



*Morgan Dressage*  
association

*Dedicated to promoting and supporting Morgan Horses in dressage.*

## **MDA Scholarship Application Cover Sheet**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address **[required]** \_\_\_\_\_

Morgan Horse's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Registration # \_\_\_\_\_

Sire \_\_\_\_\_ Dam \_\_\_\_\_

Gender \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

### **Scholarship Category**

*(Indicate the level where you are currently competing and/or clinicing.)*

Training/First Level    Second/Third Level    Fourth/FEI

### **Your Status**

*(You must indicate one.)*

Professional

Adult Amateur

Junior/Young Rider

Junior/Young Rider Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Did you receive a scholarship for 2019? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

*(Winners of scholarships for 2019 are not eligible for scholarships for 2020.)*

### **You must be a current member of the Morgan Dressage Association to be eligible for this scholarship.**

I certify that all of the information submitted is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I further certify that if chosen to receive a scholarship, I will use the funding to continue my dressage education on a registered Morgan Horse. I also understand that incomplete applications will not be considered.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Applications are accepted in digital format only. Acceptable formats are M/S Word and Adobe PDF. Photos should be sent separately (not imbedded in a Word document) and a minimum of 400x600 pixels; larger preferred. Photographs must be jpegs. Videos should be mounted on YouTube or a similar free public video site.**

**Applications for 2020 are DUE November 1, 2019.**

**Send completed applications to  
patthrasher@mac.com with the subject line "MDA Scholarship Application"**

## Scholarship Objectives

- To promote Morgans in dressage in Open and Breed competition, and other public venues such as clinics, and to make their presence highly visible wherever dressage is found;
- To assist our MDA members in advancing with their Morgans in the sport of dressage.
- For 2019, the association intends to award a minimum of three scholarships in the amount of \$500 each in three categories to MDA members: Training/First Level; Second/Third Level; Fourth Level and Above. We will attempt to give one scholarship to an amateur rider, one to a professional, and one to a junior/young rider. **Based on application quality, the award amount and number of scholarships awarded may be adjusted.**

## Requirements

- **MDA Membership.** If you are not already a member, go to [MDA Membership](#) and join. Membership applications must be received by the scholarship application deadline for you to be eligible for a scholarship. In addition, you must keep your membership current for the scholarship year, 2020. **Your 2020 membership must be paid in full before money will be disbursed.**
- **Eligible Expenses.** Scholarships must be used to further the training and education of the applicant and their Morgan(s). Eligible expenses include instruction; clinics, mounted or un-mounted and the expenses to attend those clinics or instruction; educational materials such as training books and videos and other educational opportunities such as symposiums. The purchase of tack and computer software are not allowable. **Competition expenses are NOT eligible, nor are the normal and usual expenses of maintaining a horse such as farrier, veterinary care, and the like.** If you have questions on whether an expense is allowable, please ask before submitting your application.
- **Reporting Requirements.** The applicant must agree that s/he will continue to pursue dressage training on a Morgan for the duration of the scholarship (one year). All winning applicants must submit a detailed accounting of how they spent the money no later than December 31, 2020. Anyone failing to submit her report will not be eligible for a scholarship in the future. In addition, each winning applicant must submit a narrative of her training year, with photographs, suitable for publication in the MDA newsletter, no later than December 31, 2020. It is strongly suggested that winners keep a riding log or diary to assist in this process.
- **Subsequent Scholarships.** Scholarship winners will not be eligible to receive a repeat scholarship two years in a row. Winners will be eligible to apply in subsequent years only if they have moved up at least one level, unless they are already competing at the FEI levels.
- **Application Due Date.** Applications must be submitted by **November 1, 2019** and must include the following items:
  1. **Application Cover Sheet**
  2. **Answers to the five questions below.** Please answer the questions one at a time in order and number each response so reviewers can match your response to the question. You will be given points based on the response to EACH question separately, so make sure you don't skip a question.
  3. **Two to five still photos, in jpeg format, no smaller than 150kb, and no larger than 1mb.**
  4. **The URL and link for one or two videos mounted on YouTube or a similar free public video site, no more than 3 minutes each, no fewer than two minutes, showing the horse and ride combination in all three gaits at the level applied for.**

Applications should be sent to

[patthrasher@mac.com](mailto:patthrasher@mac.com) with the subject line **MDA Scholarship Application.**

Applications will be scored by a team of four or five reviewers and applicants will be notified by December 31, 2019 of the results.

Questions? E-mail [Pat Thrasher](#) or call 302-584-4708. Be sure to use the subject line **MDA Scholarship Application** or include that phrase in your voicemail message.

## Morgan Dressage Association Scholarship Questions

Please answer the following questions. The maximum point value for each section is listed in parenthesis. Please answer the questions in order, number your response and make sure you're answering each question in a clear and straightforward manner.

1. Describe your involvement with Morgans. Give a short background of your history with Morgans that demonstrates your commitment to the breed. Please include the number of years you have owned a Morgan and the number of years you have been involved with the Morgan breed. You might want to include any promotional or volunteer activities. *(Total possible score, 10 points.)*
2. Discuss your background in the sport of dressage. Include such items as how long you have been riding dressage; the level you are currently riding your Morgan(s); the training principles you follow; the frequency you receive regular lessons; the qualifications of the instructor(s) and any other information that helps to clarify your background and commitment to the discipline. Please include any non-ridden involvement like show management or volunteer activities that involve dressage. *(Total possible score, 10 points.)*
3. List your dressage accomplishments on a Morgan(s). Please include a comprehensive list of your competition record, if you have one, including schooling shows. Also include any national or regional year-end awards, such as: USDF Horse of the Year, Junior/Young Rider or All-Breeds Awards; AMHA Open Competition; USEF regional and national awards, MDA Awards of Excellence, Morgan or dressage club awards, any individual competition level championships, United States Pony Club dressage achievements, including scores from qualifying rallies, etc. Include the Morgan's name, award, level and year won; for individual competitions include the name of the competition, the level, and note whether it was open or from a Morgan breed show. Also please indicate if the competition is an USDF/USEF recognized or schooling show. List the highest level(s) you have competed your CURRENT Morgan(s) and the highest score you have earned at that level, including the name of the competition, year and test number.

Please also list any clinics, achievements, and activities that you feel have helped you progress in your dressage. **NOTE: You do NOT have to have a competition record in order to qualify for the scholarship.** However, we do prefer that you and your Morgan are publicly visible as this is one of the goals in awarding these scholarships: to show the world what a Morgan can do in dressage. Please include the URLs for video in your answer to this question, and attach to your email a folder of still photos in JPEG format. *(Total possible score, 10 points.)*

4. What challenges do you face in riding dressage seriously? What are your personal challenges and goals involving dressage? How might a MDA Scholarship help overcome these challenges and achieve your goals? *(Total possible score, 10 points)*
5. How will you use the Morgan Dressage Association Scholarship? You MUST provide a detailed description of all intended expenditures. If you plan to use the scholarship to ride with a clinician/instructor, name the instructor/clinician and his or her qualifications and the number of lessons/clinics and their projected cost. *(Total possible score, 10 points.)*

If you have questions about format, or technical problems with the requirements, such as sizing photographs, PLEASE ASK YOUR QUESTIONS EARLY. Scholarship applications which arrive incomplete, in incorrect formats, or illegible may be rejected at the discretion of the committee.

**YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS MUST BE PERFECTLY LEGIBLE AND VALID. WE USE EMAIL FOR ALL QUESTIONS AND ISSUES, AND FOR NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS. IF YOU DON'T CHECK YOUR EMAIL, OR CHANGE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS, YOU CANNOT BE AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP.**