

NOTES AND GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS OF THE REID STUDENT BURSARY FOR DONKEY WELFARE



**THE DONKEY
SANCTUARY**

The Reid Student Bursary for Donkey Welfare will be available annually to support a student working in the area of equine welfare.

This bursary offers the student the opportunity to engage with an existing Donkey Sanctuary project or to propose a new area of study. It is a unique opportunity to engage with an international equine charity and work with the teams within the organisation to expand knowledge and understanding for the improvement of donkey welfare. The bursary holder will be supported by the research team and will work with the departments most relevant to their research area.

Please ensure that you have read this document carefully before completing your application and refer to it as necessary.

1. The bursary is only open to registered students currently enrolled in a recognised course at a university within the UK.
2. Only projects based within the UK will be considered at this time, although in future there may be scope for worldwide projects.
3. Justification for research must be given if a new project is proposed. If proposing a new project, carefully read around your area of interest to ensure that the project will bring value to the field of donkey welfare.
4. Only one Reid Student Bursary for Donkey Welfare will be awarded each year.
5. Ensure that you have discussed your proposal with your academic institution prior to submission, and that your chosen project meets your institution's criteria.
6. If you are successful, ethical approval will need to be confirmed by both your academic institution and The Donkey Sanctuary prior to commencement.
7. Where contact details are requested, please supply your institution's address and associated email address.
8. **To be included in your project proposal:**
 - 8.1. Project Title
 - 8.2. Brief Abstract (250 words maximum). One or two paragraphs to summarise project aims, justify the research (why is it needed?) and describe how the project will be conducted.
 - 8.3. Introduction/background (1000 words maximum). To include a general literature review and specific situational overview.
 - 8.4. Justification for research (750 words maximum). How will the research result in improvements to equine welfare?
 - 8.5. Research aims / questions (500 words maximum). Please present the project aims / questions clearly in bullet point format if possible.
 - 8.6. Research methods (500 words maximum). To include broad methods and justification. Details of locations and number of study sites/ participants if possible.
 - 8.7. Outputs (500 words maximum). Please indicate what you expect to be produced as a result of this project.



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- 8.8.** Constraints/limitations (500 words maximum). Any assumptions about participation or study site conditions, limitations of methods or timescales etc.
- 8.9.** Timeline and Reporting Schedule. Please outline how long you anticipate the research project will take from approval to submission of the outputs, including approximate completion dates for the specified milestones, if possible.
- 8.10.** References – reference list for area of study (not included in word count).
- 9.** The bursary grant is available to cover costs including: travel, subsistence, accommodation, any other costs associated with the project including project consumables. Budget may also include attending a relevant conference.
- 10.** Financial details must be provided within the application to include a breakdown of budget into the following projected expenditures: travel expenses, subsistence costs, equipment and expendables and any other associated costs. Please provide as much information as possible.
- 11.** Evidence of expenditure will be required.
- 12.** Funds should be spent responsibly, taking into consideration our charitable status, see Financial Guidelines document.
- 13.** The successful applicant will be expected to undertake any preparation/training/induction as deemed necessary by The Donkey Sanctuary. This will require on-site attendance. You will also be asked to abide by The Donkey Sanctuary's code of conduct and will be provided with relevant policies and risk assessments upon award of the bursary.
- 14.** The successful applicant will consider themselves a representative of The Donkey Sanctuary for the duration of the project and therefore may be expected to wear Donkey Sanctuary uniform and endeavour to be an ambassador for the charity at all times. They must, however, be aware that they are not a direct employee of the charity and as such cannot undertake to speak on behalf of The Donkey Sanctuary in relation to anything other than the approved project.
- 15.** Further information is available on The Donkey Sanctuary website in the form of FAQs. If you would like to discuss your project idea prior to submission, please contact us via ReidStudentBursary@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk and we would be happy to have an informal chat.
- 16.** The closing date for submission of applications is 30th November 2024. Unfortunately, late submissions will not be accepted.
- 17.** You will be notified within 3 weeks of the application deadline whether your project proposal has been successful or not.
- 18.** The selection process will involve an interview. If your application is shortlisted you will be required to give a short presentation (which could be online or face to face) about your proposed idea.
- 19.** If you are successful in your application, throughout the duration of the project you will have regular contact with the research team to discuss your progress.
- 20.** The Donkey Sanctuary is committed to being an accessible and inclusive organisation. For further information on the interview process and accessibility please visit the Reid Student Bursary for Donkey Welfare FAQ section on our website.



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- 21.** The start date for the successful applicant will be agreed upon acceptance and completed within a 12 month period.
- 22.** Applications should be made via email on ReidStudentBursary@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk.
- 23.** The successful applicant will be expected to submit a full, written report within 8 weeks of completion of the project data collection/practical element. The report should be approximately 1500 to 2000 words and include any relevant supporting material. In addition to the full report a short lay summary (of up to 500 words) must be provided. On request, please provide any further material related to the project, which may include but is not limited to raw data, videos or photos.
- 24.** Upon completion of the project, you will be expected to present your findings either in the form of a presentation at The Donkey Sanctuary or via a virtual medium which may be either live or recorded.
- 25.** By submitting your application, you agree to the above conditions.