



2025 Animal Psychological Trauma Research Grant Companion

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals® (ASPCA®) aims to establish psychological trauma as a legally cognizable form of animal cruelty and to increase effectiveness in cruelty prevention and response in the absence of physical indicators that may be a result of injury, disease, or other causes. To this end, the ASPCA invites grant applications for our 2025 ASPCA Psychological Trauma Research program. This program seeks to support rigorous research aimed at developing or validating behavioral and biological markers of mental suffering due to cruelty and neglect. The ASPCA recognizes that promoting the growth of high-quality research will promote animal welfare by advancing the development and application of indicators used by key professional audiences.

The total funding amount available for this opportunity is \$20,000.

Eligible Projects

The Psychological Trauma Research Grant program solicits research proposals that will inform the documentation of animal cruelty and neglect in the absence of physical trauma. Of particular interest is research that focuses on objective metrics. Such metrics include, but are not limited to:

- Biomarkers
- Quantifiable behavioral markers
- Composite markers

For project-related inquiries, please contact bst.research@aspca.org using the subject line Psych Trauma RFP Question