

Morris Animal Foundation Veterinary Student Scholar Grant Program 2008

DUE DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: February 1, 2008

Morris Animal Foundation (MAF) is pleased to call for 2008 Veterinary Student Scholar (VSS) grant applications. This program provides veterinary students an opportunity to become involved in veterinary research targeted at enhancing the health and welfare of companion animals (dogs, cats, horses, and llama/alpaca) and wildlife or special species. Funding for this program comes from generous donor restricted gifts intended to introduce veterinary students to research that promotes animal health and welfare. Grants are not limited to US colleges. Veterinary Student Scholar awards are open to all first through third year veterinary students from an accredited college or school of veterinary medicine in their country.

Sponsor Information

MAF was established in 1948 by a creative and visionary veterinarian, Dr. Mark L. Morris, Sr., who believed that companion animals needed a foundation of their own, addressing their unique health and welfare issues. Because of this vision, today companion animals and wildlife are living longer, healthier lives. To date, MAF has funded nearly 1,400 health studies at veterinary institutions around the world with funds exceeding \$51 million.

Summary of Program

The MAF VSS program will award \$4,000 stipends to students who wish to participate in clinical or basic veterinary research. Applicants must devote a minimum of 50% of their time to the project for the equivalent of a 10-12 week period. While most of these research projects are anticipated to occur during summer months, projects that occur at other times may also be considered for funding. Students must be in good academic standing and must be paired with a responsible mentor to be eligible. Students are not eligible if they are enrolled in another program that provides them with stipend support or are enrolled in a combined DVM, Ph.D. degree program. All research projects must comply with MAF's Health Study Guidelines, and have Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval if live animals (including client-owned) are involved in the project.

(see #4 – application process)

Outstanding applicants should be identified by their institution's Veterinary Student Research program director, or equivalent, and forwarded to MAF for final selection. Institutions may submit ***one application for a companion animal research program and one application for a wildlife/special species research program.*** Although not required, institutions are highly encouraged to match funds awarded by MAF. If there is a commitment from the institution to match funding, two companion animal and two wildlife applications may be submitted for a total of four VSS applicants. Review of all applications will be conducted by MAF staff and scientific advisors. MAF will be able to provide funds to approximately twenty five veterinary students in 2008. Award recipients will be notified no later than March 1, 2008.

MAF will invite each VSS award recipient to attend MAF's annual meeting in Colorado, mid to late June of 2009, to present their project in the form of a poster session. Airfare, hotel, and meals will be paid by MAF. Attendance is highly encouraged as the top three companion animal and top three wildlife student's poster presentations will receive an additional cash award of \$5,000, \$2500, and \$1,000 each. These awards will be provided from the Joe Ballard Estate in honor of Joe Ballard, Jr., a former trustee of MAF. The winners of the Joe Ballard, Jr. awards will be chosen by the Foundation's Scientific Advisory Board members.

MAF will promote successful applicants in media and communication publications, and is most happy to work with institutional public relations departments to optimize these messages.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Veterinary Student Research program director, or comparable position, may submit up to **two** application(s) - one in companion animal and one in wildlife/special species research, unless the Institution commits to match, in which case a total of four applications may be submitted, two companion animal and two wildlife. The following must be provided to MAF:

1. Title page (submit according to the sample title page format provided).
 2. Project Summary: (maximum 3 pages) Summary should describe the student's project, the student's role in the project, mentor's qualifications, and other research or program opportunities. The application must detail how work will promote companion animal or wildlife health and/or welfare. Thoroughness and diverse program opportunities such as orientation to scientific research, ethics, and appropriate use of animals in research will enhance the application's success. Other opportunities encouraged include: introduction to grant writing and publication, appropriate seminars, field trips, journal clubs, etc.
 3. A letter from the Associate Dean of Research providing (1) a statement of the student's good standing in the professional curriculum, (2) student's pre-professional GPA (3) student's professional GPA and (4) students present class ranking.
 4. All research projects must comply with MAF's Health Study Guidelines (http://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/reports/grants/our_health_study_guidelines.pdf), and must:
 - a. Complete and attach the Foundation's Animal Involvement Justification guidelines: (http://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/reports/sandbox/animal_involvement_justification07%282%29.doc)
 - b. Submit a copy of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) full application and current approval page for the project if live animals (including client-owned) are involved.
- Indirect costs will not be paid by MAF for this program.
- Students who are successful and receive a Veterinary Student Scholar stipend will not be eligible in subsequent years.
- Students must provide a final report for the project one month following the project's end date. An outline for the final report will be provided by MAF. All projects and posters must be completed and submitted to MAF no later than April 1st, 2009.

This information is also available on our website, www.morrisanimalfoundation.org

To submit your application:

Mail one copy to:

Morris Animal Foundation

Attn: Tobie McPhail, Manager of Scientific Programs & Advancement

10200 E. Girard Avenue, Suite B430

Denver, CO 80231

AND

Email one (1) electronic copy to:

tmcphail@morrisanimalfoundation.org

(Sample Title Page)

Veterinary Student Scholar

TITLE OF PROPOSAL (limit 100 characters):

Division: (will be Canine, Equine, Feline, Llama/Alpaca, or Wildlife)

Subdivision: i.e. Cancer, Colic, Kidney disease, etc.

Veterinary Student Name
Institution Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
Phone and Fax Number
Email Address

Mentor Name/suffix
Institution Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
Phone and Fax Number
Email Address

Additional Mentor name/suffix
Institution Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
Phone and Fax Number
Email Address

Signature

Signature

Signature

Proposed start and end dates of project:

Total requested: \$

Name of individual who will receive contract
(if awarded)
Institution Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
Phone and Fax Number
Email Address

Student Research Director (Program
Director)
Institution Name
Address Line 1
Address Line 2
Phone and Fax Number
Email Address

Signature

Signature