

# Aquaculture Veterinary Medicine Training for Veterinarians Practicing in Rural America

## *Interested in adding aquaculture to your rural veterinary practice?*

Aquaculture is an important component of global animal production and, like all animal agriculture operations, faces health management challenges. Veterinarians provide many services to aquaculture operations by addressing site-specific herd health needs, biosecurity recommendations, disease surveillance and testing, medications, and health certifications for trade.

In the U.S., commercial aquaculture needs more production animal veterinarians who are willing to work in rural communities where agriculture, including aquaculture, exists. Success of these private, rural veterinary practices often requires a business model that includes diversification of veterinary expertise in animals beyond traditional farm species (ruminants, poultry, swine, and equine).

To address the veterinary needs of underserved aquaculture producers in rural America, the University of Florida/IFAS in cooperation with USDA APHIS Veterinary Services is offering eight (8) veterinary fellowships for a two-year training program in aquatic animal health and aquaculture production medicine.

Training, comprised of online and field instruction, includes implementation of the NAA/USDA Commercial Aquaculture Health Program Standards (CAHPS) for clients.

Tuition and related educational expenses are provided, and a stipend of \$5000 per participant will be paid upon successful completion of each year of training.

### ***To apply for a fellowship:***

Recent ( $\leq 5$  years) veterinary graduates working in rural areas may apply by submitting an application packet consisting of all of the following:

1. A written statement of interest of working with aquaculture producers, including a statement of commitment to continued interest after the end of the fellowship
2. Three (3) professional references
3. Documented verification of state veterinary license and USDA accreditation as a category II practitioner.

Preference will be given to applicants submitting at least one letter of reference from an aquaculture facility.



### ***Application submission or more information:***

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