

U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Veterinary Medical Careers

USPHS

Com Corps Veterinarians

- Who are we & what do we do?
- How do you get a job with the Com Corps of the Public Health Service?



PHS Commissioned Corps



All-officer organization composed primarily of health professionals

PHS Commissioned Corps



- One of the seven Uniformed Services
- Non-combat orientation
- Personnel system similar to DoD



Commissioned Corps Personnel System



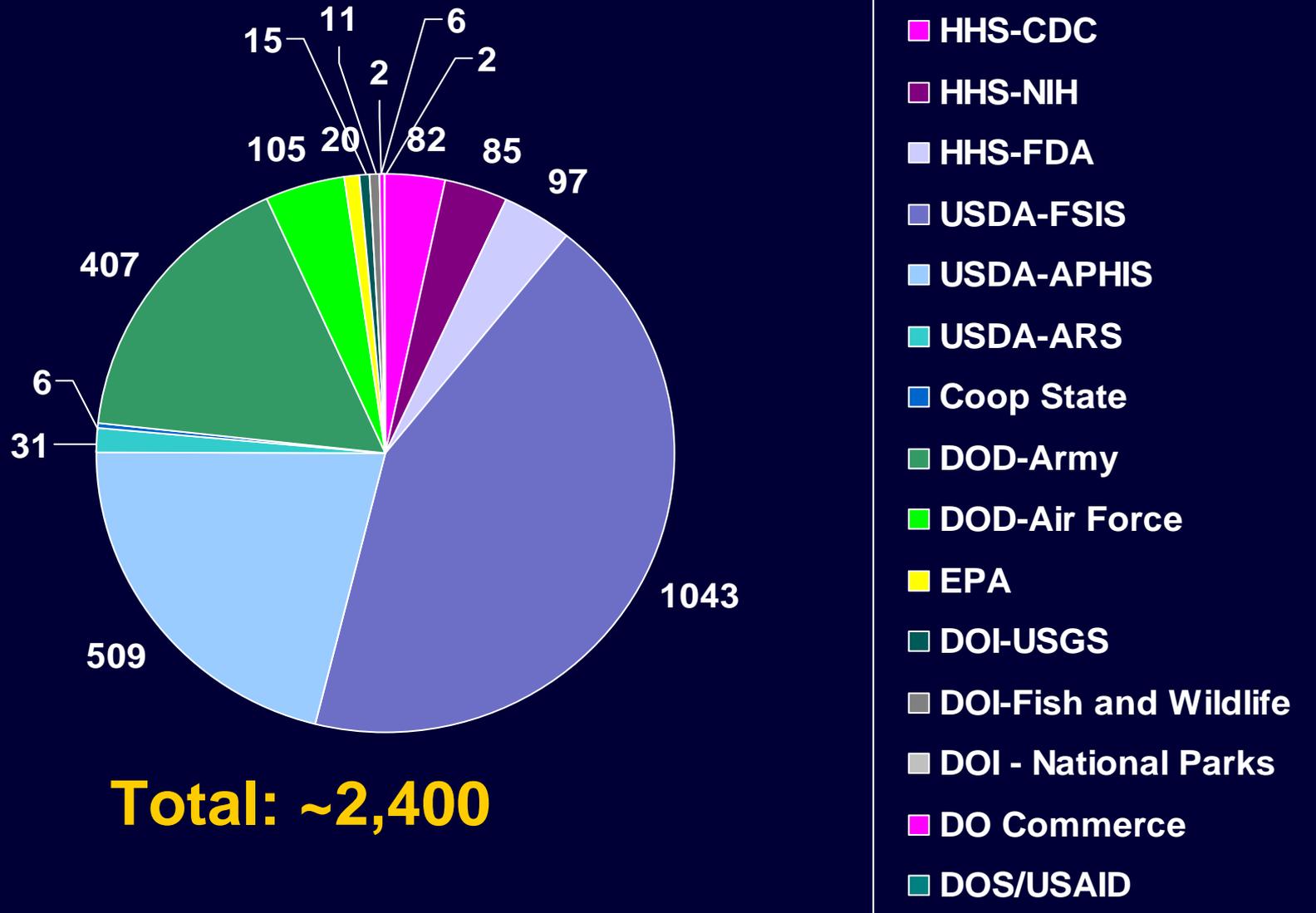
- Commissioning affords rights and respect
- Surgeon General leads the CC
- PHS Veterinary CC Mission

In what departments and agencies do Com. Corps. veterinarians work?

- Dept. of Health and Human Services
 - National Institutes of Health
 - CDC/ATSDR
 - Food and Drug Admin.
 - Indian Health Service
- US Dept. of Agriculture
 - FSIS
 - APHIS
- Dept. of the Interior
 - National Parks Service
 - Fish and Wildlife
- Dept. of Homeland Security and Dept of Defense
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Dept. of State
 - US Agency for International Development



Public Health Veterinarians in the Federal Government



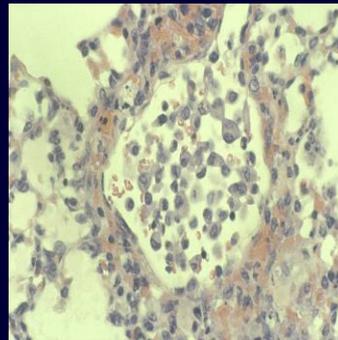
Example Geographic Locations

- NIH
 - Washington DC
 - Research Triangle, NC
 - Rocky Mountain Lab, MT
- CDC
 - Atlanta, GA
 - Fort Collins, CO
 - Puerto Rico
- EPA
 - Puget Sound, WA
- FDA
 - Nationwide
- USDA-FSIS
 - Nationwide



What are our roles?

- Epidemiology and surveillance
- Laboratory animal medicine
- Pathology and other laboratory sciences
- Entomology
- Food safety and zoonoses control
- Bio/chem terrorism preparedness and security
- Quarantine and inspection
- Drug safety
- Environmental health and toxicology



Response Force For The Nation



Avian influenza
STRIKES
Virginia poultry
farms



How are rank and pay determined?

- Enter as an O-3 or an O-4
- Post-DVM degree related activities
- BASIC + SPECIAL PAYS + ALLOWANCES =
GROSS PAY B



Pay and Allowances

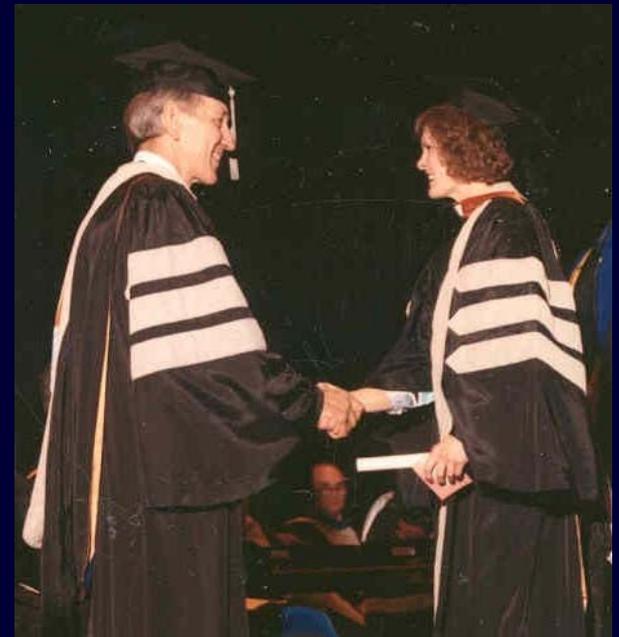
Pay is taxable

Allowance (usually) non-taxable



Compensation Comparison Example 1

- Recent graduate enters as a LT (O-3) with < 2 years
- No dependents
- Living in the Baltimore, MD area



2005 example

Compensation Comparison Example 1

- Gross Pay = \$56,982
- Take Home Pay = \$49,215
- Retained \$ due to tax break = \$9,447
- Comparable civilian after tax income
\$66,429
- The \$66.4K does not include
 - Veterinary special pay = \$1200/yr
 - Indirect annual compensation

Compensation Comparison

Example 1 (cont)

• Veterinary pay:		\$ 1,200
• Indirect Annual Compensation Costs		
– Medical:	\$ 994	
– Dental:	\$ 162	
– Vision:	\$ 9	
<small>(free glasses)</small>		
– Commissary:	\$ 988	
SUBTOTAL		<u>\$ 2,153</u>
TOTAL		\$3,353

The civilian job would need to pay:

$$\$66,429 + 3,353 = \underline{\underline{\$69,782}}$$

Compensation Comparison Example 2 (in 2005)

- CDR (O-5) with 9 years
- Married with 2 children
- Specialty boarded
- Living in the Baltimore, MD area



Compensation Comparison Example 2

- Gross Pay = \$90,477
- Take Home Pay = \$74,023
- Retained \$ due to tax break = \$14,364
- Comparable civilian after tax income
\$104,841
- The \$104.8K does not include
 - Veterinary special pay = \$1200/yr
 - Indirect annual compensation

Compensation Comparison

Example 2 (cont)

- Indirect Annual Compensation Costs

- Medical: \$ 3,226

- Dental: \$ 292

- Vision: \$ 19

- (officer gets free glasses)

- Commissary: \$ 2,842

- Veterinary pay: \$ 1,200

- Board Specialty pay \$ 2,000

TOTAL \$9,579

The civilian job would need to pay ~

\$ 104,841 + 9,579 = \$114,420

Commissioned Corps Advantages

- Relocation expenses paid
- Educational debt deferred/forgiven
- 30 days annual leave
- Sick leave and maternity leave
- Healthcare at Uniformed Services Facilities
- Free medical to officer & family
- Dental - free to officer, low cost to family
- Commissary privileges
- VA Home loans
- DoD Recreational facility access
- Excellent noncontributory retirement
- Thrift Savings Plan
- \$400,000 of Term Life insurance
- Montgomery-GI Bill - for higher education
- Optional retirement at 20 years



Promotions

- Training and education
- Experience
- Time in service
- Performance
- Physical fitness and readiness
- Geographic and Agency mobility
- Skills and knowledge



Qualifications for a PHS Commissioned Corps position

- Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from an AVMA accredited college
- Current, unrestricted, and valid veterinary license
- U.S. citizen
- Meet medical requirements
- < 44 years of age
- Pass a suitability investigation
- Identify and compete for a position



Appointment Process

Step 4: Call to active duty

Step 3: Obtain offer

Step 2: Identify vacancy

Step 1: PHS Application



For More Information

- About the USPHS
 - <http://www.usphs.gov>
- Basic pay rates:
 - <http://www.dod.mil/militarypay/>
- Compute comparable civilian salary:
 - <http://militarypay.dtic.mil/actives/pay/calc/index.html>



Agency Contacts



- **Centers for Disease Control & Prevention**
 - CAPT Hugh Mainzer – HMM2@cdc.gov
 - CAPT Fred Angulo – FJA0@cdc.gov
- **National Institutes of Health**
 - CAPT Bill Stokes – WS51w@nih.gov
 - CAPT Kathy Perdue – KPerdue@niaid.nih.gov
- **Environmental Protection Agency**
 - CDR Stephanie Harris - Harris.Stephanie@epamail.epa.gov
- **Food and Drug Administration**
 - CAPT John Braddy - johnny.braddy@cfsan.fda.gov
- **US Dept of Agriculture (FSIS and APHIS)**
 - CAPT Sean Altekruise – Sean.Altekruise@aphis.usda.gov
- **Inactive Reserve Corps**
 - CAPT Roger Clemmons - rmc@neuro.vetmed.ufl.edu



Where Are Jobs Listed?

<http://www.USAJOBS.com>

Also:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/om/hrd/quickhire/default.htm>

<http://www.cdc.gov/train.htm>

