

HSA Student/Trainee Scholarships

for advances in animal welfare during transport, marketing & slaughter

(formerly called the Dorothy Sidley Award)

The HSA Student/Trainee Scholarships have, since 1986, aimed to encourage students to take an interest in the welfare of food animals and undertake a research project seeking to **improve the well-being of food animals during transport, marketing, slaughter or killing.**

Who can apply?

Applications are welcome from undergraduate or MSc students who are registered at a university or institute at which there is a [UFAW LINK](#), OR supervised by someone at a [UFAW LINK](#) OR from trainees in the livestock, meat and fish industries.

Please note that PhD students are NOT eligible to apply.

What is involved?

Proposed projects must be relevant to improving or assessing the welfare of food animals in markets, during transport, or at slaughter.

Students or trainees are encouraged to design their own project proposals, but they should seek guidance from their Supervisor(s) to ensure that: the necessary facilities and animals are available; that the work is well designed; and that the student and their project will be appropriately supervised.

How much is the award?

Student/Trainee Scholarships consist of **£250 per week** subsistence (paid directly to the Student/Trainee) and **£100 per week** project expenses (paid to the host university/institute), to a maximum of **£2800**. Payments cannot be issued to third parties.

Although projects are typically completed during July-September, projects may be carried out at any time. Projects usually last between 4 and 8 weeks and support is provided for up to eight weeks. Projects may be longer than 8 weeks (but extra funding is not provided). Projects do not have to be undertaken in one continuous period of study.

Funds are normally paid by cheque, in GBP sterling, to applicants residing in the United Kingdom (UK) and by bank transfer to applicants outside of the UK. Please note that any costs associated with receiving funds by bank transfer must be met by the recipients. Funds can only be transferred into an account bearing the applicant's name or the name of the institution which will administer the award.

Applying for an award

The HSA Student/Trainee Scholarship is an annual Scholarship award that is open for application every September/October, with a closing date of 28 February the following year.

When open, interested students are invited to submit an application online.

The form is divided into sections and asks for the following information: details about the student and their current course (including a copy of their CV), details about the supervisors(s) who will be supervising the student for the duration of their project, and a description of the proposed project (including location, dates, and implications for animal welfare).

Completed applications must reach the HSA by **28th February** of the year of application.

HSA Mentoring Partnership

Students who do not have ready access to the help and resources required to plan a scientific research proposal, may also wish to consider applying for an HSA Mentoring Partnership: www.hsa.org.uk/mentor. If successful, the Student Mentee is paired with a suitable Mentor before an application is submitted – the aim being for the student to receive guidance during the planning stage of the project proposal resulting in a well-designed study. We want any resulting data to be meaningful and able to answer the original research question.

Important considerations when designing an experiment include: a clearly stated aim and hypothesis; a logical and practical methodology; and a clear idea of the type of analyses that you will be carrying out on any data (this helps to ensure that the sample sizes chosen (if using animals or people) and the experimental design is such that the overall experiment will have sufficient power (eg if using 0.8 or greater power you should have an 80% or greater chance of finding a statistically significant difference when there is one).

We all have an ethical responsibility to ensure that any experiment we conduct uses resources appropriately and, if using animals, that a harm-benefit analysis justifies their use, and that the number used is not more, or fewer, than necessary to achieve the desired outcome.

How are the applications assessed?

Awards are competitive and applications are assessed on different criteria. These include the importance for animal welfare, educational experience offered to the student scholar, number of animals affected by the animal welfare issue being investigated, scientific merit of the proposed project, and ethical acceptability.

What is expected of the Student Scholar?

On completion of their project, Scholars are required to report on their work, by 1 November of the year the award was granted (unless otherwise agreed in advance with HSA). Additionally, HSA regularly holds a meeting for Student Scholars at which Scholars are invited to present their work. The meeting is usually held online during December or January and attended by all of the Scholars of the year (including those awarded UFAW Animal Welfare Student Scholarships), their supervisors, as well as staff from UFAW and HSA.

What does the HSA do?

Whilst many people recognise the importance of a good life whilst on the farm, animals may also face welfare challenges 'beyond the farm gate'. At the HSA, we play a vital role in improving the welfare of animals during transport, marketing, and slaughter, by providing funding and support for essential research.

We are dedicated to bringing practical and lasting improvements to the welfare of food animals around the world. The HSA works with the livestock industry and animal welfare scientists globally to deliver training and advice on the welfare of animals during transport, marketing, and slaughter.

How can you help the HSA?

The HSA is funded solely by donations and legacies from members and supporters. Please help us to continue to make practical and lasting improvements to animal welfare beyond the farm gate by joining HSA or donating to support our work.

Humane Slaughter Association

The Old School • Brewhouse Hill • Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire • AL4 8AN • UK
Tel: +44(0)1582 831919 • Fax: +44(0)1582831414
Email: grants@hsa.org.uk • www.hsa.org.uk

HSA Student/Trainee Scholarships

The Dorothy Sidley award for advances in animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter

Information for applicants

Caring beyond the farm gate



Humane Slaughter Association

The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire AL4 8AN UK
Tel: +44 (0) 1582 831919 Website: www.hsa.org.uk Email: grants@hsa.org.uk

Charity Registered in England and Wales No 1159690 : Charitable Incorporated Organisation