

A Brighter Future for People and Pets: Tackling the Veterinary Shortage

Recent studies identified a shortage of veterinary professionals in the U.S. Mars Veterinary Health and its family of veterinary practices are working to make veterinary care more sustainable and accessible.

The Veterinary Care Gap is *Growing*

- The number of pet-owning U.S. households is **increasing 1.5% annually**
- Demand for pet health services is **increasing 6.1% annually** in the U.S.
- U.S. pet healthcare spending is expected to **increase 3-4% per year** beyond inflation for the next 8-10 years
- **More than 12,500** companion animal veterinarians are expected to retire by 2030
- **Up to 55,000** new veterinarians are needed to meet projected demand in 2030



What this Means for Pets and the *Profession*

- Veterinary teams are feeling **overworked and overwhelmed**
- The pace of new domestic and foreign veterinary graduates entering the workforce will leave a **shortfall of up to 18% by 2030**
- It would take more than **30 years of graduates to meet the 10-year need** for credentialed veterinary technicians based on current U.S. education capacity
- **More than 400 open**, funded faculty positions exist in academic veterinary medicine in the U.S.

Solving for the Veterinary Professional *Shortage*

1) Expanding the workforce through:

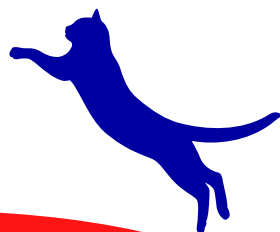
- Creating additional career pathways
- Investment in equity, inclusion & diversity initiatives, including engaging underrepresented groups about veterinary careers
- Increased class sizes and additional veterinary schools

2) Improving efficiency through:

- Ensuring veterinary graduates are practice-ready
- Enabling credentialed veterinary technicians to practice at the top of their license
- Increased access to telehealth services

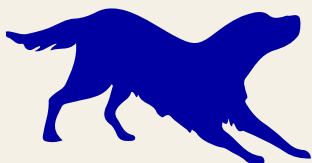
3) Continued industry research to:

- Understand the issue
- Identify new educational models
- Improve efficiency in practice
- Enhance access to care



How Mars Veterinary Health is *Supporting* the cause

- **Strengthening the pipeline** through new educational and career pathways
- **Inspiring the next generation** of veterinarians, with a focus on underserved communities
- **Providing student debt relief** totaling \$25 million in financial counseling, loan refinancing, stipend, and lump sum support by 2025
- **Increasing access to care for pets** through innovations like 24/7 telehealth services
- **Investing in equity, inclusion & diversity** initiatives to make the field more representative of society, and improve culturally competent care
- **Offering health and wellbeing resources** such as MVH4You.com



For more information, visit [MarsVeterinary.com](https://www.MarsVeterinary.com)

Lloyd, J. W. (2023). Pet Healthcare in the US: Another look at the Veterinarian Workforce. Animal Health Economics on behalf of Mars Veterinary Health.

Lloyd, J. W. (2021). Pet Healthcare in the US: Are There Enough Veterinary Nurses/Technicians? Is There Adequate Training Capacity? Animal Health Economics on behalf of Mars Veterinary Health.

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