

FY 2016 & 2017 EXCEPTIONAL ITEM

Large gaps exist in today's veterinary workforce, especially in veterinary diagnostic medicine and veterinary public health.

This shortage of veterinarians and veterinary diagnosticians capable of performing and interpreting tests could negatively impact the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory's (TVMDL) ability to protect both human and animal health in Texas.



Specialized training is required to become a skilled diagnostician. Through a diagnostic residency program, TVMDL can invest in advanced, hands-on, technical training to build tomorrow's veterinary diagnostic workforce.

BENEFITS TO TEXANS

TVMDL's human capital is the foundation of our agency's success and allows us to provide vital services to the citizens of Texas and its valuable animal agriculture sector. The development of a residency program will draw additional exceptional professionals to our agency and allow us to attract, train and retain top scientists and veterinarians.

This investment will further enhance the state's scientific workforce as trainees join the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM), TVMDL or the private/public sectors throughout Texas.

TEXAS A&M
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**REQUESTED AMOUNT
(BIENNIAL):
\$3.5 MILLION**

OBJECTIVE

Increase the veterinary workforce in Texas by recruiting and training diagnosticians dedicated to protecting food safety, and animal and public health



Large gaps exist in today's veterinary workforce

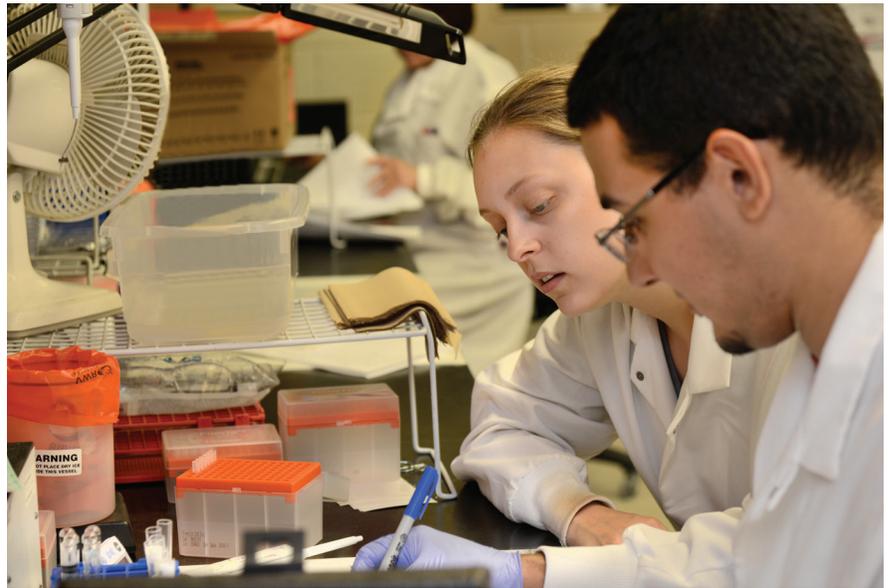
Specialized training for veterinarians and veterinary diagnosticians is paramount to protecting food safety, and animal and public health through robust disease surveillance

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This program will do the following:

- Enhance and expand veterinary residency programs and training opportunities
- Add approximately 4 faculty and staff members to support up to 6 residents per year
- Provide equipment required to train residents on state-of-the-art technologies during their 3-year residency program



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A cooperative effort between TVMDL and CVM, a diagnostic residency program will substantially increase training opportunities in veterinary diagnostics to ensure our agency and the State of Texas remain at the forefront of animal and human disease surveillance, detection and prevention. This program will:

- Enhance training opportunities for the next generation veterinary diagnostic workforce
- Offer students additional opportunities to train in TVMDL's four locations around the state
- Develop a pipeline of professionals to assume leadership positions within TVMDL and CVM
- Train CVM students in high-level, specialty areas that have a high demand for employment upon graduation
- Employ top-tier veterinarians and scientists with specialized training in diagnostics



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TEXAS A&M
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TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE

What is AgriLife? It's a simple word for a diverse organization. With teaching, research, extension education, laboratory, and forestry facilities throughout Texas, we serve people of all ages and backgrounds. Led by Acting Vice Chancellor Dr. Bill Dugas, Texas A&M AgriLife includes the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M Forest Service, and the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory.