



Scholarship Application

The Mission of the NEDA Scholarship Program is to provide educational opportunities to members who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to and/or excellence in the sport as well as service and ambassadorship within this Association. In particular, the committee seeks to support qualified members to take advantage of specific opportunities for advancement with the understanding that the membership and the sport will benefit as a result of the knowledge and experience gained.

The Scholarship Committee will review scholarship applications and award decisions will be submitted to the Board of Directors. The Scholarship Committee will meet in the first to second week of the month following the application deadlines. All review discussion will be confidential; decisions of the Committee are final.

- 1) Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents having a Green Card (for Amateur and Professional Scholarships) and current members in good standing of the New England Dressage Association.
- 2) Applicants must be 14 years of age or older, be actively pursuing a specific goal, and be able to demonstrate ability commensurate with stated objectives.
- 3) The Scholarship moneys must be used for specific educational expenses that include, but are not limited to, seminars, workshops, clinics or training programs offered by recognized or certified instructors/clinicians. Personal expenses incurred for travel, meals and transportation are not considered for scholarship expenses.
- 4) Programs must have a stated objective, a defined beginning and end, and must be for the specific purpose of advancing the individual's dressage skills, knowledge, or experience.
- 5) Programs must be for the betterment or advancement of the individual's standing in the dressage community, rather than simple maintenance of present status (e.g. the purpose can be to attend an USEF seminar to move from one judging level to the next, but not to attend a clinic required to maintain one's card.)
- 6) Recipients of awards agree upon acceptance of the award to contribute knowledge and experience gained through the scholarship to other NEDA members. Letters of Agreement specifically outlining expectations will be sent to all recipients.
- 7) Scholarship Awards will be paid directly to the individual upon submission of expected educational expense budget and signed Letter of Agreement. Any money awarded but not spent to achieve the goal outlined in the Application within 1 year must be returned to NEDA. Specific evidence of payment (receipts, canceled checks, etc.) must be made available to the NEDA Treasurer.

Scholarship Awards range from \$1000 to \$4,000 and are awarded in the following categories:

- a) Amateurs & non-compete amateurs up to \$2000, b) Junior/Young Riders up to \$1000, c) Breeders-International up to \$2000, d) Breeders-National up to \$1000, e) Professionals up to \$3000 (or for an applicant requesting assistance for an International level education opportunity, the committee may award up to \$4,000). *Note: NEDA defines Professional, Amateur and Junior/Young Rider in the same way as the USEF. You can refer to the USEF rulebook for clarification.
- 8) Scholarship winners can apply for additional scholarship money every four years. Their volunteer work should be looked at specifically for what they did during that 4-year period that was not required for the original scholarship.

Applications must be submitted & received by **April 1st** and **October 1st** of the year in which the award is to be used. (Exceptions in unusual circumstances may be made.)

Submit completed Applications and all accompanying materials to:

Samantha Williams, 9 Nags Head Rd., Ipswich, MA 01938

413-297-2384

scholarships@neda.org



Scholarship Application

Please answer all questions as completely and in as great a detail as possible. If you need more room, attach separate sheets to this application. Be sure each additional sheet is identified by your name & question #. Please list N/A for any section not applicable (i.e. show record for AA non-compete).

Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone# Day (_____) _____ Evening (_____) _____

Email _____

1. NEDA member since: _____

2. Are you a U.S. Citizen? _____ or Permanent resident with Green Card? _____

2. Other Association Memberships: _____

3a. Describe your volunteer activities for NEDA – List specific events and dates:

3b. Describe your volunteer activities for other groups outside of NEDA: _____

4. Other grants, scholarships, or financial awards received (including past NEDA scholarships): **For Adult Amateurs and Junior/Young Rider applicants- describe # of times you ride per week, and what clinics/lessons you have had.**

5. Describe your competition experience in detail: _____

At what level have you regularly competed? _____

What were the results (scores)? _____

What's the highest level at which you have competed? _____

What were the results (scores)? _____

If CDIs, what were the scores? _____

6. Where do you normally compete?

Locally? _____

Regionally? _____

Nationally? _____

Internationally? _____

(Name specific Competitions)

7. Have you completed any USDF performance designations? (Qualified Rider; Gold, Silver or Bronze Medals, Horse of the Year, etc.?) _____

Which ones? _____

When completed? _____

8. List any awards or recognition you have received as a result of your riding, teaching, training, including, if appropriate, successes of your horses and/or students. Specify levels and dates: _____

9. Describe, in as much detail as possible, your specific goal and your reason for applying for a Scholarship at this point in time: _____

Name of Program/instructor/trainer _____

Location _____

10. Will your pursuit lead to new or increased professional designation? _____
If yes, what? _____

11. What is the specific time frame during which you wish to pursue your goal? _____

12. Describe what specific contribution you may be able to make to NEDA and its membership in consideration for the awarding of a scholarship: i.e., mounted clinics, seminars, workshops, demonstrations, etc. How would you be able to transfer the knowledge and expertise you wish to attain to your fellow NEDA members?

13. Include a complete budget for your goal, including all costs associated with the program, personal, travel, living, training/instruction expenses for you and/or your horse(s). Describe the amount you are requesting from NEDA. What will NEDA's contribution cover? _____

(NEDA Scholarship Awards range from \$1000 to \$4000 depending on the type of award and are intended to cover expenses for education and training only. We ask for a submission of total anticipated expenses to help us determine levels of commitment, your resources available, etc.)

14. **References:** Please attach Letters of Reference, two for you personally and two from those who can attest to your riding, teaching, and/or training abilities. Do not use instructor/trainers as reference for whose instruction you might wish to use the scholarship funds. **References must be signed hard copy, not emailed.**

15. **Junior/Young Rider Applicants Only:** Please list below or on a separate sheet of paper any activities you are or have been involved in that you would like us to know about that demonstrate some of your strengths; such as: Scholastic achievements, leadership, community involvement, teamwork, working student positions, horse-management responsibilities, pony club or 4-H involvement, etc.: _____

16. I am applying for an award as: () Professional () Adult Amateur () Junior/Young Rider () Breeder

I am applying to the New England Dressage Association for the specific Scholarship purposes outlined above. I recognize that the Selection Committee may request additional verification as well as a personal interview. I also recognize that part of my responsibility as a recipient will be to be a goodwill ambassador not only for myself, but for the sport and art of dressage and the Association as my sponsor.

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date of Application:** _____