**The Dressage Foundation’s**

**Region 4 FEI Adult Excellence Fund**

**Application**

Applications will only be accepted through the online form at dressagefoundation.org.  The application and all required attachments must be received by The Dressage Foundation's office on or before **May 20th** to be considered. Attachments must be in Word, Excel, or PDF format.

We encourage you to review this application and gather all materials prior to starting the online application process. Once you start completing the online form, your work cannot be saved. ***Helpful tip - Type your answers into this Word document, save, and then copy and paste your answers into the online form*.**

**Attachments Needed:  
-** Budgets (one for training, one for competition)  
- Competition scores  
- Video  
- Two letters of recommendation  
- Leased horse documentation (if applicable)  
- Letter from horse owner (if applicable)  
- Signature Page

**Applicant Information:**

Name  
Address  
Phone Number

Email Address

Age at Application Date (must be 26 or older)

Are you a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident?

Please list equestrian organizations in which you are a member (Local, national, international)

Name of Horse you are applying to train with

Age of Horse

Breed of Horse

Owner of Horse

Letter from Owner (if necessary, with approval of training plan)

If you lease the horse that you will use for training, please provide the following information:

Copy of the lease agreement papers from USDF or USEF (required for eligibility).

I will be applying to train for and compete at:

* CDI/CPEDI
* U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions
* U.S. Dressage Finals

**General Information:**

Provide a brief summary of your dressage experiences, including training, instruction, competition record, levels at which you are riding, scores, certifications, national rankings, and awards. (Max 500 words)

What are your overall dressage goals? (Max 250 words)

**Proposed Training:**

How do you plan to use the grant? Include dates, locations, trainer and their credentials, etc. (Max 250 words)

How long have you been working with this trainer? (Max 100 words)

With this training plan, what do you specifically hope to work on and achieve? (Max 100 words)

**Proposed Competition Event:**

What competition do you plan to attend (a CDI/CPEDI, U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions, or U.S. Dressage Finals) and at what level/class:

What competitions do you plan to attend this year **leading up to** the CDI/CPEDI, U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions, or U.S. Dressage Finals:

How will receiving this grant make your competition goals possible? (Max 250 words)

**Community Involvement:**

In what ways have you been involved in your local Region 4 dressage community? Examples include hosting open clinics, donating time/resources, volunteer work, etc. (Max 100 words)

**Financial Information:**

Provide two detailed budgets of how you plan to use the grant. Keep in mind that applicants for a CDI/CPEDI or U.S. Dressage Festival of Champions have up to 18 months to use the total grant ($8,000) and applicants for the U.S. Dressage Finals have up to 12 months to use the total grant ($6,000):

* One budget for the costs of working with your horse and your trainer (up to $4,000/$3,000)
* One budget for the competition and travel expenses (up to $4,000/$3,000) which may include, but are not limited to, transportation, entry fees, stabling, and coaching

Please explain why you need financial assistance from The Dressage Foundation. (Max 250 words)

If the grant does not cover all expenses of your training/competition plan, tell us how you will handle the balance of these expenses. (Max 250 words)

What current and past financial assistance/sponsorship have you received, including grants or awards from The Dressage Foundation?

**Competition Scores:**

Provide a printout of scores (no more than three pages) from the past two–three years with the horse you will be training/competing.

**Video:**

Provide a YouTube link to a 5-10 minute video that shows you riding FEI movements (consistent with the level you plan on competing) with the horse that you will be training/competing. The video can be from a competition or schooling session.

**Recommendation Letters:**

Attach two letters of recommendation:

* One letter must be from your selected trainer. This letter must include confirmation that you have been accepted to train with them.
* The second letter should be from a dressage community member who can speak to your skill and potential.

**Signature Page:**

Download and sign where indicated on the Signature Page.

**Important Notes:**

You will be notified that the application has been received within two business days. If you do not receive email confirmation that your application has been received (please check your spam folder!), then call our office at (402) 434-8585.  Additionally, if you have any questions regarding the application, feel free to contact us. After the grant selection committee has made its final decision, all applicants will be notified. Thank you!