

HUNT STAFF BENEFIT AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Eligibility Criteria for Benefit Assistance

The Hunt Staff Benefit and Development Foundation (HSBDF) exists to support the men and women who dedicate their professional lives to the work of the hunt. The following criteria govern eligibility for benefit assistance. All criteria must be met unless a waiver is granted by the HSBDF Board of Directors.

CRITERION 1

Eligible Candidates

Benefit assistance is available to the following categories of individuals:

- Huntsman
- Whipper-In
- Kennelman
- Professional Staff of the Masters of Foxhounds Association of North America (MFHA)
- Widows and Widowers of professional hunt staff

Applications submitted by or on behalf of widows or widowers of professional hunt staff will be considered on the same basis as applications from active or former professional staff.

CRITERION 2

Minimum Service Requirement

An applicant must have completed a minimum of three (3) years in hunt staff work to be eligible for assistance.

CRITERION 3

Eligible Categories of Need

The HSBDF provides grants to address needs in two categories only:

Medical Needs

Costs arising from illness, injury, or medical treatment affecting the applicant or, where applicable, a dependent in their immediate household.

Transition Needs

Costs associated with a significant life or employment transition, including but not limited to unexpected loss of employment, relocation necessitated by end of a hunt position, or transition following the death of a spouse.

Requests that do not fall within one of these two categories will not be considered.

CRITERION 4

Grant Duration and Renewal

Grants are awarded for a maximum period of one (1) year from the date of award.

Applicants whose needs extend beyond one year must reapply and submit updated supporting documentation at the time of reapplication. Renewal is not automatic and is subject to review and approval by the Board.

The Board of Directors may, in extraordinary circumstances, approve extended or renewed support upon a finding that the applicant's situation warrants continued assistance.

Board Waiver Authority

The HSBDF Board of Directors retains the authority to waive one or more of the qualifying criteria in extraordinary circumstances. Applicants who believe their situation warrants special consideration are encouraged to provide a full written explanation in their application.

Questions regarding eligibility should be directed to the MFHA office.
These criteria are subject to review and revision by the HSBDF Board of Directors.