A CAREER AS A PHS COMMISSIONED CORPS OFFICER
AT
THE FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE, USDA

Mission of the PHS Commissioned Corps
- To protect, promote, and advance the health and safety of the Nation

PHS Commissioned Corps Personnel System
- An all-officer organization comprised entirely of health professionals
- One of the seven Uniformed Services
- Personnel system organized around a rank structure providing pay and benefits similar to the Department of Defense

Requirements for Commissioning as a PHS Veterinary Officer
- Age under 44 years (or older if have prior military service to offset age over 44)
- United States citizenship
- A doctorate in veterinary medicine from an AVMA - accredited veterinary school
- Less than 8 years of active duty service in another uniformed service
- A current license to practice veterinary medicine
- Physical qualification for service and must pass an initial suitability/background investigation

Potential Benefits as a PHS Officer
- 30 days paid annual leave yearly
- Non-contributory retirement
- Sick leave and maternity leave as medically necessary
- Social Security coverage
- Special professional pay
- Thrift Savings Plan option
- Tax-free allowances for housing/food
- Low cost term life insurance
- Malpractice coverage under the Federal Tort Claims Act
- Travel and transportation expenses paid
- Healthcare from any, Uniformed Services Medical/Military Treatment Facility
- Family members covered by TRICARE
- Dental care through TRICARE
- Base and post exchange privileges
- Commissary privileges
- Space-Available flights
- Credit unions
- Recreational facilities
- Temporary lodging/officers’ clubs
- Legal services
- VA Educational programs
- VA Housing loans
- VA Disability and death benefits
- VA Survivor benefits
- Life insurance programs
- Reimbursement for adoption expenses
- Ease of duty assignment change

For more information, please visit the PHS Commissioned Corps website at: http://www.usphs.gov/

For additional information about working as an officer at FSIS, contact:
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(PAY INFORMATION ON REVERSE)