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Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program Open through March 16

LITTLE ROCK, AR – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has announced \$5.7 million in available funding through the [Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program](#) to help eligible veterinarians repay a portion of their veterinary school loans in return for serving in areas lacking sufficient veterinary resources. Eligible applicants must have a degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine by July 1, 2018, and must have minimum qualifying educational loan debt of \$15,000. The deadline for application is March 16, 2018.

Qualifying veterinarians must commit to at least three years in a designated veterinary shortage area. Veterinary shortage areas in Arkansas are provided below. NIFA may repay up to \$25,000 of student loan debt per year. The Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program is a nationally competitive process. Interested veterinarians can learn more, [here](#), or should contact Arkansas State Veterinarian Dr. Brandon Doss at 501-823-1733 or bdoss@alpc.ar.gov.

Arkansas Veterinary Shortage Areas

Type	Counties
II - Private Practice	Calhoun, Columbia, Nevada, Ouachita, and Union
II - Private Practice	Conway, Perry, Van Buren, Yell
II - Private Practice	Fulton, Lawrence, Randolph, Sharp
III - Public Practice	Entire State
II - Private Practice	Crawford, Madison, and Washington

The Arkansas Agriculture Department is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation. Learn more: www.aad.arkansas.gov.

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The Arkansas Agriculture Department offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

