**RURAL VETERINARY PRACTICE SCHOLARSHIP AGREEMENT**

This Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship Agreement (“Agreement”) is effective as of (“Effective Date”), between Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medicine Authority (“OSUVMA”) and (“Recipient”). OSUVMA and Recipient may individually be referred to as “Party” and collectively referred to as the “Parties.”

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Dr. Lee Denney Act of 2024, codified at 59 O.S. § 698.33 (“Act”), OSUVMA is the recipient of scholarship and loan repayment funds which OSUVMA has been directed to expend in order to provide encouragement, opportunities, and incentives for persons pursuing a veterinary medicine degree at Oklahoma State University to locate their veterinary practice in rural Oklahoma communities, and receive specialized training targeted to meet the needs of livestock producers in rural Oklahoma communities.

WHEREAS, OSUVMA has established a Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship Program to fulfill the purposes of the Act, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

WHEREAS, Recipient is a veterinary medicine student at Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine who intends to engage, upon their graduation, in the full-time practice of veterinary medicine focused on large animal medicine in a community in Oklahoma with a population of less than 25,000 people, as defined in the Act.

WHEREAS, Recipient has applied for, and been selected by OSUVMA, to participate in the Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship Program.

WHEREAS, OSUVMA and Recipient desire to enter into this Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship Agreement for the purpose of awarding Recipient a Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship.

NOW THEREFORE for and in consideration of the foregoing recitals, the terms and conditions set forth and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, OSUVMA and Recipient agree as follows.

1. Eligibility Requirements.
	1. Recipient must be a current student, and must complete, their veterinary medicine degree program at Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine.
	2. Recipient must complete all requirements in public health, livestock biosecurity, foreign animal disease diagnosis, regulatory veterinary medicine and zoonotic disease, and complete an externship and mentoring requirement with a licensed, accredited veterinarian in rural Oklahoma as required by the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine.
	3. Within ninety (90) days of graduation, or if Recipient enters a post-degree training program, such as graduate school, internship or residency program, within ninety (90) days of completion of the post-degree training program, Recipient must engage in the continuous full-time practice of veterinary medicine, focused on large animal medicine, in a community in Oklahoma with a population not exceeding 25,000 people as determined by the most recent Federal Decennial Census. If, after the Effective Date, the community where Recipient is practicing no longer meets the maximum population requirements, the Recipient shall be permitted to continue to practice in that designated community in fulfillment with this Agreement.
	4. The obligation to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine in accordance with this Agreement shall last for a period of twelve (12) continuous months for each separate year Recipient is awarded a Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship.
	5. The obligation to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine in accordance with this Agreement shall be postponed during:
		1. Any period of temporary medical disability during which Recipient is unable to practice veterinary medicine due to the disability, in which case evidence of such disability must be provided to OSUVMA; or
		2. Any other period of postponement during which Recipient is unable to practice veterinary medicine as approved by OSUVMA in accordance with this Agreement and the Act.
	6. The obligation to engage in the practice of veterinary medicine in accordance with this Agreement shall be satisfied:
		1. If the obligation is completed in accordance with this Agreement;
		2. If because of permanent disability, the Recipient is unable to practice veterinary medicine, in which case evidence of such disability must be provided to OSUVMA; or
		3. The Recipient dies.
2. Term.
	1. The term of this Agreement shall be effective as of the Effective Date and last for twelve months.
	2. The Parties may enter into up to three (3) subsequent Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship Agreements contingent upon continued funding through the Act, satisfactory academic standing, and compliance with the Rural Veterinary Practice Scholarship Program.
3. Disbursement.
	1. OSUVMA, or Oklahoma State University on OSUVMA’s behalf, shall disburse $25,000.00, or the amount needed to cover the cost of tuition, books, supplies, and other school expenses, and travel and training expenses incurred by the student in pursuing a veterinary medicine degree, whichever is less (“Disbursement Amount”) to Recipient.
	2. All disbursements shall be made in accordance with current Oklahoma State University financial aid policies and procedures.
	3. Recipient shall provide to OSUVMA, upon request as needed, evidence of the cost of tuition, books, supplies, and other school expenses, and travel and training expenses incurred by the student in pursuing a veterinary medicine degree, and evidence of continued qualifying employment after Recipient’s graduation.
	4. Upon the failure of Recipient to satisfy the obligation to engage in the full-time practice of veterinary medicine in accordance with this Agreement and the Act, Recipient shall repay to OSUVMA, within ninety (90) days of the failure, the amount equal to the assistance provided to Recipient, less a prorated amount based on any periods of practice of veterinary medicine satisfying the Act, plus interest at the prime rate of interest plus two percent (2%) from the date the assistance accrued. The interest shall be compounded annually.
4. Miscellaneous.
	1. A waiver or amendment of this Agreement or any provision of it will be valid and effective only if it is in writing and signed by or on behalf of each Party. No waiver of any portion of this Agreement shall operate to constitute a waiver of any other provision of this Agreement. The failure of any Party at any time to insist upon strict performance of any condition, promise, agreement or understanding set forth in this Agreement shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment of the right to insist on strict performance of the same condition, promise, agreement or understanding at a future time.
	2. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Oklahoma law. Any proceeding or suit arising from or incident to this Agreement shall be filed in Payne County, Oklahoma, or if applicable, the federal court with jurisdiction over Payne County, Oklahoma.
	3. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts. Facsimile or copied signatures shall be deemed originals.
	4. Time is of the essence for all dates and time periods set forth in this Agreement and each performance called for in this Agreement.
	5. OSUVMA does not waive its sovereign immunity by entering into this Agreement and specifically retains all immunities and defenses available to it as a sovereign pursuant to all applicable law. Designations of venue, choice of law, enforcement actions, and similar provisions should not be construed as a waiver of sovereign immunity. The Parties agree that any ambiguity in this Agreement shall not be strictly construed, either against or for either Party, except that any ambiguity as to sovereign immunity shall be construed in favor of sovereign immunity.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first above written.

Oklahoma State University Veterinary Medicine Authority

By:

Name:

Title:

**(Recipient)**

By:

Name:

Title: