International Veterinary Medicine Experiences

Information for Students Applying for Funding from Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine

Introduction: The purpose of the International Veterinary Medicine program at the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine is to help students explore global opportunities in veterinary medicine, including public health and research experiences, and experience different cultures.

As available, funds are provided to students through a competitive application process to help cover travel and other expenses for veterinary experiences. In order to be considered for MSU-CVM funding to support international travel students and projects will be assessed on the requirements described below.

In exploring opportunities for international veterinary experiences and in preparing an application, students should be able to clearly explain how the experience will advance their specific career goals, as this information will be required and used in evaluating applications. Students are also encouraged to visit the MSU International Institute website, particularly for information on logistics of traveling abroad:

http://international.msstate.edu/faculty/traveling/index.php

The Application Process:

Applications for funding for international veterinary experiences can be found at: <u>https://www.vetmed.msstate.edu/academics/international-programs/funding</u>

Completed applications must be sent to the Enhanced Clinical Practicum program office (huston@cvm.msstate.edu) by January 15, May 15 or September 15 of the anticipated year of travel.

- Applications are open to any student enrolled in the MSU CVM professional program.
- Applications must be completed individually, in the student's own words (not copied and/or pasted, nor generated through any external source).
- Applicants must meet all requirements for international travel through the MSU Office of Study Abroad (OSA) prior to departure which can be completed at: <u>https://msstate.studioabroad.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=64642</u>
- Student must apply for travel that will occur within the four-year period of professional program*.
- Funding may not be applied to past trips.

While funding amounts may vary on an annual basis, students are encouraged to seek additional or matching funds as it is likely awards will not be sufficient to support the entire travel budget.

*If dual degree, then student may travel outside the time of the professional program but prior to conferral of both degrees (i.e. may be after DVM but before MS/PhD conferral).

General Minimum Requirements:

- 1. Student must have a minimum GPA of 2.5 in veterinary curriculum (above requirement for good standing).
- 2. Student must have good moral character without history of disciplinary action.
- 3. Student must be enrolled in the professional or dual-degree (professional/graduate) program at MSU-CVM.
- 4. The purpose of international travel must pertain to veterinary medicine, public health, veterinary biomedical research, or related areas. Student must effectively describe how participation in this group activity provides a unique learning experience for furthering career goals and that no equivalent opportunity currently exists at MSU-CVM or within the US.
- 5. Student must clearly propose a means of translating their experience to an appropriate audience upon return (e.g. creation of travel blog; seminar to Professional Development class, IVSA group, or students/faculty/staff; poster at Open House; seminar at Research Day) in the appropriate section of the application form.
- 6. Students must register with the MSU Office of Study Abroad, complete a risk management application form, and pay a \$200 registration fee when funding is approved and prior to travel. This can be completed at: <u>https://msstate.studioabroad.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgram&Pr ogram_ID=64642</u>

Additional Specific Requirements:

A. For travel associated with an organized program or agency, the group must be part of an internationally recognized and reputable association (e.g. UN Food and Agriculture Organization or WorldVets). Contact information and program description must be included with application form.

- B. For travel NOT associated with an organized program or agency, student must:
 - 1. provide information for a contact person (including mentor name, phone number or email, employer and credentials, if applicable) in application, as well as a letter of support from that person (e.g. veterinary mentor, course leader or advisor if receiving credit).

2. provide description of project that effectively justifies purpose of international travel (e.g. is the veterinary medical care or research question unique to that geographic region?).