



www.vdacs.virginia.gov

VDACS Large Animal Veterinary Grant Program
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DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED

LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARY GRANT APPLICATION

APPLICATION DUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

SEE PAGES 4 & 5 FOR INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS – [READ INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO COMPLETING THE APPLICATION](#)

APPLICANT INFORMATION

FULL NAME (FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST, SUFFIX)

DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER/STATE

OTHER NAMES USED (IF APPLICABLE)

CURRENT ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

OFFICE ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER

OFFICE PHONE NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)

EMAIL ADDRESS

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

HIGH SCHOOL

CITY

STATE

GRADUATION DATE

UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

CITY

STATE

GRADUATION DATE

VETERINARY COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

CITY

STATE

GRADUATION DATE

RESIDENCY PROGRAM (IF APPLICABLE)

CITY

STATE

COMPLETION DATE

INTERNSHIP, EXTERNSHIP, OR OTHER SPECIAL TRAINING

CITY

STATE

COMPLETION DATE

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATION

VIRGINIA VETERINARY LICENSE NUMBER

DATE ISSUED

CURRENT STATUS

Do you hold a license to practice veterinary medicine in any state or country other than Virginia? If YES, specify location & license number:

☐ YES

☐ NO

LOCATION

LICENSE NUMBER

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

CURRENT EMPLOYER, VETERINARY PRACTICE/CLINIC NAME

FULL ADDRESS

START DATE

Practice Type:

(CURRENT EMPLOYER)

☐

Livestock

☐

Small Animal

☐

Poultry

☐

Mixed – Predominantly Large Animal

☐

Equine

☐

Mixed – Predominantly Small Animal

☐

Other (Specify):

Percentage (out of 100%) of your professional time in your current position spent on veterinary services for:

% Livestock

% Poultry

% Equine

% Other (Specify)

List specific species served, and briefly describe services provided (EXPANDED DESCRIPTIONS MAY BE INCLUDED IN YOUR RESUME OR CV):

List localities (Counties/Cities) routinely served currently:

PRACTICE PROFILE

Please complete this section in order to provide a more complete description of the entire practice, whether that is a solo practitioner or multiple vets. For completing this section, a "Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)" equates to a veterinarian working approximately 40 hours per week, 50 weeks per year (approximately 2000 hrs/yr).

Total number of FTE veterinarians employed in practice:

Total number of veterinarians employed at practice:

Total number of LVT's in the practice:

Percentage Breakdown of LVT duties:

Large Animal

%

Small Animal

%

Breakdown of FTE veterinarians – numbers below should add up to total FTE number provided above.

FTE Veterinarians – Small animal (cats, dogs, similar pets):

FTE Veterinarians – Equine:

FTE Veterinarians - Farm animals raised/kept as pets:

FTE Veterinarians - Production farm animal:

Approximate number of large animal clients:

Approximate total percentage of veterinary hours dedicated to serving clients (all vets in practice).

Percentages listed below should add up to 100%

a. Small animal:

%

a. Equine

Seen on farm:

%

Seen at clinic (haul in):

%

c. Beef Cattle Production

Seen on farm:

%

Seen at clinic (haul in):

%

d. Dairy Cattle Production

Seen on farm:

%

Seen at clinic (haul in):

%

e. Sheep & Goat Production

Seen on farm:

%

Seen at clinic (haul in):

%

f. Other (please list)

Seen on farm:

%

Seen at clinic (haul in):

%

List all Virginia localities (Counties/Cities) you would be willing/able to serve during the grant period (2027 - 2029)

List the veterinary practice areas of particular expertise or interest in which you have significant/substantial experience (such as herd health checks, vaccinations, parasite control, nutritional consultation, reproductive services, surgical and medical treatments, emergency coverage, etc.):

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Grant Proposal (1200 words or less) to include the following:
 - Objectives and overview stating how the resources will be used to achieve the grant objectives.
 - Anticipated outcomes and approximate timeline for defined milestones.
 - Impact on the community if access to large animal veterinary care is not available.
- 2) Proposed budget outlining how the grant funds will be used to address the large animal veterinarian shortage. Include Deliverables and Asset Management Plan which outlines the planned protocols to track and document accountability of resources awarded (this is to be included on the last page of the Three-Year Budget Proposal). See “Three-Year Budget Proposal Template” - use of the template is recommended, but other budget proposal formats will be accepted.
- 3) Essay #1 (1200 words or less): Rationale for why your area should be a top priority for the grant. Please describe your practice area, providing producer and livestock details specific to the area(s) intended to be served which outline and defend the need for improved access to enhanced veterinary services that will be addressed through the proposed grant.
- 4) Essay #2 (1200 words or less): Describe the ways you are involved with the community/agriculture in the area you serve and why this grant is important to you and to the communities you serve or intend to serve.
- 5) Your resume or curriculum vitae (CV).
- 6) Letter of Recommendation: At least one letter of recommendation regarding your professional training and competence.
- 7) Letters of Support: At least two letters of support from members of the community in which you will provide large animal veterinary services.

AFFIRMATION

- I understand and agree that this application with all supporting information and documents submitted to the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) become the property of the State of Virginia and will not be returned in whole or in part.
- I hereby give my permission to VDACS to secure additional information concerning me or any of the statements in this application from any person or any source the Department may desire, and I hereby authorize any person, firm, company or organization to furnish any information requested by VDACS.
- I herein state that all facts, statements, and answers contained in this application are true and correct, and that the required essays submitted with the application were written by me. I hereby submit this application and required attachments for the Large Animal Veterinary Grant subject to the provisions of the Code of Virginia § 3.2-5901.2., and to the criteria adopted by the panel formed by the State Veterinarian per COV § 3.2-5901.2.(C).

APPLICANT PRINTED NAME

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE

LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARY GRANT PROGRAM INFORMATION & APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

What is the purpose of this grant?

In accordance with [§ 3.2-5901.2](#) of the Code of Virginia, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), through the Office of the State Veterinarian, has established the Large Animal Veterinary Grant Program to address the significant shortage of large animal veterinarians in the Commonwealth. The program's primary goal is to improve access to essential veterinary care for livestock, poultry, and equine species by supporting the recruitment of new large animal practitioners and promoting the retention and expansion of services provided by existing veterinarians across the state.

Which areas of Virginia have been designated as shortage areas for the purpose of this grant?

The State Veterinarian has currently identified all areas of the Commonwealth as having a shortage of large animal veterinarians. This may change in future years if the shortage situation becomes stabilized in certain areas.

Who is eligible to apply for this opportunity?

Large animal veterinarians who already practice or will practice in Virginia are invited to apply. "Large animal veterinarian" means a person who is actively engaged in and is licensed to practice veterinary medicine pursuant to [§ 54.1-3800 et seq.](#) and whose professional training and experience includes care for livestock, poultry, or equine, as that term is defined in [§ 3.2-6200](#).

What does the grant provide to an awardee?

The program provides an award of \$110,000, disbursed over a three-year period under one of the following two options:

1. Standard Disbursement Schedule: \$40,000 disbursed at the start of Year 1, followed by \$40,000 at the start of Year 2, and \$30,000 at the start of Year 3. The start of Year 1 is January 1, 2026. The end of Year 3 is December 31, 2028.
2. Custom Disbursement Schedule: Alternative disbursement amounts and timing may be proposed, with compelling written justification, provided the total amount does not exceed \$110,000 over the three-year term.

*IN EITHER CASE, RECIPIENTS WHO DISCONTINUE LARGE ANIMAL VETERINARY SERVICES BEFORE FULFILLING THE THREE-YEAR SERVICE COMMITMENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO REPAY THE GRANT AWARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT SIGNED PRIOR TO THE INITIAL DISBURSEMENT.

How will grant award recipients be selected?

A panel consisting of the State Veterinarian and representatives from the Board of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Farm Bureau, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Academy of Food Animal Practitioners, Virginia Veterinary Medical Association, and the Virginia Tobacco Commission will evaluate and score all applications using a standardized, objective rubric. The four highest-scoring applicants will be selected to receive grant awards. Panel members are not eligible for this grant.

What are the tax implications?

Awardees are advised to consult with a tax professional regarding any tax implications, which may vary depending on whether the funds are applied to business expenses or other purposes.

What support for large animal veterinarians is available in Virginia?

If you are not currently practicing veterinary medicine in Virginia, you may wish to know about the support available to large animal veterinarians in the state. Veterinarians who focus on food-producing animals and equine health are critically important to Virginia's agriculture and public health systems. The Commonwealth of Virginia actively supports these professionals in multiple ways, including through the new VDACS Large Animal Veterinary Grant Program.

Where can more information about this grant be found?

Visit [VDACS Large Animal Veterinary Grant Program](#) for more details about this grant.

Web address: <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov//animals-large-animal-veterinary-grant.shtml>

GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR COMPLETING AND SUBMITTING THIS GRANT APPLICATION

Filling the application form. Save this application form to your computer/tablet before completing it; please do not fill the form with it open in a browser window. Complete the application clearly and accurately. Filling the form electronically is preferred.

Dates. For all dates, use MM/DD/YYYY format.

Personal contact information. Include your direct phone number and use a professional email address you check regularly.

Required Attachments.

Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV). The resume or CV must provide a comprehensive overview of the applicant's academic background, professional experience, licensure, relevant training, and previous grant or project involvement. For each work experience position held, include the job title, a description of duties (including supervisory and fiscal responsibilities), the animal species served, and the types of services regularly provided to clients. The document should clearly document the applicant's qualifications, subject matter expertise, and relevant experience aligned with the objectives of the Large Animal Veterinary Grant Program.

Essays. Each essay is limited to a maximum of 1200 words. The essays should be concise yet comprehensive and demonstrate professionalism and commitment to large animal veterinary practice. Strong essay responses are essential, as they will significantly influence application scores and final award decisions.

Letter of Recommendation: Provide at least one letter of recommendation regarding your professional training and competence. The letter should encompass how your education/training/experience relates to large animal veterinary medicine and your potential success in expanding or maintaining large animal veterinary services in the Commonwealth.

Letters of Support: Provide at least two letters of support from members of the community in which you will provide large animal veterinary services. Letters of support from individuals or operations most directly affected by the level of availability of large animal veterinary services in the service area are especially desirable.

Proposed Budget: Applicants must complete and submit a "Three-Year LAVG Budget Proposal" as part of the grant application. The total amount may not exceed \$110,000 over the three-year grant period. See attached budget proposal template. The template provides further instructions on the expected content of the proposed budget. Use of the template is recommended, but other budget proposal formats that include the expected content will be accepted.

Affirmation. Review the affirmation on page 3 and certify understanding and agreement with the statements. Print your name, sign, and date the application.

Keep a copy for your records. Make copies of the completed application and attachments for your records.

Submission Deadline is September 1, 2026. The full application package (includes this application form and all "additional required attachments" listed on page 3) **must be received by September 1, 2026.** Late or incomplete applications may not be considered. Submit the application package to the Virginia State Veterinarian in one of the following ways:

- 1) Email (preferred) to vastatevet@vdacs.virginia.gov, with the email subject line Large Animal Veterinary Grant Application. If submitting by email, send all documents in PDF format. If the total file size exceeds 30MB, divide the submission into multiple emails, ensuring each is under 30MB. Use the subject line "Large Animal Veterinary Grant Application" for each email and include the sequence and total number of emails in the subject (e.g., "Large Animal Veterinary Grant Application, 1 of 3", etc.).
- 2) USPS mail or other mail courier to:
VDACS Large Animal Veterinary Grant Program
PO Box 1163
Richmond, VA 23218-1163

For questions about the application or the grant program, call or email the Virginia State Veterinarian's office at 804.692.0601 or vastatevet@vdacs.virginia.gov or visit [VDACS Large Animal Veterinary Grant Program](http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/animals-large-animal-veterinary-grant-program.shtml)
www.vdacs.virginia.gov/animals-large-animal-veterinary-grant-program.shtml