



# American Quarter Horse Foundation

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## EQUINE RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Dear Researcher,

Since 1960, the American Quarter Horse Foundation has awarded more than \$12 million to improve the health and welfare of the American Quarter Horse. While the commitment to improving health and welfare remains, AQHF desires to extend the reach of our Equine Research Program through expansion into additional research areas as well as broaden investigator recruitment.

For the 2024-2025 funding cycle, the Equine Research Committee will consider all proposals meeting the overarching goal of improving the health, welfare, and utility of the American Quarter Horse, with special attention to the following areas of interest:

#### Equine Welfare

- Discovery and detection (saliva, breath, blood, urine, hair, etc.) of performance enhancing drugs, masking agents, fitness parameters for competition, exercise physiology, training, and factors of aging

#### Genomics

- Detection of variants contributing to genetic disorders, detection of offspring from cloned animals, behavior, obesity, selective breeding practices and testing

#### Infectious Diseases

- Vaccination and testing for Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM), Equine Herpesvirus Myeloencephalopathy (EHM), Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA) and Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA)

#### Microbiome of the Horse

- Metabolism, links to the immune system, management, and feeds

#### Nutrition

- Nutritional management, Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS) and related diseases, supplements

As the Equine Research Committee Chair, I encourage you to learn more about the AQHF Equine Research Program and consider applying. Special funding opportunities also exist for Young Investigators as well as investigators working in the area of Head Trauma.

Additional information is available at <https://www.aqha.com/equine-research> with a **submission deadline of November 1, 2023**.

Should you have any questions as you consider your application, please contact me, Dr. Holly Spooner, at [holly\\_spooner@cargill.com](mailto:holly_spooner@cargill.com) or AQHF Programs Manager, Laura Owens at [lowens@aqha.org](mailto:lowens@aqha.org).

We look forward to working with you to create meaningful impact for horses, owners, and the broader equine industry.

Sincerely,

Holly Spooner, PhD, PAS

Chair, Equine Research Committee