

--- Name of 501(c)(3) Organization ---

University of Minnesota Foundation

--- Today's Date ---

04/01/2021

--- Year Established ---

1965

--- Amount Requested ---

\$10,000

--- Name of Executive Director ---

Mary Holtz-Clause, Chancellor

--- Mailing Address ---

2900 University Ave  
Crookston, MN  
56716-\_\_\_\_\_

--- Contact Information - Name and Title ---

Morgan Pyles, Lecturer

--- Work Phone ---

+12182818103

--- Fax ---

+12182818694

--- Email ---

[pyles024@crk.umn.edu](mailto:pyles024@crk.umn.edu)

--- Website / URL ---

<http://www.crk.umn.edu>

--- Farm/Facility Name ---

University of Minnesota Crookston Equine Program

--- Farm/Facility Physical Location (City, State) ---

Crookston, MN

--- Farm/Facility Mailing Address ---

100G UTOC, 2900 University Ave  
Crookston, MN  
56716

--- Brief Mission Statement ---

The University of Minnesota Crookston delivers educational programs that build upon a broad academic foundation and combine theory, practice, and experimentation in a technologically rich environment. We prepare students for career success, advanced study, and engaged citizenship in a diverse world. We integrate teaching and learning, research and scholarly work, and outreach and engagement to serve the public good.

--- In brief, what is your proposed use of the grant you are applying for? Please include 3 to 5 goals you expect to achieve with the funding. ---

The University of Minnesota Crookston provides a unique equine program in which the students gain a wide range of knowledge and skills to prepare them for careers in the equine industry. Our hands on program provides opportunities that represent the breadth and depth of all things equine in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. The program exemplifies the universities long-term commitment to serving the agricultural industry regionally and nationally. Current students and graduates of the equine program have become successful contributors to all aspects of the equine industry including careers in the Thoroughbred industry, training off-track Thoroughbreds, careers in the veterinary field, horse training and showing, barn management, and so much more.

The requested funds from the Thoroughbred Education and Research Foundation would be used in the form of scholarships for students in our equine program seeking a Bachelor of Science degree in either Equine Science or Equine Business Management. The overall goal of the scholarship funds would be to provide financial support to students during their education to give them the freedom to explore career paths and gain experience through extracurricular activities, internships, and training while at UMN Crookston. Five students would benefit from the scholarships in the 2021-2022 academic year. Additional goals for the requested funds include 1) relieving some of the financial stress during education, 2) highlighting exceptional students in the equine program, 3) and promoting the Thoroughbred industry by supporting students that will enter the equine industry upon graduation.

Detailed Budget

Total \$10,000 requested. The total amount requested will be divided into five scholarships of \$2,000. Each scholarship will be awarded to one undergraduate student at UMN Crookston working towards a Bachelor's degree in either Equine Science or Equine Business Management.

Morgan Pyles will serve as the contact for any communication needed or for follow up information regarding this application.

--- If you received a grant from TERF (Thoroughbred Education and Research Foundation) previously, please describe how those funds were used. ---

This is the first application for a grant from the Thoroughbred Education and Research Foundation from the University of Minnesota Crookston Equine Program.

--- Please list the other organizations or major contributors that have provided funding to your organization within the last calendar year. ---

Contributions to the equine program at the UMN Crookston has been limited within the last calendar year. No major contributions have been made to the equine program.

--- Please describe your charity's public education/research efforts. ---

As a Land Grant University, the University of Minnesota focuses on addressing the needs of community across the state. The positive impact of the UMN Crookston reaches far beyond the confines of the campus. Contributions to local communities, regional and state economies, the country, and the world are made through research, innovation, and community engagement. Our equine program provides educational opportunities for the public through course work, workshops, and clinics to improve the management practices of horse owners with the overall goal of improving the health and welfare of horses in the state of Minnesota

The racing industry in Minnesota drives a wide array of economic activity, including training, breeding, jockey fees, and facilities. Overall the racing industry contributes over 2,000 jobs and \$123 million value added to the economy. The equine program at UMN Crookston directly contributes to the racing industry in Minnesota by preparing professionals not only to simply contribute to the industry, but to improve upon the health and welfare of the horses within the industry by using their equine knowledge acquired at UMN Crookston.

There are many opportunities for students to gain experience and knowledge of the horse, including undergraduate research projects. Previous and ongoing equine research has focused on behavior, suitability of bedding types, and the effects of hay steaming on the horse. Understanding more about the horse will better prepare the students as they graduate and make an impact on the industry.

--- Please describe any publicity your charity has earned within the last calendar year. Copies of news articles or a brief summary of news coverage are acceptable. ---

There have been several news releases and articles published about the equine program at UMN Crookston. The links and details about the articles are listed below.

The Thoroughbred Daily News wrote an article discussing the foaling program in which Thoroughbred and Quarter Horse owners send their broodmares to be foaled out at the UMN Crookston barn to participate in the Minnesota Breeders Fund and as part of the Equine Reproduction course.  
<https://www.thoroughbreddailynews.com/university-of-minnesota-partners-with-breeders-for-spring-foaling/>

An article was released by KROX 105.7 that discussed the addition of an Equine Business Management degree at UMN Crookston.

<https://www.kroxam.com/2020/06/16/umc-receives-approval-for-new-equine-business-management-program/>

The equine program at UMN Crookston was featured on a blog by Wasabi Stables.

<http://blog.wasabistables.com/university-of-minnesota-at-crookston/>

The Crookston Times wrote an article about the foaling program at UMN Crookston.

<https://www.crookstontimes.com/news/20200401/equine-science-program-celebrates-not-just-one-historic-birth-but-two>

--- List 2-3 things that distinguishes your organization and why TERF should fund this proposal. ---

The UMN Crookston campus has the only stand alone equine educational program in Minnesota providing Bachelor's degrees in Equine Business Management, Equine Science, and Equine Science, Pre-Vet emphasis. Our program emphasizes hands on learning experiences in equine husbandry, nutrition, reproduction, and health management. Students also gain experience in undergraduate research projects and are required to complete an industry internship.

One of the unique aspects of the equine program at UMN Crookston is in the opportunities to gain experience with horses throughout all stages of life. We have a herd of 45 horses on campus and through course work, students are able to work with breeding stallions, broodmares and foals, weanlings, unbroke two year olds, and a wide range of adult horses through various disciplines.

The UMN Crookston equine program has developed several collaborations with the Thoroughbred racing industry including Racehorse Minnesota, the Minnesota Racing Commission, Canterbury Park, and Running Aces Casino, Hotel & Racetrack. Students and alumni have had employment and educational opportunities with these connections not only in Minnesota, but also in Kentucky, Louisiana, and Oklahoma.

The UMN Crookston equine program provides industry ties and hands on opportunities for students by foaling out mares from out of state in support of the Minnesota Breeders Fund racehorse eligibility. In 2020, we foaled out 5 mares, and will be foaling out 10 mares in 2021 that are registered with the Minnesota Breeders Fund.

--- Space for Additional Information and Notes ---

The UMN Crookston Equine and Animal Science Pre-Vet emphasis programs have a higher level of veterinary college admittance percentage than the national average.

The UMN Crookston program has worked with off-track Thoroughbreds that have been admitted into our training course from outside horseman. We continue to create develop relationships with Minnesota Thoroughbred and Standardbred owners who are retiring sound racehorses to create new careers for those horses.

--- Please list your Officers with their Titles ---

Mary Holtz-Claus - Chancellor  
John Hoffman - Vice Chancellor  
Tricia Sanders, Director of Finance  
Anthony Kern - Unit Head, Agriculture and Natural Resources Nicky Overgaard - Instructor, Equine  
Program Lead Morgan Pyles, Lecturer, Equine Program Amanda Clary - Equine Lab Service Coordinator  
Christy Doyea - Equine Barn Manager

--- How many Directors/Trustees does your organization have? ---

3

--- Director Name (1) ---

Kendall J Powell

--- Director Address (1) ---

600 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street SE Minneapolis, MN  
55455

--- Director Work Phone (1) ---

+16126246608

--- Director Name (2) ---

Steven Sviggum

--- Director Address (2) ---

42490 60th Ave  
Kenyon, MN  
55946

--- Director Work Phone (2) ---

+16513323583

--- Director Name (3) ---

Brandy Chaffee

--- Director Address (3) ---

115 A Kiehle Building  
Crookston, MN  
56716

--- Director Work Phone (3) ---

+12182818434

--- 1. Name - Job Title ---

Morgan Pyles, Lecturer

--- 1. Duties ---

Primary duties include teaching and research. Courses taught: Equine Reproduction Techniques, Horse Production, Western Equitation, Riding Instructor Training, and Equine Exercise Physiology. Additional responsibilities include leading equine research projects involving undergraduate students, analyzing samples, and publishing the results in peer-reviewed journal articles and at scientific meetings. Other responsibilities: advising undergraduate students, leading independent study, honors students, advising clubs, and working with other faculty and staff in the care and management of the UMN Crookston horse herd.

--- 2. Name - Job Title ---

Nicky Overgaard, Instructor

--- 2. Duties ---

Primary duties include teaching. Courses taught: Equine Evaluation, Advanced Western, Training & Showing, Hunt Seat Equitation, Dressage Equitation Advise students, program development and marketing, horse procurement, club adviser, clinic and camp organization, Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee PI for equine on Crookston campus.

--- 3. Name - Job Title ---

Christy Doyea, Barn Manager

--- 3. Duties ---

Primary duties including managing herd of 45-50 horses. Manage farrier, nutrition, health, veterinary work, intake of lease horses, billing, feed procurement, pasture management, & oversee student workers. Work closely with faculty and staff to ensure horse health, use, research, etc.

--- 4. Name - Job Title ---

Amanda Clary, Lab Services Coordinator

--- 4. Duties ---

Primary duties include providing support for the instructors in the equine program and barn manager including teaching, research, and horse care. Aid in preparing labs for equine courses such as vaccination, deworming, leg wrapping, first aid, and arena maintenance.