



For Immediate Release
February 1, 2022

Apply for 2022 USDA Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program

AUSTIN, TX – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is now accepting Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) applications for the eight areas in Texas designated as having veterinary shortages. Applications may be submitted through April 15, 2022, by 5:00pm (ET).

“Food animal veterinarians are critical to maintaining a healthy, secure, and safe food supply,” said VMLRP program staff. “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. One cause for this shortage is the high cost of professional veterinary medical education.”

The VMLRP is authorized by the National Veterinary Medical Services Act and helps qualified veterinarians offset a significant portion of debt incurred while pursuing their veterinary medicine degree in return for at least three years of service in a designated veterinary shortage area.

To be eligible to apply to the VMLRP, an applicant must:

1. Have a degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), or the equivalent, from a college of veterinary medicine accredited by the AVMA Council on Education;
2. Have qualifying educational loan debt as defined in [7 CFR 3431 Section 3](#);
3. Secure an offer of employment or establish and/or maintain a practice in a veterinary shortage situation, as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture, within the time period specified in the VMLRP service agreement offer; and
4. Provide certifications and verifications in accordance with [7 CFR 3431 Section 16](#).

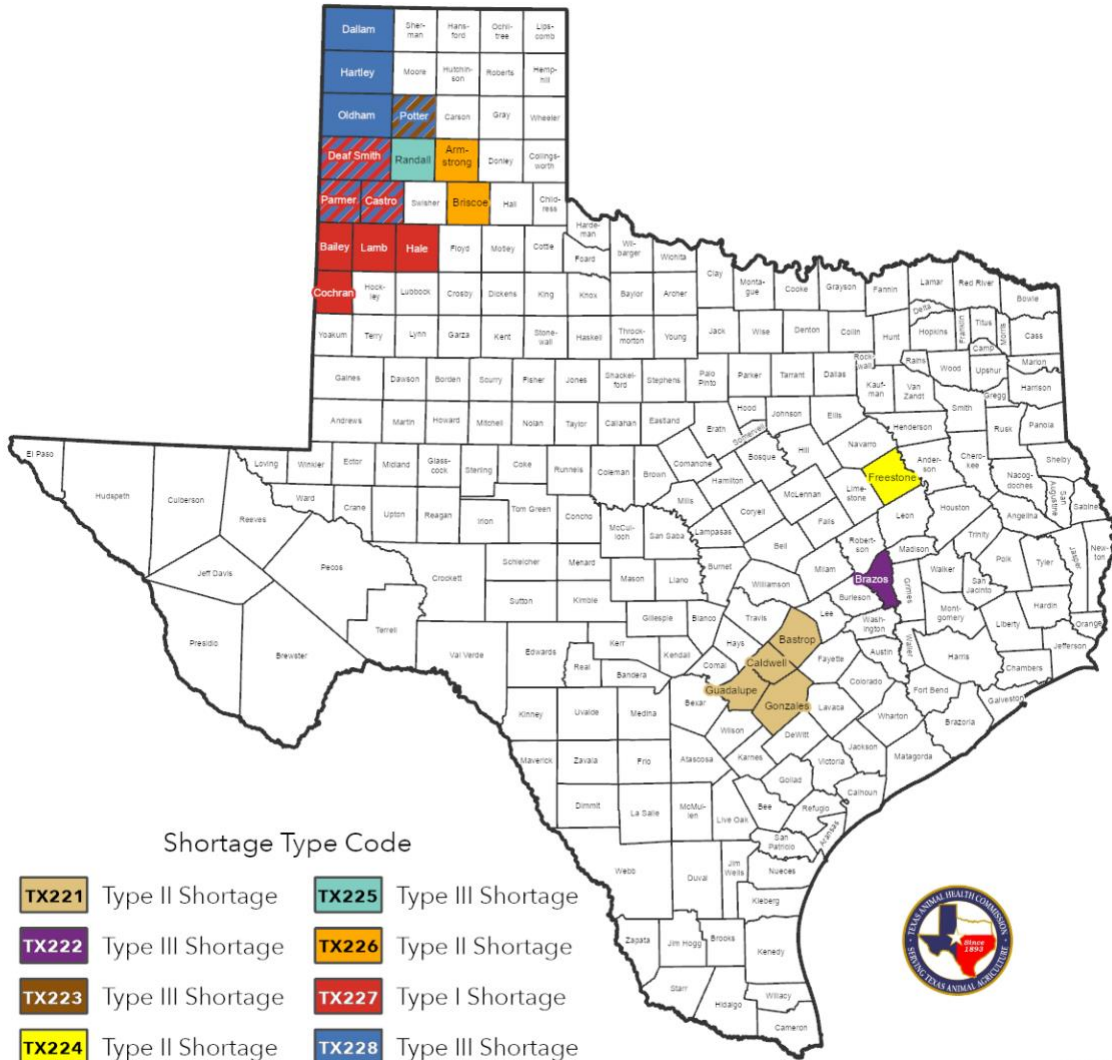
For more information about the VMLRP please visit the following webpages or [email](#) the VMLRP team with questions.

- [Application Information](#)
- [Annual Reports and Statistics](#)
- [Veterinary Shortage Situation Area Map](#)



While the TAHC does not administer this program, the commission is designated to nominate and certify veterinary shortage situations allocated by the USDA.

Texas Veterinary Services Shortage Situations for FY2022



1/21/2022

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The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) was established in 1893 as the Livestock Sanitary Commission and charged with protecting the state's domestic animals "from all contagious or infectious diseases of a malignant character." TAHC remains true to this charge while evolving with the times to protect the health and marketability of all Texas livestock and poultry. Learn more about the TAHC by visiting www.tahc.texas.gov.