

Proposal for a Maddie's Fund Shelter Medicine Externship Grant

The University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine proposes the following guidelines for selecting students to receive a Maddie's Shelter Medicine Externship Grant, which will enable them to work alongside a full-time veterinarian at an adoption guarantee shelter that saves all the healthy and treatable dogs and cats under their care, with euthanasia reserved only for unhealthy and untreatable dogs and cats.

- The applicants must be in good academic standing and plan to complete the externship during their third or fourth years of veterinary school.
- Each applicant will submit an essay answering the following three questions: 1) What adoption guarantee shelter facility with a full-time veterinarian do you plan to visit?, 2) What are your goals (personal and professional) for this externship?, and 3) Briefly describe your current understanding of the no-kill philosophy.
- Students must commit to spending at least two weeks at an adoption guarantee shelter with a full-time veterinarian. They will also agree to complete a final report upon their return describing their experience and understanding of the no-kill philosophy. This report will be both written and oral and will be available to the entire student body as both a written document and an oral presentation at one of the MU Shelter Club's meetings. This report will be meant to be educational to the other students and will concentrate on what was learned about the no-kill program by the externs during their Maddie's Fund Shelter Medicine Externship. The written report will be submitted directly to Maddie's Fund within one month following the completion of the externship. This report will also be made available on the shared drive of the intranet computer system here at the MU College of Veterinary Medicine to enable all students to access it at any time.
- The College of Veterinary Medicine Awards Committee, composed of three faculty members and the Associate Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs, will select the students based upon their essays.
- Dr. Richard Meadows, director of the Halting Overpopulation of Pets through Education (HOPE) project, will be the primary faculty sponsor of the Maddie's Shelter Medicine Externship Grant program.

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