



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Equine Technical Support & Equine Breeding Schemes 2021

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, wishes to announce that it is inviting applications for funding available for projects which support improvements in equine breeding schemes and systems in the non-thoroughbred horse sector and for training, education, health and promotion initiatives/projects in the thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred sectors in the State. The scheme comprises of three programmes as described below with each having individual sets of Terms and Conditions.

1. General Programme

The objectives of aid are aimed at supporting improvements in quality equine breeding and also in the infrastructure within which the non-thoroughbred horse sectors operate. Aid focuses on data collection in the genetics and equine breeding area, DNA sampling and initiatives in the area of breeding, promotion, marketing and studbook development.

2. Training/Education Programmes

The objectives of aid are aimed at supporting Training and Education programmes within the thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred horse sectors.

3. Research into Equine Diseases.

The objectives of aid are aimed at supporting improvements in quality equine production focussing on research into equine diseases in the thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred horse sectors.

The operation of the Equine Technical Support & Equine Breeding Schemes is subject to the provisions of Commission Regulation (EU) No 702/2014 and in particular Chapter III, Section 1, Articles 21, 24, 27(1)(2), Section 4 Article 31 and the enabling legislation of the Central Fund (Permanent Provision) Act 1965. Unless otherwise stated, terms defined in the Regulation shall have the same meaning. Aid will be granted to cover eligible costs and will at all times be subject to National and EU Rules and State Aid and Public Procurement Guidelines. Grants paid are subject to the terms of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform circular "Management and Accountability for Grants from Exchequer Funds" (Circular 13/2014). In that regard, there is an obligation on the Department to set out with clarity the objective/purpose of the grant in the conditions/grant arrangements. The purpose of the funding will be clearly notified to the grantee - salaries, training, research, public relations/advertising, front-line services etc. and these terms and conditions will reflect, that it is a condition of funding that grantees comply with the Statement of Principles for Grantees as set out in Appendix 2 of the Circular.

Applicants for aid will be obliged to comply with the terms and conditions of the schemes. These include a requirement to provide acceptable documentation as proof of expenditure and to have complied with all legal, tax registration, employment regulations and hold current tax clearance certificates (any sub-contractors, consultants or suppliers used in the projects must also comply with all legal, tax and employment regulation requirements). Detailed Terms and Conditions are posted on the Departments website. All projects proposed must be capable of being fully completed in 2020. Payment of funds is subject to control checks.

Applications for funding must be made on the 2021 application form accompanied by the requested supporting documentation. It is important that applicants read the relevant Terms and Conditions for each programme. All applications should be sent to Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Livestock Breeding Production and Trade Division, Farnham Street, Cavan, to arrive no later than **5pm on Monday 22nd February 2021** Late applications and/or incomplete applications will not be accepted.