



2025 Animal Shelter Research Grant Companion

The ASPCA is committed to ending euthanasia of dogs, cats, and equines except when it is the most humane and responsible option. Along with our other initiatives to end animal cruelty and expand access to veterinary care, the ASPCA seeks innovative and effective ways to improve shelter capacity to effectively care for, rehabilitate, and place animals as well as keep animals out of the shelter when it is safe and appropriate to do so. To this end, we invite proposals on topics related to the well-being and care of animals, including equine, in a shelter environment, as well as shelter programs related to prevention of shelter relinquishment. Of particular interest are proposals that contribute to practical, evidence-based approaches of optimizing shelter capacity and operations and improving communication in a shelter setting.

Eligible Projects

The scope of this category is broad, including topics reflected in the [Association of Shelter Veterinarians' Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters \(2022\)](#).

Topics include but are not limited to:

- shelter management and operations
- population management
- increasing adoptions
- medical health of shelter-housed animals
- role of the shelter in public health
- shelter-based surgery and other medical procedures
- use of technology and other tools to increase efficiency in a shelter setting

Note: proposals related to shelter behavior research should be submitted to the Applied Behavior Research category and those related to animal cruelty should be submitted to either Psychological Trauma Research or Cruelty Research as appropriate (see descriptions).

For project-related inquiries, please contact sheltermedicine@aspca.org. If the project has an equine sheltering focus, please contact christie.kappert@aspca.org