

Veterinary Services (VS),
a program within the U.S.
Department of Agriculture's (USDA)
Animal and Plant Health Inspection
Service (APHIS), is proud to sponsor
the Veterinary Medical Officer
Career Program (VMOCP)
for entry-level
veterinarians.

APHIS works to safeguard and ensure the continued health of our Nation's livestock and poultry. Within APHIS, the VS staff serves as the veterinary authority for the United States. It is our job to protect and improve the health, quality, and marketability of U.S. animals, animal products, and veterinary biologics.

Increases in global trade, the emergence of zoonotic diseases, and the threat of agroterrorism demand a comprehensive approach to protecting animal and public health. VS brings a wealth of skills and expertise to this effort—from global disease surveillance and animal health certification to disease eradication and emergency preparedness. In all of this work, we follow One Health principles—the concept that the health of animals, the health of people, and the viability of ecosystems are intricately linked. This promotes a collaborative, all-inclusive approach and ensures our decisions are grounded in the best science and information available.

VS Mission

As the Nation's recognized animal health leader, we safeguard the health of animals, people, and the environment.

VS Vision

To improve the health, productivity, and quality of life for animals and people and maintain and promote the safety and availability of U.S. animals, animal products, and veterinary biologics.

APHIS—Many Goals, One Mission

APHIS is a multifaceted agency with a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act, and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. APHIS builds and maintains a world-class system that safeguards the health of animals, plants, and ecosystems in the United States and fosters safe agricultural trade worldwide, resulting in abundant and affordable agricultural products for U.S. and international consumers. These efforts support USDA's overall mission to protect and promote food, agriculture, and natural resources.



The Veterinary Medical Officer Career Program

for Entry-Level/Graduating
Doctors of Veterinary Medicine

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Program Aid No. 2201



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

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What Is the Veterinary Medical Officer Career Program (VMOCP)?

The VMOCP is designed to develop forward-thinking and well-trained veterinary medical officers capable of meeting the challenges of serving in leadership positions and promoting the health of America's animals, animal products, veterinary biologics, and trade.

The VMOCP is just the first step. APHIS has a strong commitment to developing its workforce and planning for the future. Opportunities for advancing your career to new levels, both in non-management and management roles, are available for interested veterinarians.



Training

As part of their initial year of employment, successful applicants will complete the following training:

- Year-long, in-depth orientation to VS and APHIS;
- Three weeks of classroom sessions and 15 hours of distance learning modules; and
- Two 2-week-long detail assignments, one in each major VS business unit (Surveillance, Preparedness, and Response Services; Science, Technology, and Analysis Services; and National Import Export Services).

Career Benefits

Successful applicants to the VMOCP receive full-time, permanent positions in Veterinary Services. These positions carry the full Federal employment benefits package.

We offer a broad array of benefits programs and family-friendly flexibilities to meet the needs of you and your family.

Our health insurance program is a nationally recognized model offering you choice and flexibility along with a substantial employer contribution to premiums. And you can pay your share of premiums, as well as your out-of-pocket costs, with pre-tax dollars.

Our leave policy provides ample time off to take care of your personal, recreational, and health care needs. In addition to 10 paid holidays every year, you will accumulate 13 days of sick leave each year, along with 13 to 26 vacation days, depending on your years of employment.

To help you manage responsibilities outside of your job and enhance your peace of mind while you are at work, Federal agencies offer a range of work/home balance options including flexible work schedules, telework, child care programs (including subsidies and dependent care flexible spending accounts), and employee assistance programs.

APHIS is committed to achieving the Healthy Workplace goals of the Office of Personnel Management. Work Life Wellness (WLW) programs in APHIS include: health and wellness opportunities; family-friendly options; counseling services; and education and services that encourage healthy lifestyles and behaviors.

New hires will report to their permanent duty stations before attending orientation and training.

Application and Eligibility

Interested veterinarians must apply online via www.usajobs.gov. Please note that you must have a USAJOBS account to apply. Locate announcements by entering the key words "VMOCP" in the search engine. The announcements will open annually, between February and March, for approximately a 2-week period.

To qualify, an applicant must meet all qualification requirements by the closing date of the announcement UNLESS you are a current veterinary student who will graduate with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree within 90 days from the close of the announcement. Students MUST submit supporting documents verifying they are currently enrolled in a DVM program prior to the closing date of the announcement.

Required Documents

The online application system will prompt you to answer self-assessment questions and to submit the following items:

- 1) Resume;
- 2) Transcripts for all completed college work to date;
- 3) Proof of current enrollment on a full-time basis and/or, if applicable, a letter of acceptance to veterinary school; and
- 4) Copy of your DD-214, if you are claiming Veterans' Preference.

If you meet the eligibility and initial application requirements, additional supplemental information and documentation will be requested at a later date.

For More Information

This internship may be available annually. To check availability or learn more, call the VS Management Support Division at (301) 851-3573 or visit our Web site:

www.aphis.usda.gov/animal-health/recruitment