VETERINARY STUDENT SCHOLAR APPLICATION

PROGRAM SUMMARY:
The Morris Animal Foundation Veterinary Student Scholar 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 dogs, cats, horses, llamas, alpacas or wildlife. The Veterinary Student Scholar program awards stipends up to $5,000 to veterinary students who are selected by their institution to participate in clinical or basic animal health research.

Morris Animal Foundation is committed to training the next generation of veterinary researchers. As competition will be very strong for these awards, each institution is encouraged to select and submit the strongest student project based on development of veterinary research skills, scientific merit, impact on animal health, and adherence to Morris Animal Foundation's guidelines and mission.

QUALIFICATIONS OF APPLICANT:
- Must be a currently enrolled veterinary student in good standing from any AVMA-accredited US or international college, university or school of veterinary medicine.
  - Students enrolled in a combined DVM/PhD degree program are not eligible.
- Each institution may select and submit only one student project application per year.
- Must devote a minimum of 50 percent of their time to the project.
- Must not have previously received a Veterinary Student Scholar program stipend.

VETERINARY STUDENT SCHOLAR CRITERIA:
- **Mission Adherence:** Projects must advance the science of canine, feline, equine, llama, alpaca, or wildlife health. Projects oriented toward human health and agricultural animal health do not fall within Morris Animal Foundation's mission and will not be accepted.
- **Health Study Policy:** Projects must adhere to Morris Animal Foundation’s [Health Study Policy for Animals Involved in Research](#).
- **Budget:** The budget cannot exceed $5,000. Funds for this award are stipends and can be used solely to support the student during the research project. Funds are NOT eligible to be used for project expenses (including travel, publication costs, etc.) or indirect costs.
- **Duration:** Project duration is 10-12 weeks between the months of May and September.
  - International students whose academic year does not match this schedule should contact Morris Animal Foundation for an alternative project timeline.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Morris Animal Foundation grant applications have two components: an online form and a full application attachment. Applications must be received by 4:59 PM EST on the designated due date. To submit an application, please complete the following:
1. **Online form** with contact information for the investigator(s) and institution
2. **Application document** uploaded to the online form (see application guidelines below).

**NOTE:** Morris Animal Foundation is transitioning to a new grants application system in late November 2019, and the online form will be unavailable until that time. Feel free to work on the application document in the meantime and check back in early December to complete the online form and upload the application document.
APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Failure to adhere to these guidelines will result in disqualification. The student must prepare the application independently, with mentor input. If any of the questions are not applicable, indicate this with “N/A”.

1. Application format:
   A. Single-spaced or greater, using no smaller than an 11-point font (Times New Roman or Arial font preferred) with a minimum of ¾ inch margins.
   B. The application must be converted to a single PDF document.
   C. The order of the written application should follow the outline described below, including use of the outline numbering and headings.
   D. Technical terminology should be defined on first usage; acronyms and abbreviations may be used subsequently.

2. Application outline:
   A. Title page (one-page limit): Name, institution, and email address of student and mentor(s)
   B. Project Summary (three-page limit). This section must be written by the student. Please include the headings outlined below:
      i. Project Overview: Describe the project and the experimental approach intended to meet the objectives.
      ii. Potential Impact for Animal Health: Describe how the project will advance animal health.
      iii. Role: Describe your specific role in the project and what veterinary research skills you expect to learn.
      iv. Career Vision: Describe your career vision and how this award will assist in progress toward your goals.
      v. Program Opportunities: Demonstrate that there are 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.
      vi. References: Include references and/or citations in the project summary.
   C. Animal Involvement Justification (no page limit): Include the required Animal Involvement Justification (AIJ) form in ALL applications, regardless of live animal involvement.
   D. Institutional Letter: A letter from the institution providing a statement of the student’s good standing in the professional curriculum.
   E. Mentor Letter (two-page limit per mentor): A letter is required and should:
      i. Address the student’s accomplishments, perceived strengths, motivation, academic abilities and potential as a future veterinary researcher.
      ii. Describe the study and the student’s specific role in the study, including specific skills that will be learned.
      iii. Describe your current relationship with the student and describe the mentoring and training plan during the project.
      iv. Describe the research environment with regards to mentor qualifications, facilities, laboratory space, field research, etc.
   F. Student Biosketch (two-page limit): Include your name, position/role on the project, education/training (degrees, institution, year of graduation, field of study), previous positions, research experience, and honors.