SCAS RESEARCH FUNDING – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If your question is not answered here, or within the guidance for applicants, please do contact the Society for Companion Animal Studies (SCAS) by email info@scas.org.uk

WHAT DO WE FUND?

The human-animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that is influenced by behaviours that are essential to the health and wellbeing of both. This includes, but is not limited to, emotional, psychological, and physical interactions of people, animals, and the environment.

For funding to be considered by SCAS, projects or research must be specifically related to the human-animal bond. We are currently prioritising applications for research which have a focus on:

One health, one welfare

- Ethical considerations in animal assistance
- Training and certification of therapy and service animals
- Health and well-being of animals and their human counterparts
- Policy development and regulatory frameworks
- Innovations in animal-assisted interventions
- Accessibility and inclusivity in animal assistance program

Projects should last no longer than 12 months, be able to demonstrate clearly how the proposal meets the SCAS objectives, outline plans for future development and be able to start by the 1st September 2024.

HOW MUCH CAN I APPLY FOR?

Applications may be made in one of the following 3 categories:

- 10k maximum pump priming research awards
- 1.5k undergraduate students project award
- 1.5k maximum funding to support publication of research relating to SCAS priority areas

WHAT CAN I NOT APPLY FOR?

Funding cannot be used for:

- Anything that might endanger people or animals
- Anything that might be consider derogatory or defamatory to another company, organisation, individual or otherwise.
- A single source of salary for any individuals
- Anything unrelated to SCAS objectives

WHO CAN APPLY FOR FUNDING?

At this time, we are accepting funding applications from UK and international organisations/businesses. These might include charities, social enterprises, universities, private or public companies. Applications from consortia are welcome. Full details of the consortium partners and their role in the project/research must be clearly outlined. Individuals can be sponsored by relevant organisations to enable them to apply for funding.

CAN I APPLY WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS?

Yes, you can with partner organisations and this should be fully described in the application form. Whether funding is matched or not from elsewhere, SCAS funding must be used directly as part of the research or project. Cost tables must show what funding will be spent on. It is not acceptable for funding to be spent on anything other than for the project or our agreed spending.

WHEN CAN I APPLY?

The call for funding opens on the 31st January 2024 and closes on the 31st March 2024. Applicants will be notified of outcome by the 31st May 2024.

HOW DO I APPLY?

SCAS operates a one-stage online application form. Please ensure that all sections on the application form have been completed before you submit your application. Incomplete applications or applications received without the relevant attachments will not be reviewed or accepted. Please send completed application forms to: info@scas.org.uk

WHEN WILL I HEAR ABOUT THE OUTCOME?

We will acknowledge receipt of your application with one week. Applicants will be notified of the outcome by the 31st May 2024.

If your application is accepted you will receive an offer in writing from SCAS. This offer will contain any expectations or restrictions and the conditions of funding, key milestones for funding release and audit/monitoring expectations. If you accept the funding offer then you will be required to sign an agreement and return it to SCAS to start drawing down your funding.