Animal Welfare Foundation

A Guide to the Student Grant Application Form

This guidance sheet explains what you need to know before making an application to the AWF Student Grant Scheme. Please ensure you read this before making your application.

1. The AWF Student Grant Scheme is open to undergraduates studying veterinary medicine, veterinary nursing, animal welfare studies, agricultural sciences, zoology or social sciences.

2. Projects should be based on sound scientific principles and be of relevance to animal welfare. Please refer to the definition of animal welfare on our website.

3. We are looking for projects that are about animal welfare and are likely to be of interest to the veterinary profession. We don't fund projects on topics such as conservation, ethics or human-animal relationships, unless there is clear, practical animal welfare and veterinary relevance.

4. AWF will accept projects from veterinary students which are carried out alongside their EMS, as long as they are supervised.

5. Greater weighting will be given to projects which help develop the student's understanding of research and animal welfare. Applications with a coherent intent and sound methodology are more likely to be successful.

6. Students must be affiliated with a UK or Republic of Ireland university or college.

7. We will accept applications from students in any year of their course, who will not have graduated by the time their project starts.

8. AWF will fund both extra and intra-curricular projects. Extracurricular projects are eligible for a stipend based on the national minimum wage. The budget should clearly outline all costs to be included in the project, including stipends.

9. The student grants are for short projects which can last for up to 12 weeks full time during the allocated year. These 12 weeks can be spread out throughout the year. Start, end dates and timings of the project should be clearly stated in the application form.

10. The student must be supervised by a staff member at the institution where they are studying, who ideally has research experience. The supervisor is responsible for supporting the student at all stages of the project. Please refer to Annex A: Supervisor role description, on the application form.

11. Grant awards are subject to ethical review by the host institution, which must be provided to AWF if funding is granted.

12. If a student is budgeting for new equipment, they must justify its value to the project in the budget section of the application form. Such situations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The equipment must be retained by the host institution once the project ends.

13. Any publications must be Open Access and the publication costs paid by the host institution.

14. In addition to a final report, students will be required to provide a piece of reflective feedback about their project once the project is complete. Photos of their project should also be provided if appropriate.

15. Students are invited to present the findings of their research at the AWF Discussion Forum.