

Oklahoma Dressage Society Education Scholarship Information & Application

The ODS Education Scholarship provides financial assistance to Oklahoma Dressage members to further their dressage education.

Criteria for Eligibility:

1. This ODS Education Scholarship is open to all Oklahoma Dressage Society Members: juniors, adults, or vintage riders, amateurs or professionals, including ODS member volunteers and committee members.
2. The candidate must be a current member in good standing of Oklahoma Dressage Society (ODS). In addition, the applicant must have been an ODS member for at least the 2 previous years.
3. The candidate must have a background of attending previous ODS dressage educational events. The more ODS event attendance, the stronger the candidate for the ODS scholarship. Attendance at non-ODS dressage educational events will be considered as additional input.
4. The candidate must have a background of volunteerism for ODS. This includes volunteering on at least one (1) ODS committee or have accumulated five (5) hours of volunteering at ODS events. The more ODS volunteerism, the stronger the candidate for the ODS scholarship. Volunteerism for non-ODS dressage related events will be considered as additional input.

Criteria for Use:

Scholarships may be used toward the registration/entry fees for the following types of dressage educational events:

1. Acceptable activities will include ODS and its affiliated chapters educational events, USDF Region 9 and USDF educational events. Additionally, any educational event or clinic given by a USDF/USEF judge, USDF/USEF technical delegate, USDF Certified Instructor, USDF "L" Program graduate, or USDF Medalist.
2. Scholarship candidates must receive ODS Scholarship Committee approval for the use of this scholarship at a specific dressage educational event prior to the event occurring.

The ODS Scholarship Committee will review applications for funds and make recommendations to the Board for their vote. The Governing Board will select members to sit on this committee for a period of one year.

Application Deadline:

The ODS Education Scholarship committee will meet a minimum of two times per year. Each scholarship application must be received by the following schedule:

January 1 – May 15 Scholarship(s) to be awarded by June 15.

Presented at the ODS Summer Meeting.

May 16 - November 15 Scholarship(s) to be awarded by Dec. 15.

Presented at the ODS Annual General Meeting.

Please note: Your application must indicate an educational event that is after the award date.

Volunteer Hours: Volunteer hours counting towards ODS Education Scholarships include:

1. Volunteering at ODS, its affiliated chapters and Region 9 sponsored shows, clinics, educational events, fundraisers, etc. Volunteer hours must be recorded and itemized on the ODS Education Scholarship Application Form. Validation of hours will be confirmed by the ODS Volunteer Coordinator from each event.
2. Write an article in the ODS newsletter.
3. Consideration will also be given for attendance at ODS, its affiliated chapters and Region 9 sponsored activities or functions. (ex: Summer Meeting, AGM or auditing the ODS Educational events).

Scholarship monies will not be awarded until after successful completion of attendance at the

approved dressage educational event with validation of the attendance; and, the submission to ODS of the required post report. An amount of \$200 will be awarded. Scholarship winners must write a post report article about their educational experience for which the scholarship was used and submit it to the ODS Scholarship Committee within 30 days of the event. This report / article will then be published in the newsletter.

The ODS Educational Scholarship is non-transferable and may only be used for the candidate's education. (ex. It may not be used for someone else riding your horse in a clinic.) Scholarships must be used within 1 year of the time it is awarded. No extensions will be granted.

The ODS Educational Scholarship Funds to administer the program should be held in a separate, interest-bearing account or with its own sub-account in ODS general funds. The ODS Educational Scholarship Fund must maintain a balance to fund this venture and a minimum of \$200 must remain in this account at all times. The funds generated by the silent auction at any AGM will be placed in the ODS Education Scholarship fund. Any sponsorship donations to this account will also be welcome.

Additional Information:

Scholarships may be applied for at any time of year by the corresponding deadline.

The ODS Educational Scholarship Committee will meet a minimum of two (2) times per year (June & December) to review all applications received up to that point and make the decisions about its awards. The ODS Educational Scholarship Committee may award zero (0) scholarships, or may award more than two (2) scholarships at each of these meetings as they deem fit. A maximum of four (4) Scholarships may be awarded each year. Not all allotted scholarships must be awarded in a single year. Determination of eligibility is at the sole discretion of the ODS Education Scholarship Committee.

An ODS member may only be awarded a scholarship once per twelve (12) months period. Once awarded a scholarship in a given twelve (12) months, a candidate may not apply again within that same twelve (12) months period. However, priority for subsequent years will be given to eligible candidates who have not received an education scholarship previously.

The ODS Education Scholarship Committee will include at least one (1) current ODS Board Member. The committee must consist of a total of three (3) to five (5) ODS members in good standing. The committee shall not exceed five (5) members.

Document Revised: July 15, 2020