**Application for a jointly funded BSAVA PetSavers’ and BVA AWF**

**Master’s Degree by Research (MDR) grant**

**General notes:**

1. **Please note that we are seeking applications specifically in the field of companion animal welfare. Projects related to the welfare of other (non-companion) animals or non-welfare projects will not be considered for funding.**
2. **Please complete all sections. If a section is not relevant to your application, please state N/A and explain why it is not applicable.**
3. **Please make sure to complete the checklist at the end of the form. Your application will be returned to you if this is not complete.**
4. **Please follow the additional guidance notes provided in each section.**
5. **Maximum word limits must be strictly adhered to and are not ‘targets’; you are strongly advised to write as clearly and succinctly as possible.**
6. **Graphics and schematics to improve understanding of study design/aim are encouraged.**
7. **Guidance for grant applicants is provided on the website:** [**https://bsava.com/petsavers/apply-for-funding/guidance-for-grant-applicants/**](https://bsava.com/petsavers/apply-for-funding/guidance-for-grant-applicants/)

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| **Name of supervisor (main applicant)** |  | |
| **Qualifications** |  | |
| **ORCiD ID if available** |  | |
| **Current post** |  | |
| **Work address** |  | |
| **Email address** |  | |
| **Work telephone number** |  | |
| **Mobile telephone number** |  | |
| **Co-applicants**  **Name(s), institution(s) and**  **e-mail address(es)**  **Please list all those who will be involved with the project, adding additional spaces if required** |  |  |
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| **Postgraduate student name and qualifications (if known)** |  | |

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| **Details of the research project**  **Please note that content from the lay summary, background, aims/objectives and potential benefits sections from funded projects may be used on the BSAVA PetSavers’ website to help publicise grant awarding and research impact** | |
| **Title** |  |
| **Proposed start / finish dates** |  |

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| **Lay summary (maximum 250 words)**   * **Answer each of the following summary questions in a short sentence at the level of understanding of a 1st year (veterinary) undergraduate** |
| 1. **Why do you plan to carry out the study (what problem/knowledge gap do you want to address)?** 2. **What do you expect the results to be (what is your hypothesis/prediction)?** 3. **How will you answer the research question (what methods do you plan to use)?** 4. **What impact do you think your findings will have on pet welfare (how will this help pets now and/or in the future)?** |

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| **Relevance to animal welfare (maximum 200 words)**   * **Refer to AWF’s** [**explanation of animal welfare**](https://www.animalwelfarefoundation.org.uk/research/what-is-animal-welfare/) **to help you answer this. Your project should include animal welfare measurements or assessment within the methodology.** |
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| Background (maximum 500 words plus references)Explain why you are interested in the research question, what is already known (including the size/significance of the problem), and what problem/knowledge gap you intend to address (including relevant references) |
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| Hypotheses (maximum 100 words)  * **Clearly state your hypotheses (providing a maximum of 3; use bullet points if there is more than 1)** |
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| Aims and objectives (maximum 200 words)Describe the overall goal (aim) of your study and state the specific objectives that must be met in order to achieve this goalDistinguish between primary and secondary objectives if applicable |
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| **Study design / Methods (maximum 1000 words)**   * **You may include graphics or schematics (maximum 4) if this aids with the communication of your study design** * **Subheadings may be used (optional)** |
| **Clearly describe the study population and any control group(s)** |
| **Indicate how participants/samples will be recruited/obtained, inclusion and exclusion criteria, and any steps you will take to reduce potential bias** |
| **Include details of sample size, power analysis and any published data or pilot data that have informed this** |
| **List any prior experience of the proposed technique(s) and state if this is a planned optimisation or validation study** |
| **Where the study requires recruitment of new cases or acquisition of new samples, provide evidence of feasibility by reference to past caseload of subjects/samples that would meet the described inclusion/exclusion criteria** |
| **Explain what, when, and how measurements will be performed/observations made and by whom** |
| **Explain how potential biases will be managed** |

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| **Analysis / Results (maximum 1000 words)**   * **You are strongly encouraged to refer to your study design when choosing and selecting appropriate statistical tests** |
| **Describe what kind of data will be generated and how it will be processed** |
| **Provide details of proposed statistical or other analyses** |

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| **What are the potential risks to individual animals in the study and how will you minimise these? (maximum 300 words)** |
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| **What are the potential benefits to individual animals in the study and/or to other animals in the future? (maximum 300 words)** |
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| **Has funding been applied for elsewhere? Please give details, including when you expect to hear back and whether this additional funding is necessary for you to carry out the project in its current form** |
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| **Has the main applicant received a grant in the last 5 years? Please give details** |
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| **Have any applicants received a BSAVA PetSavers’ grant at any time? Please give details** |
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| **Has this grant proposal previously been submitted for a BSAVA PetSavers’ grant?**   * **Grant proposals previously shortlisted, but not funded, by BSAVA PetSavers can be resubmitted for consideration in one further grant call. You will have been notified if your previous grant proposal was shortlisted** * **Please include details of any previous submission of this proposal, including the year of submission, and outline how this application differs from your earlier submission** |
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**Reviewers**

A list of **three** potential peer reviewers must be provided, from which one or more may be asked to provide an expert opinion on the application. Prospective reviewers and grant panel members **must not** be approached directly by the study team to gauge support for the application but reviewers should be asked to confirm they can complete a review if requested.

**Please ensure that reviewers have no conflicts of interest with the main grant applicant or any of the co-applicants.**

We consider a conflict to include: being an applicant or co-applicant in the current round of BSAVA PetSavers' – AWF grants; collaborating with any of the applicants within the last 2 years; involvement in your current BSAVA PetSavers’ – AWF grant proposal, including advising on study design or commenting on the application; having a close personal friendship; or currently working in the same institution.

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|  | **Reviewer 1** | **Reviewer 2** | **Reviewer 3** |
| Name |  |  |  |
| Institution |  |  |  |
| Email address |  |  |  |

**I confirm that none of the applicants have a conflict of interest with any of the suggested reviewers: Yes / No**

**I confirm that the reviewers have agreed to complete a review of this application if requested: Yes / No**

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| **BSAVA PetSavers reserves the right to seek alternative consultation for review if needed.**  **If there are individuals you do not wish us to contact, please list them here and briefly explain why you feel they are not suitable** |
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**Expenditure**

**BSAVA Petsavers and AWF will jointly fund, for a period of one year the following costs up to a maximum in aggregate of £42,000 (but subject to the individual limitations set out below):**

1. Postgraduate student stipend at BBSRC stipend rates.
   * + Please state whether it is intended that the student will be a veterinary surgeon or non-veterinary surgeon. Note that the suitability of the proposed student for the project will be considered as part of the project assessment.
2. Payment of university fees
3. Equipment and consumables (up to £10,000 excluding VAT) depending on the nature of the project.

Please note that travel expenses will not be paid unless they can be justified as essential for completion of the research. Expenses associated with presenting findings at the AWF Discussion forum will be reimbursed separately, so do not need to be included here.

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| **Please detail all costs below and note that the grant must not be used to fund publication charges** | |
| Student stipend (include any preference for vet/non-vet stipend) |  |
| University fees |  |
| Itemised equipment and consumables (up to £10,000) |  |
| Other costs |  |
| **Total grant requested (maximum £42,000)** |  |

**Student training programme**

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| **What qualifications will the student study for?**   * **Describe the key training outcomes for the postgraduate student and how they will be achieved through completion of this project, including any transferable skills** |
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| **Who will participate in the training?**   * **List the staff members who will be involved in day-to-day supervision** |
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| **Any other available support – Please provide details** |
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| **BSAVA is committed to sustainability and would like to support research that shares these values. Please provide a link to your institutional sustainability policy (if possible), but note that this will not form part of the assessment process** |
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**Project ethics**

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| **Have you received ethical approval for this proposal? Please delete as required** |
| **Yes, supporting documents are attached / Not yet, but it has been applied for / No** |

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| **I confirm that the project will not involve work with experimental animals, including tissues derived from experimental animals: Yes / No** |

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| **This section is in addition to the requirement for ethical approval for which separate documentation must be provided** | |
| **Recruitment and informed consent**   * How will participants be identified? * How will informed consent be gained? * Will the participants have the opportunity to withdraw? |  |
| **Animal welfare**   * How will animal welfare be protected? * Will an ATC be required? |  |
| **Risks/burdens and their management**   * What are the risks for human participants? * How will these risks be managed/mitigated? |  |
| **Adverse events**   * How will adverse events (expected/unexpected) be recorded, managed, and fed back to clients? * How will any financial implications of these events be addressed? |  |
| **Inducements to participation**   * Will any inducements of compensations be provided? * How will any other potential benefits to animals be communicated to clients? |  |
| **Data protection**   * How will information be handled and stored in order to ensure confidentiality? * How will participant anonymity be maintained? * (How) will results be disseminated to participants, the wider research community and the general public? |  |
| **Potential conflicts of interest**   * Including other sources of funding |  |

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| **Any other relevant information** |
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**Where did you hear of this grant call?**

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|  | Previous grant applicant |
|  | Email |
|  | BSAVA PetSavers’ website |
|  | BSAVA PetSavers’ social media |
|  | Companion / JSAP (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | BSAVA library |
|  | Vet school |
|  | Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Please check here if you would like to be kept informed of future BSAVA PetSavers’ grant calls

**CV Pro-Forma**

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| **A truncated CV is requested to reduce paperwork.**  **CVs should be provided for the main applicant, supervisors and, if available, the student.** |

1. Name

2. Current post (title, institution/ practice, date of appointment)

3. Posts held within the last 10 years

4. Details of previous research experience or training (include title, amount and source of funding)

5. Details of previous or current research supervision (what qualifications were gained by the scholars, and what were the outcomes of their research projects, e.g. presentations and publications)

6. Relevant publications (list up to 10, give the citation in full, including the title of the paper and list all authors)

7. Additional information that relates directly to the application (use up to 10 lines of text)

**BSAVA PetSavers’ MDR Grant Application Check List**

Please note that the application will not be considered unless this checklist is complete

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|  | Application form completed and signed by all applicants and head of department |
|  | Details of study design including sample size calculations, recruitment methods and caseload |
|  | Names and email addresses of three potential reviewers who have no conflicts of interest |
|  | Details and costs of equipment requested (prices must exclude VAT) |
|  | Details of student training programme |
|  | CV proformas of all applicants |
|  | Letter of support from head of department or practice principal |
|  | Ethical committee approval |
|  | Grant terms and conditions signed by the main applicant and institutional representative |

**I confirm that the information provided herein is accurate, correct and complete, and that the documents submitted with this application form are genuine**

…………………………………………………………………………… Name of main applicant

……………………………………………………………………………Signature

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| **Name and signature of head of department** |  |
| **Signatures of all applicants** |  |
| **Date** |  |

**Please submit the completed application form together with the signed terms and conditions, institutional letter of support and ethical approval documents to** [**petsaversadmin@bsava.com**](mailto:petsaversadmin@bsava.com)