



Washington State Animal Health Foundation

All Animals, One Passion

Funding Guidelines

Purpose of the Foundation

The Washington State Animal Health Foundation (WSAHF), founded in 1972, is a 501(c) 3 charitable foundation, established by the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association (WSVMA). To fulfill its purpose, the Foundation funds a variety of projects developed by members of the veterinary community and the public (with veterinary involvement) that promote the human-animal bond and are a benefit to animal health and welfare.

WSAHF grants are awarded within two areas of concentration:

1. Community service activities that improve animal health, animal welfare and promote the human-animal bond; and
2. Disaster mitigation projects that increase the veterinary community's level of preparedness for, or ability to respond to or recover from, natural disasters.

Funding for Community Service Projects

There is a need for community service projects that benefit animals and promote the human-animal bond. Examples of such projects include, but are not limited to:

- Educational programs for special needs groups
- Pet food banks
- Dental, vaccine or other veterinary care clinics
- Pet oxygen masks for fire departments
- Bullet proof jackets for police dogs

Community Service Projects should meet a need in the community not otherwise being met. They should be unique and novel and not duplicate a program already being done, nor should they expand an ongoing project.

Funding for Disaster Mitigation Projects

Disaster Mitigation involves all activities that are intended to prevent or minimize the losses or negative consequences following a natural disaster. Disaster Mitigation projects might include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Continuity of Business Plans (COB) – Educational programs to assist veterinarians and/or staff in designing emergency response plans that outline how the personnel will protect facilities, records and patients during an event and how the hospital/clinic plans to resume “normal” operation
- Disaster veterinary animal care reimbursement – for animal supplies used in a disaster
- Post-disaster mitigation – for veterinary clinics affected by a natural disaster.
- Post-disaster mitigation – for animals affected by a natural disaster.
- Programs to educate the public about disaster and emergency preparedness for pets and/or livestock.
- First aid/emergency kits provided to a community-based or animal-related organization.

A disaster mitigation project may also overlap with a Community Service project, for example, by conducting a microchipping clinic to promote reuniting displaced pets with their owners following a disaster.

Exclusions

Examples of projects that do not qualify for funding include, but are not limited to:

- Financial assistance for veterinary medical care and services
- Financial assistance for general overhead and operations of veterinary clinics or animal-related organizations

Application Details

The Washington State Animal Health Foundation will consider applications for Community Service and Disaster Mitigation projects that take place within the boundaries of Washington State. Those who may apply for grants include:

1. Veterinarians living and working in Washington, with preference being given to WSVMA members;
2. Employed staff members at a veterinary practice in the state of Washington; or
3. Members of the public in cooperation with veterinary personnel as specified above.

Application Details continued

Projects should address a need within the veterinary or animal community or community-at-large that is not already being addressed or that is being inadequately addressed. Consideration will be given to maximizing the target group whether they are veterinarians, veterinary staff, veterinary facilities, animals or the community at-large. Grants will generally be made in the \$500 to \$1,000 range, although requests outside either end of this range will be considered.

Grants are awarded at the discretion of the Washington State Animal Health Foundation Trustees and are made based upon available funds.

The maximum grant period will be one year. The Foundation may grant continuations of projects when justified, if the progress report is satisfactory and particularly if a second phase is planned. Grant proposals will be accepted at any time during the year, but awards will be made on or around the last day of the month in January, April, July and October. Proposals received later than one month prior to the award date will be considered in the next review cycle. Disaster Mitigation grant requests following a natural disaster may be considered sooner based on emergency need.

Criteria

The following criteria for evaluation and funding of project will be used:

- A. Importance, justification and likelihood of impact on a need within the impacted community (40 points)
- B. Quality and uniqueness of the idea (10 points)
- C. Creativity and completeness of the proposal (20 points)
- D. Ability to measure outcome (10 points)
- E. Extent of veterinary personnel involvement (20 points)

Funding requirements

1. If a proposal is funded, a Memorandum of Agreement will be signed by The Foundation and the applicant. Dispersal of funds may occur only after the signing of the Agreement. The applicant may stipulate an activation date at which the award period will commence.
2. Funds will be dispersed by the Executive Vice President of The Foundation only upon receipt of vouchers from the applicant. The applicant will maintain records of expenditures, which will be available for auditing by The Foundation.
3. Equipment or instruments purchased with grant funds costing \$25.00 or more will become property of The Foundation. At the completion of the award period, the disposition of the equipment will be at the discretion of The Foundation Trustees.
4. A final written report and a brief summary of findings, suitable for publication in a WSVMA publication or on the WSVMA website, are required at the conclusion of the study. The applicant may be asked to present the project at a WSVMA or regional meeting.

How to Apply

E-mail inquiries can be sent to info@wsvma.org.

All grant applications should include the following basic information:

1. Full Name
2. Permanent Address
3. Affiliation
4. Title of Project
5. Date of Application
6. Total Amount Requested
7. Duration Dates of Project
8. Biographical sketch of applicant
9. Itemized budget and justification. List necessary supplies and their source.
10. State whether or not application has been made for support from other sources.
11. Description of the Project: include what the project entails, who will benefit and/or how the animals will benefit, the details of the project including supplies, manpower, locations, etc. Discuss how outcome of the project will be measured.
12. Include a discussion of the need in the community for such a project and whether any similar efforts have been made in the community or are being made elsewhere.

Submit grant applications in electronic format to info@wsvma.org.