



**SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, MARINE RESOURCES AND
COOPERATIVES**

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Job Description and Criteria

for

the Post Veterinary Officer in the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis

The Veterinary Officer Functions within the Livestock Program under the supervision of the Chief Veterinary Officer.

The duties of the Veterinary Officer are classified under the following headings:

- **Delivery of Veterinary Health Care**
- **Public Health**
- **Investigatory**
- **Surveillance**
- **Training**
- **Regulatory**

Delivery of Veterinary Health Care:

The Veterinary Officer uses his/her training in the science and art of veterinary medicine by providing veterinary health care to the farming community in the form of preventative, diagnostic curative services including surgery. This is to be done daily and on an emergency service after normal working hours inclusive of the weekend.

Public Health:

Participate in the Monitoring of the animal population for the presence of zoonoses (disease

transmissible from vertebrate animals to humans).

Participate in testing of the livestock population for tuberculosis and Brucellosis.

Participate in public awareness programs for zoonoses.

Investigatory:

The Veterinary Officer must:

- Participate in investigation of animal disease outbreaks and
- Provide forensic service to the police in the event of suspicious injury or death to an animal and in the case of alleged bestiality. This will involve going to court to give expert testimony.

Surveillance:

Carry out disease surveillance both in the field and at the abattoir as an ongoing activity.

Regulatory:

To facilitate the enforcement of the provisions of ‘The Animals (International Movement And Disease) Act’ 2012.

Training:

Participate in departmental workshops aimed at improving the skill and knowledge of staff and farmers.

Other duties include:

- Generate monthly report on activities.
- Implementation of the animal health data base and upgrades where needed.
- Participate in simulation exercises for exotic animal disease with emphases on preventing their establishment.
- Contribute to the development and implementation of the Strategy Development Plan

Private practice will be allowed only outside normal working hours and be restricted to companion animals (horses, dogs, cats, caged birds etc) as opposed to food producing animals and donkeys. The latter will be serviced by the government subsidized veterinary service.

Criteria for Application:

- Age range between 35 to 40 years
- At least 3-5 years working experiencing in food animal medicine

- The applicant must hold a degree, certificate or other status or form of recognition, recognized by the Royal College of Veterinary surgeons of the United Kingdom for registration in the Register of Veterinary Surgeons of the United Kingdom or
- The applicant must hold a degree, certificate or other status or form of recognition granted by a College of Veterinary Medicine classified as “accredited “or “approved” by the American Veterinary Medical Association or
- The applicant holds a degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine of Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine and are registered to practice veterinary medicine in their country of origin or have passed the veterinary licensing exams of the jurisdiction under which the school is accredited.
- The applicant holds a degree of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine of the University of the West Indies or
- In lieu thereof certification acceptable to the St. Kitts and Nevis Veterinary Board as equivalent to proof of graduation from an approved school or college of veterinary medicine, has passed a license examination required by the Veterinary Board of St. Kitts and Nevis.
- The applicant must be able to read, write, speak, and understand the English language
- **The applicant must be a fit and proper person to practice veterinary medicine in the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis: For this purpose, the Veterinary Board will be guided by the interpretation of good character as set out below.**

The applicant:

i) has never received a disciplinary sanction arising from the applicant’s practice of veterinary

medicine, including a fine, reprimand, license suspension or revocation (except for a license action for nonpayment of license renewal fees), probationary limitation, voluntary surrender of a license in lieu of discipline, or consent agreement containing conditions placed by a veterinary licensing authority on the

applicant's professional conduct and practice,

ii) has not had drug enforcement administration privileges that have been restricted or revoked,

iii) is not currently under investigation by another veterinary licensing authority for acts that

would provide a basis for disciplinary action in the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis,

iv) has no physical or mental impairment, or an addiction to, severe dependency on, or habitual overuse of alcohol or other drugs, that impairs the applicant's ability to practice veterinary medicine in a manner consistent with the safety of a patient or the public,

v) has never been convicted of a felony.

vi) has never been convicted of a crime arising from conduct substantially related to the practice of veterinary medicine.

vii) has no pending criminal charges.

An applicant's **police record** from his or her place of birth and permanent residence declaring the absence of a conviction shall be deemed satisfactory evidence of the absence of a conviction unless the board has some evidence to the contrary.

The applicant must be a legal permanent resident of St. Kitts and Nevis or a CARICOM resident.