

FARLEY FOUNDATION FACT SHEET — APPLYING FOR FUNDING

WHO QUALIFIES FOR FUNDING?

Veterinarians may apply for funding to subsidize the cost of non-elective veterinary care for clients who:

- 1) cannot otherwise afford to pay for the treatment their pets need, and
- 2) have a pre-existing veterinary-client-patient relationship (VCPR) with the practice seeking funding on behalf of that pet owner and
- 3) who are:
 - a) seniors receiving the Federal Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS);
 - b) persons with disabilities who receive the Ontario Disability Support Payment (ODSP) or the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) Disability Benefit;
 - c) individuals receiving financial assistance through Ontario Works; or
 - d) women staying at a women's shelter who have a pet participating in OVMA's SafePet Program

If the pet owner does not meet all of the above criteria, no subsidy is available.

WHAT TYPES OF ANIMALS QUALIFY FOR FUNDING?

The foundation subsidizes the treatment of any animal whose primary purpose is companionship, without restricting the type of animal by species.

WHAT TYPES OF MEDICAL CARE QUALIFY FOR FUNDING?

The Foundation will only pay for non-elective procedures or treatments. Routine physical examinations, vaccinations, etc. will not be funded. Spays and neuters will not be funded unless the procedure is essential to the continued health of the animal. General prophylactic dental care is not eligible for funding. Other dental procedures (i.e. extractions) will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

ARE THERE ANY LIMITS ON FUNDING AVAILABILITY?

The following funding restrictions are in effect:

Veterinary Clinics: Only Ontario veterinary practices with an OVMA member (practice

owner/partner or associate) are eligible to receive funding. If an OVMA member owns or works in multiple clinics, that membership may only apply to one clinic for the purposes of qualifying for funding. A clinic must have an OVMA member prior to the submission of a funding application.

Funding is limited to \$1000 per clinic per calendar year. Clinics may opt to apply for \$1000 for one animal, or they may apply for smaller amounts for different pets throughout the year.

Pets/Households: Funding per pet and per household is limited to \$1000 per calendar year. If a pet owner is able to pay a portion of the cost of the required treatment, but not the full amount, a clinic may apply for funding to cover the remainder of the cost.

If the cost of treatment is expected to exceed \$1000 plus any payment made by the client, the practice has the option of requesting funding in the amount of \$1000 and offsetting the remaining cost of the treatment itself.

APPLYING FOR FUNDING – GIS, ODSP, ONTARIO WORKS & CPP DISABILITY BENEFIT RECIPIENTS

If a client cannot afford required treatment, the veterinarian may advise the client that funding may be available to those receiving the federal Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), the Ontario Disability Support Payment (ODSP), Ontario Works or the CPP Disability Benefit.

If the client indicates that he/she receives any of these subsidies, the veterinarians must ask for verification that the client is currently receiving assistance. The document must be current and have the pet owner's name and address on it.

For clients who indicate they receive a federal GIS payment or the CPP Disability Benefit:

- The client must provide a Letter of Entitlement, or a Statement of Old Age Security (T4A OAS) or a monthly Statement of Canada Pension Plan Benefits (T4A) as proof that he/she is receiving the benefit.
- If the client does not have one of these documents, ask him/her to call Human Resources Development Canada at 1-800-277-9914 (English) or 1-800-277-9915 (French) from the clinic. These hotlines are open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

- Once connected, the client should press “0” to speak to an operator. Once an operator is on the line, the client will have to provide his/her name and Social Insurance Number. The client needs to ask the operator to forward (via mail) a “Letter of Entitlement” for the GIS Program or the CPP Disability Benefit Program.

For clients who indicate that they receive a provincial ODSP payment:

- The client must provide a recent (within the past two months) monthly ODSP Income Statement from the Province as proof that he/she is receiving the benefit.
- If the client does not have a current monthly income statement, he/she can contact the nearest regional ODSP office and ask the office to send the client a “To Whom it May Concern” letter verifying that he /she receives ODSP payments
- Either of the above constitutes sufficient proof of enrolment in the program.

For clients who indicate that they receive an Ontario Works payment:

- Ontario works is administered by municipalities (cities, counties and regions). To be eligible for assistance, the client must provide a recent (within the past two months) cheque stub from the municipality indicating that he/she is receiving financial assistance (see samples, attached). Please note that each municipality’s stub will look slightly different.
- If the client cannot provide a cheque stub, or if the stub does not contain his/her name and address, the client can contact the social services department of the municipality from which assistance is being received and ask that office to send the client a “To Whom it May Concern” letter verifying that he /she receives assistance payments.
- Either of the above constitutes sufficient proof of enrolment in the program.

Once eligibility is confirmed, the clinic must fax a copy of each of the following documents to the Farley Foundation office:

1. a completed funding application form;
2. a written treatment estimate setting out the work to be done; and

3. verification of enrolment in one of the government assistance programs listed above. (see examples on website)

SAFE PET PARTICIPANTS

If a SafePet participant’s animal requires medical care, the veterinarian at the practice boarding the pet or transferring the pet to a pet foster parent may apply for funding through the Farley Foundation. To apply for funding, the clinic must fax a completed funding application form and an estimate for the treatment to be provided to the Farley Foundation office.

Applications will not be considered until all of the requested information has been received.

APPLICATION APPROVAL

Applications will be evaluated and a response provided confirming or denying funding within 72 hours of receipt of all required documentation by the Program Administrator. Every effort will be made to render a decision concerning the provision of funding the same day the request for funding is received, whenever possible.

What About Emergencies?

Clinics must submit the funding application prior to the provision of treatment. In the case of an emergency, a clinic may decide to proceed with the work without funding approval, and apply for funding retroactively. **In such an instance, the application must be submitted within three business days following completion of the treatment. Applications submitted more than three days after the treatment is completed will not be considered.**

After the work is done, the veterinarian must submit an invoice for the work done showing the balance owing (up to the approved amount) to the Farley Foundation to receive payment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about the eligibility criteria or the funding approval process, or if you need an application form, please contact the Foundation at:

Phone (Toll Free): 1-800-670-1702 Ext 13
 Fax (Toll Free): 1-877-482-5941
 E-mail: info@farleyfoundation.org
 Website: www.farleyfoundation.org

Funding Application

(must be completed in full)



Clinic Name: _____ OVMA Member on Staff: _____

Clinic Phone #: _____ Clinic Fax #: _____

Client Name: _____ Date: _____

Please attach the appropriate proof of eligibility document specified below (check one). The document must contain the client's name and address.

Guaranteed Income Supplement Program

_____ Federal Form T4A OAS (Old Age Security and GIS); or

_____ a letter of entitlement from HRDC

CPP Disability Benefit Program

_____ Federal Form T4A (CPP) showing the receipt of CPP Disability Benefits; or

_____ a letter of entitlement from HRDC

Ontario Disability Support Program

_____ a current monthly ODSP income statement in the client's name; or

_____ a letter of entitlement from the Regional ODSP office

Ontario Works

_____ a cheque stub from the municipality indicating receipt of social assistance

Patient Name: _____ Dog: _____ Cat: _____ Other(Specify): _____

Breed (if appropriate): _____ Age: _____

Condition: _____

Estimated Cost of Treatment: \$ _____ Amount (if any) to be paid by client: \$ _____

Amount of Funding Requested: \$ _____

Applications cannot be processed until all of the following documents have been received:

- an application form completed in full
- an estimate for the treatment to be provided
- appropriate proof of client eligibility document

Please fax all of the above information to 905-875-0958 or 1-877-482-5941.