In partnership with the Veterinary Pharmacology Research Foundation (VPRF), the AVMF is establishing new research grants for projects focusing on companion and food animal research impacting the development of new medications.

The VPRF was formed by the governing bodies of the American Academy of Veterinary Pharmacology and the American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology in 2006. The formation was developed as both organizations recognized that the lack of funding for basic pharmacology research was limiting both growth and innovation in the development of new veterinary therapeutics and the number of trained researchers in the field.

According to Jane Owens DVM, PhD, Dipl ACVCP, and President of VPRF,

“VPRF is very excited about the new partnership with AVMF to offer veterinary pharmacology research grants. This alliance will support funding for evaluation of new and currently approved medications for combating diseases of companion and food animals, as well as for ensuring the safety of food products from treated livestock. We believe this partnership will offer veterinary researchers a unique funding source as no other granting agency focuses solely on veterinary pharmacology.”


AVMF FOOD TRUCK FEST

Join us the evening of Saturday, July 22nd to support the AVMF at the AVMA Annual Convention, while sampling the best of Indianapolis’s thriving food truck scene and enjoying the music of one of Indy’s best DJs. VIP tickets include early admission and access to VIP tents. Admission proceeds go to AVMF and its mission to help veterinarians help animals.

Visit AVMACONVENTION.ORG to purchase your tickets.
Legacy Society

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation honors donors who choose to include the Foundation in their wills and estate plans by recognition in the Legacy Society. Gifts by will, or other estate planning techniques, are a cornerstone of the Foundation's future growth.

AVMF board member and past AVMA president, Dr. Clark Fobian, and his wife, Rita, offered their thoughts on why they have chosen to include the AVMF in their estate planning:

“We felt that this was the most appropriate way to give our gratitude to the Foundation, and also to create an ongoing testimonial and memorial to our lifelong love of animals. This is a means to provide for the wellbeing of pets and people for the future.

Rita and I have been in this field almost our entire working careers. We understand veterinarian compassion. What better way to express that than to support the veterinarian charity: the American Veterinary Medical Foundation?”

Contact Deborah Harp by phone at 847.285.6773 or email at dharp@avma.org for details.

AVMA LIFE Supports Wildlife
Rehabilitation through
Our Oath in Action™

AVMA LIFE project at CROW

On April 29th, AVMA LIFE staff and volunteers participated in an Our Oath in Action project in support of one of the nation’s leading rehabilitation facilities for native and migratory wildlife: The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW), located in Sanibel, FL. This clinic cares for approximately 3,500 wildlife patients of more than 200 different species each year.

For this project, AVMA LIFE volunteers helped to restore the pelican flight area – an important part of the habitat offered to the healing birds. They worked by moving river stones to build a small wall around the flight area, providing general maintenance and landscaping, and preparing skill treats for the patients. Great work to everyone involved!

CROW cares for approximately 3,500 wildlife patients of more than 200 different species each year.

AVMA LIFE Veterinarian Inspired Coverage
Congratulations to Two of our Newest Merck Scholarship Recipients

In March 2017, 34 outstanding veterinary students from around the world each received a scholarship through the Merck Animal Health Veterinary Student Scholarship Program. The selected second- and third-year students pursuing careers in companion animal or large animal medicine will each receive a $5,000 scholarship to support their educational endeavors. Congratulations to all of the 2017 recipients!

Brent Sexton attends Iowa State University and is the son of grain farmers in the state. To help with the cost of school, Brent has spent summers working in the swine industry and getting the experience needed to help him excel in his field post-graduation.

Brent plans to pursue a career as a food animal veterinarian due to his experiences in 4-H, Future Farmers of America, and his many internships working with livestock.

Sharmin Akter attends Bangladesh Agricultural University and is one of five siblings currently attending college.

With a true One Health mindset, Sharmin is focusing her studies on preventative medicine as it relates to epidemiology, vaccination, and preventing the spread of zoonotic diseases. She is also an active volunteer in her community.

“As a result of receiving this scholarship, I am a step closer to achieving my educational and career goals. The funds will allow me to pursue beneficial preceptorships outside Iowa which require additional travel and housing expenses. Thank you for this scholarship and for Merck and AVMF's continued support of veterinary medicine education.”

“I have a long cherished dream to be a veterinarian. Receiving a Merck Animal Health Scholarship will alleviate my financial crisis and has encouraged me to keep moving forward with my future endeavors in my academic work and volunteer activities.”

Resources for Veterinary Students

New Scholarship Application System
The AVMF has recently revamped our scholarship application system for the Auxiliary, Merck/MSD, and AVMF scholarships. This system ensures that students are shown all scholarships for which they are eligible and allows them to more easily complete and submit their applications.

External Scholarship Opportunities
The AVMF has also created a page on the AVMF.org website listing external scholarship opportunities for veterinary students. This page serves as a central location for those looking for information about scholarships offered by AVMA accredited universities in the U.S., as well as any potential local or national opportunities.

Visit AVMF.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS for more information.
AVMF at the 2017 SAVMA Symposium

Each year a veterinary school hosts the SAVMA Symposium: an educational opportunity that exposes student members of the AVMA to a variety of topics outside their typical curriculum, while offering networking experiences and career building skills. This three-day program consists of interactive wet labs, lectures, academic and athletic competitions, an exhibit hall, and the SAVMA House of Delegates bi-annual meeting.

This year, Dr. Jan Strother, Board Chair of the AVMF, traveled to Texas A&M University to share some of the ways the AVMF has supported SAVMA members during 2016 through scholarships, research support, and opportunities to organize Our Oath in Action™ community service projects across the country.

Also at the Symposium, Sarah L. Neuser took her position as President-Elect of SAVMA and accepted her place on the AVMF Board of Directors for the 2017-2018 year. According to Ms. Neuser,

"The AVMF has provided extensive scholarships for my colleagues and classmates, and contributed so much to the veterinary profession as a whole. I support the mission of the AVMF, and I am honored and excited to serve on the Board of Directors and to give back to this great organization."

SAVMA members also demonstrated their support of the Foundation by holding up “Count On Me” signs and thanking board members and staff for their ongoing commitment to veterinary students’ success.

Over 80 students were able to attend the 2017 SAVMA Symposium thanks to ALL for Students.

ALL for Students (Achieving, Leading and Learning for Students) was developed in support of Student Chapters of the AVMA. Students participate in activities in four key areas: Leadership, Professional Development, Wellness, and Community Outreach.

During the 2016-2017 school year, over 200 ALL for Students-sponsored events were organized by SAVMA members and supported by the AVMA, AVMA LIFE, AVMA PLIT, and SAVMA.

Student leaders work tirelessly on behalf of their membership while also handling the responsibilities of their veterinary medical education. Currently, there are over 15,000 members of the Student AVMA, and the ALL for Students program gives student leaders the financial support needed to impact over 22,000 students throughout the year.
Congratulations to the 2017 2nd Opportunity Research Scholarship Recipients

The AVMA/AVMF 2nd Opportunity Research Scholarship program provides support for students who have previously conducted a summer research project and are seeking to gain a second summer of research experience.

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2017 AVMA/AVMF 2nd Opportunity Research Scholarships!

- Samantha Fousse
  University of California – Davis
  Genetic Determinants of Atrial Fibrillation in Irish Wolfhounds

- Kim Haight
  University of Georgia
  Combined Nanoparticle and Neural Stem Cell Therapies in a Pig Model of Stroke

- Rachel McMahon
  University of Wisconsin-Madison
  Obesity Promotes Breast Tumor Development and Metastases in an Immunocompetent Mouse Model

- Courtney Rousse
  North Carolina State University
  Charles Spaniels with Chiari-like Malformations and Syringomyelia

- Courtney Smith
  Texas A&M University
  Next-generation Panfungal Sequencing of Formalin-fixed, Paraffin-embedded Tissues for Improved Identification of Fungal Pathogens

Donate to Research

Animal health research is crucial to the future of veterinary medicine. The AVMF devotes its efforts to raising financial support for research activities to help prevent, diagnose, and treat animal diseases.

To make a donation in support of animal health research:

Visit AVMF.ORG/DONATE
Use AVMF Code: RESEARCH

Give the Gift of a Scholarship in Your Name

Commemorate your compassion for animals by giving the gift of a scholarship in your name. By making a generous gift of $25,000 or more to establish a scholarship through the AVMF, you are investing in the next generation of veterinarians, as well as the future health of animals.

TO LEARN MORE
Contact Debborah Harp by phone at 847.285.6773 or email at dharp@avma.org for details.
Franklin Walks Again

Franklin is a bright, affectionate, three-year-old Dachshund that lost the use of his back legs due to a condition known as thoracolumbar intervertebral disk disease. Franklin badly needed surgery, but his owners were unable to afford the cost and opted to surrender him to a good Samaritan’s care instead.

Thanks to the generous donors to the AVMF Veterinary Care Charitable Fund®, Dr. Britany Timberlake of Southeast Veterinary Hospital was able to coordinate with specialist Dr. G. Brad Mackenzie to get Franklin’s surgery. The practice also provided months of physical therapy, including walking Franklin with a sling supporting his hind legs, exercising his legs manually, and providing hydrotherapy to build up his strength.

Now, after just over a month of physical therapy, Franklin has finally begun to walk again!