yes

No

6. If yes, who participates? (List organizations or titles of positions)

## Completing the Nomination Form

7. In general, who participated in completing your state's nomination forms? (Select all that apply)

- SAHO
- Assistant SAHO
- SAHO (or agency's animal health) staff member
- Committee or workgroup
- Industry Representative(s)
- Veterinary Association(s)
- Other

8. How many state employees are involved in identifying shortage situations?

9. Estimate the amount of time, in hours, spent identifying, verifying and drafting a nomination? (Consider number of staff involved and hours contributed by staff, working groups, committees, e.g., two staff members spend 50% of their time for 2 weeks)

## Activities in the Shortage Area

10. How do you determine which activities are expected of the veterinarian filling the shortage situation?

11. How do you determine the risk if the shortage situation is not filled?

12. How do you assess if an area is no longer a shortage situation?

13. Are the shortages allocated to your state by NIFA for the VMLRP sufficient to address the shortage situations you have identified?

Yes

No

14. If no, provide details.

## Feedback for NIFA Staff

15. How can NIFA staff support you throughout the shortage nomination process?

16. Please provide any other comments about VMLRP processes or recommendations for improvement.

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