

# 2017-2018 VETERINARY STUDENT SCHOLARS PROGRAM



The Morris Animal Foundation Veterinary Student Scholars program is a competitive program that provides veterinary students the opportunity to become involved in mentored research that advances the health and/or welfare of companion animals (dogs, cats, horses, llamas/alpacas and companion exotics) and wildlife. The program is open to currently enrolled veterinary students in good standing from any AVMA-accredited US or international college, university or school of veterinary medicine.

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Veterinary Student Scholars Program awards stipends\* up to \$5,000 to veterinary students who are selected by their institution to participate in clinical or basic animal health and/or welfare research. Students enrolled in a combined DVM/PhD degree program are not eligible for this program. Students must devote a minimum of 50 percent of their time to the project for the equivalent of a 10- to 12-week period over the summer.

Each institution may select and submit only one student project proposal per year, and submissions must be made online by the academic institution for review by Morris Animal Foundation. As competition will be very strong for these awards, each institution is encouraged to select and submit the very strongest student project based on scientific merit, relevance to animal health, and adherence to Morris Animal Foundation's guidelines and mission.

If live animals (including client-owned animals) are involved in the project, the institution must provide assurance that the research project complies with [Morris Animal Foundation's Health Study Policy for Animals Involved in Research](#) and has Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval.

Morris Animal Foundation will promote successful veterinary student applicants in media and communication publications and will work with institutional public relations departments to optimize these messages.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

NOTE: All submissions must be made online. **Submissions are due Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 11:59pm EST, and will not be considered if submitted after this deadline.** This is a student research grant application and therefore needs to be prepared and written by the student. The following are required components of the submission:

1. [A completed electronic form](#). Do not write in all capital letters and please be sure all fields are filled out completely. The information needed in the first two pages of the application pertains to personal contact information for the student and mentor(s).
2. Attachment to the online form:
  - a. **Project Summary:** (2-page limit; single spaced; ¾-inch margins; 11-point Times, Times New Roman or Arial font. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in disqualification.) The summary should describe the project, the student's role in the project, the mentor's qualifications and other research or program opportunities. The submission must detail how the work will promote companion animal or wildlife health and/or welfare. The project should include diverse program opportunities, such as orientation to scientific research, ethics and appropriate use of animals in research, introduction to grant writing and publication, seminars, field trips, journal clubs, etc. Please include references and/or citations in the project summary.  
Note: **This section must be written by the student.**

\*Veterinary student scholar awards from Morris Animal Foundation are stipends, and funds awarded are for the sole purpose of supporting the student during the research period and are not eligible to be used for project expenses.

- b. Institutional Letter:** A letter from the institution providing a statement of the student's good standing in the professional curriculum.
- c. Mentor Letter:** A letter from the student's mentor(s) endorsing the student, the project and the student's specific role in that study. The letter must also describe the research environment with regards to facilities, laboratory space, field research, etc.
- d. Animal Involvement Justification Form:** This form must be completed for all projects, regardless of whether live animals are involved. For studies involving live animals, indicate the status of IACUC approval. Morris Animal Foundation may request a copy of the IACUC protocol and approval documents.

**Please combine items listed in a, b, c and d into a single PDF document that does not exceed 5 MB.**

## **ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION**

- Morris Animal Foundation does not pay indirect costs for this program.
- Students who receive a Veterinary Student Scholars Program stipend will not be eligible in subsequent years.
- An official start and end date will be agreed upon by Morris Animal Foundation, the institution, the student and the mentor(s).
- Students must submit a final report for the project no later than one month after the project's end date. (Morris Animal Foundation will provide an outline for the final report.)