

UFAW Animal Welfare Student Scholarships

UFAW first established a student scholarship scheme in 1983 to enable students to pursue their interests in animal welfare and to provide them with the opportunity to conduct relevant research or other (e.g. educational) projects. Since the scheme began there have been some 200 scholars and the scheme has been extremely worthwhile, resulting in a high standard of project reports and findings of practical benefit to the welfare of animals.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applications are welcome from undergraduates (or equivalent) who will usually be studying in agricultural, biological, psychological, veterinary or zoological sciences. However, we would be pleased to receive applications from students from other disciplines who are interested in carrying out a project related to animal welfare. Students must be registered at either a university or college in the British Isles or an overseas institution at which there is a UFAW University Link. Applications from MSc students on appropriate courses will also be considered.

How much is the award?

Successful applicants receive £170 subsistence and £30 project expenses for every week of study up to a maximum of **£1600**. Projects may be carried out at any time and usually last between four and eight weeks. Projects may last for longer but funding will only be provided for up to eight weeks.

What is involved?

Projects must be relevant to improving the welfare of farm, laboratory, companion, zoo or wild animals whose welfare is compromised by humans. Project work undertaken may be part of a student's course, an extension of course-work, or a new project on a topic of interest to the applicant. Students are encouraged to design their own project proposals, but they should seek guidance from tutors and heads of department to ensure that the proposal has a sound scientific methodology, that all necessary facilities are available, and that the work will be properly supervised. Alternatively, supervisors who find a suitable candidate can apply.

Applying for an award

All applications should be submitted on an application form (available from the UFAW website). The form asks for an outline of the proposed project and, where applicable, reference to scientific papers or other work relevant to the investigation.

Applications must include a reference from the supervisor and comments by the Head of Department. If a student is to conduct the project at an external establishment (eg zoo or research institute) they must seek prior permission in writing from the appropriate person (eg curator, director).

Applications should include details of:

- Aim
- Methods
- If animals are to be involved, the number and type of animals to be studied.
- Details of any necessary ethical approvals or licence
- Animal welfare benefits: how the work may lead to improvements in animals' quality of life. NB Much as UFAW applauds research that advances species conservation and other important issues – this scholarship scheme is for work that addresses animal welfare.
- How any significant findings will be used and/or made available to others (eg publications/presentations)

Completed applications must reach the UFAW offices by **28th February 2012**.

The applications will be assessed by a panel of judges and then all applicants will be notified of the outcome of this process. Successful students will receive full details and administrative notes at this stage.

The final report

On completion of their project, scholars are required to write up and submit an original full report of their work, including an abstract, by 1st November of the same year. Additionally, UFAW regularly holds a meeting for Student Scholars at which scholars are expected to talk about their work. The meeting is usually held in December.

Examples of past Scholarship projects

- *Impacts of capture and handling on the welfare of wild birds*
- *What is enriching about environmental enrichment? Investigating properties of materials used in enrichment for pigs*
- *The effects of cage size on aggression and welfare in male mice*
- *Investigation of the possible causes and prevention of eye infections in domestic ducks: Is there a link between the depth of water provided, and the incidence of such infections in ducks?*

What is UFAW?

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) is an internationally recognised independent, scientific and educational animal welfare charity. The organisation is concerned with promoting high standards of welfare for farm, companion, laboratory, and captive wild animals, and for those with which we interact in the wild.

UFAW works to improve animal welfare in the UK and overseas by:

- Promoting and supporting developments in the science and technology that underpins advances in animal welfare
- Promoting education, particularly at the university and college level, in animal care and welfare, in current issues and in assessment of welfare
- Providing information, organising meetings, and publishing books, videos, articles, technical reports and the quarterly scientific journal *Animal Welfare*
- Providing expert advice to government departments and other bodies and amending laws and guidelines
- Enlisting the energies of animal keepers, scientists, vets, lawyers and others who care about animals.

Joining UFAW

UFAW is an independent registered charity, entirely supported by donations, legacies and membership subscriptions. UFAW does not receive government or university funding.

The annual membership subscription is £10; there is a reduced fee of £5 for students. Corporate or group membership of UFAW is open to departments or libraries of universities and colleges, corporate specialist groups and commercial and industrial establishments worldwide. Contact the UFAW office for further details and an application form.

Universities Federation For Animal Welfare

The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AN
Tel: 01582 831818 Fax: 01582 831414
www.ufaw.org.uk scioff@ufaw.org.uk

Charity Registered in England No. 207996
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 579991



Information for applicants:

UFAW Animal Welfare Student Scholarship



Science in the Service of Animal Welfare

UNIVERSITIES FEDERATION
FOR
ANIMAL WELFARE