2022 AVMA Government Relations Division Externship Application

First Name: _____   **Last Name:** _____

Veterinary Medical College: _____   **Year of Expected Graduation:** _____

Email Address: _____

SAVMA ID: _____   **I am a U.S. citizen: ___ yes   ___ no**

How did you learn about the AVMA GRD Externship? _____

Preferred time block in 2022: Externships run for four weeks. Applicants are asked to check their top two choices. Please note that selecting only one choice may limit your options if you are selected for an externship and that date block is filled/unavailable. In 2022, Congress is expected to be in session during these times.

___ February 7-March 4   ___ March 7-April 1   ___ April 25-May 20

___ May 30-June 24   ___ June 27-July 22   ___ September 6-30

My application is complete:

___   **Two-page resumé:** CVs **will not** be accepted. Your resumé should include only the most **relevant** information you want AVMA to consider **(strictly limited to two pages, single-sided)**.

___   **Letter of recommendation** from a veterinarian (professor, mentor, or supervisor) familiar with the student's academic record. Recommendation letters must be submitted in an envelope sealed by the recommender or emailed to the AVMA GRD directly from the recommender. Note: If multiple letters are received for one applicant, only the first letter received will be considered.

___   **Personal statement** explaining your motivations to apply to the AVMA GRD Externship program and what you would like to gain from the experience. **(strictly limited to 300 words)**

___   **Case study:** Please see page 3 of this application for instructions. **(strictly limited to 500 words)**

Interest and involvement in Advocacy, Policy and Politics: Check all that apply. Your answers will provide a context for your interest in and involvement with AVMA's legislative agenda and the political process.

___ I have completed a policy-related externship sponsored by:

    ___ the federal / state / local government

    ___ AVMA

    ___ State VMA or allied organization (please list): _____

___ I am familiar with the AVMA legislative agenda

___I subscribe to and regularly read the AVMA Advocate

___I subscribe to and am active in the AVMA Congressional Advocacy Network (grassroots network)

___I have participated in an AVMA Fly-In

___I have participated in my state VMA's "Hill Day" at my state legislature

___I am registered to vote in U.S. elections and have voted in an election for state or national office

___I have attended a town hall meeting hosted by a candidate for state or federal elected office

___I have contacted an elected state or federal official via phone, email, fax or in-person meeting

___I have volunteered for a candidate for state or federal elected office and/or interned or worked for a federal or state lawmaker

What areas of policy are you interested in? Check the box for all that apply.

___Appropriations (federal funding and budget issues)

___Animal Health and Welfare

___Conservation and Environmental Issues

___Food-Related Issues

___One Health

___Pharmaceutical Issues

___Research Issues

___Small Business Issues

___Tax Issues

___Veterinary Professional and Educational Issues

___Other (please list): _____

Personal Statement: In 300 words or less, explain your motivations to apply to the AVMA GRD Externship program and what you hope to gain from the experience.

Case Study: Applicants are required to complete the case study assignment on the following page.

Interoffice Memorandum

TO:　　　　**AVMA Extern**

FROM:　　　**Legislative Director**

SUBJECT:　**H.R. 2447 Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program Enhancement Act**

DATE:　　　**October 8, 2021**

Recently, Representative Ron Kind (D-WI) approached your boss, a fiscal conservative republican representative from a suburban California district, and asked her to cosponsor H.R. 2447, the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program Enhancement Act. The congresswoman sits on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and Science, Space and Technology Committee. As a freshman member with little background in agriculture and a skeptic of student loan forgiveness, she would like to learn more about the issue before she decides on a position on the legislation.

This legislation would exclude VMLRP awards from gross income, thus ending the federal taxation of these awards. Because the VMLRP is currently paying the withholding for the tax on behalf of recipients, ending the tax would allow more VMLRP funds to be used for awards and increase the number of veterinarians that could participate in the program.

Please write a brief memo of no more than 500 words summarizing the legislation and its possible impact. Point out any benefits or problems with the legislation, the impact on and repercussions the legislation would have on our constituents and congressional district, supporters and opposition and recommend whether your boss should cosponsor it.

Your boss will have to make her decision soon, so you must work quickly with the time and resources that you can gather between now and then to ensure that she has the information she needs to make an informed decision to cosponsor the legislation.

Please do not contact any Member of Congress or their staff regarding this exercise. It is a theoretical scenario created solely for the purpose of evaluating AVMA GRD Extern applicants.