



Applicant Guidelines and Information  
*HHRF Innovative Grant-  
Support of Research Studies on the  
Therapeutic Effects of Horses on Humans*

**Horses and Humans Research Foundation**  
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## **Mission**

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Through investment in rigorous research, Horses and Humans Research Foundation will serve as a catalyst to advance knowledge of horses and their potential to impact the health and wellness of people.

## **Research Purpose**

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The purpose of Horses and Humans Research Foundation (HHRF) Innovative grant is to foster research focused on new ideas that have strong potential for a meaningful impact to bridge the gaps in our understanding of horse-human interactions. The goal of the program is to advance our scientific understanding of the relationship between horses and humans and their role in contributing to the wellness of people.

The goal is to connect practice with scientific knowledge through supporting the development of innovative research with high-impact potential that might not be funded through traditional channels. Our intent is to stimulate exploration, encourage the testing of hypotheses, and generate preliminary data that will open new pathways for future research

## **Proposal Review and Award Process**

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Applications which have passed all procedural and eligibility requirements will be reviewed and ranked by members of the HHRF Scientific Review Committee, who represent areas of expertise relevant to the project. Every project/application submitted to this committee will be acknowledged and will receive a letter of review. The Foundation's board of directors will then review recommendations from the Scientific Review Committee and make final funding decisions.

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis, taking into account innovation, scientific merit, scientific and clinical significance and relevance to areas designated by the Foundation. The strongest proposals will fully and clearly cover all information and research requested, incorporate project intent and methodology, anticipate issues that may arise and are exceptionally easy to follow from processes to activities and results. Preference will be given to investigators with solid credentials and research experience. Grants are a maximum of \$10,000 awarded for up to a one year period.

See the Application Checklist (available at [horsesandhumans.org/research](http://horsesandhumans.org/research)) for evaluation priorities of the Scientific Review Committee.

Notification of awards will be announced within four months of the application deadline. Funding for selected projects will be contingent on Institutional Review Board approval.

The recipient of any research grant must certify that research will be conducted according to the rules and regulations of the United States Department of Health and Human Services or equivalent standards if located outside the USA. All studies involving horses must comply with accepted industry standards for care, treatment, and humane workload. All mounted work must comply with accepted industry standards for safety including employment of a certified instructor/therapist or evidence of equivalent standards. EAA/T program sites must be accredited by a qualified association or provide evidence of equivalent standards for facility and program safety.

A one year grant period is assumed, unless otherwise specified in the application. At the midpoint of the grant period (6 Months) a progress report, financial report and invoice must be submitted for approval prior to receiving the first award check (up to 50%). A final report must be submitted within the agreed upon grant time line and must be approved before the final check is awarded. Projects that are incomplete within agreed time line may not receive final funding.

## **Application Information**

Amount of funding available: \$10,000 is the maximum amount for requests at this time.

Application deadline: Visit [www.horsesandhumans.org](http://www.horsesandhumans.org) for upcoming deadlines.

Application submission: **Both** paper and electronic formats are required. Please note that approval to apply for a full proposal does not guarantee funding at any level.

**Academic Honesty Statement:** Scientific research must be carried out in accordance with the highest ethical standards. Researchers should avoid academic dishonesty and misconduct in all its forms, including but not limited to plagiarism, fraud, lying or other types of wrong-doing in the conduct of scientific research.

**Disclaimer:** Submission of a proposal does not commit HHRF to awarding a grant. HHRF reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received. The HHRF Board is the sole judge as to whether a proposal has satisfactorily met the set requirements.

**Note:** It is never appropriate to discuss your application or research proposal with any board member. Any such discussions may bias the grant award decision-making process and may affect the eligibility of your proposal for funding.