



Maryland Horse Industry Board Grant Program

<http://mda.maryland.gov/horseboard>
240-344-0000

Grant Application Guidelines

Application for 2027 Grant Year, Open Aug. 5th 2026
Application Deadline: October 5th, 2026, 5pm
No exceptions.

Purpose of the Maryland Horse Industry Board Grant Program

The Maryland Horse Industry Board Grant Program was developed to promote, bring awareness to and help grow the state's horse industry. The main goals of the grant program are to 1) increase public awareness and participation, 2) advance education and training in youth and adults, 3) support and promote equestrian events, programs, and activities, and 4) preserve access and use of public lands for riding in the Maryland horse industry. Grants that align with action items outlined in the most recent [Maryland Horse Forum Report](#) will be given strong consideration as well as grants that aim to enhance diversity and inclusion in the Maryland horse industry. The grant program is supported by the Maryland Feed Fund.

Eligible Applicants (but not limited to)

- Not-for-profit and non-profit organizations in Maryland
- Local and State government & university programs in Maryland
- Clubs & associations, businesses, licensed farms, stables, and horse rescues, schools & educational institutions in Maryland.

Application Submission

- Applicants must use the form to apply online through Google Forms (LINK) <http://mda.maryland.gov/horseboard/Pages/grants.aspx>.
- Do not exceed the number of words indicated in a section and maintain the order and format of the application form. Please use the notation "N/A" if a question is not applicable to your project.
- Paper grants will be accepted if scanned in and legible, but online is preferred. The use of links to supplemental material is allowed, but the inclusion of supplemental materials with the application is strongly discouraged.
- Only eligible projects with completed applications submitted or emailed by the deadline date will be considered. No additional materials will be accepted after the deadline.
- Grant requests should not exceed \$3,000
- Only one grant submitted per organization

Application Review Process

Applications that meet the eligibility and submission guidelines above will be forwarded to the review committee for evaluation. The review committee is made up of 3-5 Maryland Horse Industry Board members and the Executive Director. Applications that do not qualify for review will be notified by email. During the review process, grant applications will be reviewed for:

- Quality of written presentation and correct submissions
- Potential impact and value to the horse industry
- Feasibility of the project
- Financial need
- Potential for matching funds

The Maryland Horse Industry Board is less likely to fund grant projects that use money for 1) capital expenditures on farms including waterers, run-in sheds, trail bridges, fencing, etc., 2) supplies already purchased or projects already conducted, 3) University overhead or indirect costs, and 4) purchase, lease or care of horses. The Board encourages entities seeking sponsorships for events to submit their request in the form of a grant to this program. Grant funds for applicants to attend conferences, trainings, or certifications will be limited to \$500 or less.

The average grant amount awarded is approximately \$1,000 with total grant monies awarded each year--\$30,000.

In some instances, the review committee may recommend a grant amount less than what was requested. Grant recipients should be notified of the status of their application within 120 days of the deadline date. Funding will be available as soon as possible after January 15th. Project must be completed by June 30, 2027.

A final report detailing how the grant monies were spent and the outcome of the project is also due by June 30, 2027.

Grant Program Contact:

Anne Litz
Executive Director
Maryland Horse Industry Board
Ph: 667-408-0407 Email: mda.horseboard@maryland.gov