



Maryland Fund For Horses

“Horse Bucks” Equine Gelding Program

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

Summary: The MFFH Equine Health Care Assistance Program is a **rebate program** designed to assist horse/equine owners who demonstrate financial need with the cost of necessary health care for their equines. Rebates will be issued to cover actual, documented out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the horse/equine owner.

How will it be funded? MFFH will conduct fundraising activities for a fund specifically earmarked for the gelding initiative, and the Board of Directors at its discretion may earmark additional operating funds for this purpose.

Who will qualify for rebates? Individual equine owners may apply for a rebate. An Equine Health Care Assistance Committee will review applications for completeness and documentation of expenses and financial need, and will grant rebates **to the extent that funds are currently available**. This process has been streamlined for the gelding initiative, and applicants are encouraged to submit their applications with the “veterinarian statement” completed, to expedite processing. Applications will be reviewed and approved on a first-come, first-served basis, but with applications containing a veterinarian’s statement given priority.

Who will not qualify for rebates? Commercial entities of any kind, breeders and rescues are ineligible to apply for a rebate. Individuals who have previously been convicted of animal cruelty or neglect are not eligible to participate in the rebate program. While rescues may not apply, individuals who can produce satisfactory evidence that they have contracted with a rescue to adopt a horse pending its becoming a gelding may apply for and receive a rebate for the adoptable equine while the animal is still housed at the rescue.

Who will receive the rebate? Rebates **will be issued to the service provider (e.g., veterinarian)** upon submission of a detailed invoice.

How often can a horse owner receive a rebate? In general, rebate recipients will be limited to one lifetime rebate per individual per horse. MFFH may make exceptions in extreme circumstances at its discretion, but may condition the granting of a rebate upon additional criteria and documentation, such as participating in educational programs or donating volunteer hours.

What dollar amount of rebates will be issued? The maximum rebate for a routine castration is \$250.

What else do I need to know?

- All participants in the program will be required to sign a release allowing MFFH to contact the service provider directly, and relieving MFFH of any liability that may be a result from any documentation or personal information obtained in determining eligibility.
- All participants in the program will be required to sign a release relieving MFFH of any liability for the equine health care procedure(s) for which a rebate has been issued.
- To help expedite the processing of your application, please contact the veterinarian who will be performing the castration prior to submitting your application. Discuss the overall cost and have the veterinarian complete the veterinarian’s statement portion of the application before submitting it.

- After you submit an application, if your rebate is approved you will receive a document via e-mail from Maryland Fund For Horses, indicating your equine's name, the health care procedure and amount approved. You will not be eligible to receive a rebate without this document. If MFFH is unable to grant your request, you will receive a notice via e-mail advising you of that fact, and the reason(s) why your application was not approved.
- Rebates are valid only for the specific health care procedure or service defined in the application, and are valid for one use only. Required documentation for a rebate **must be submitted by the veterinarian within 30 days of the castration procedure.**
- To request more information or an application please contact Maryland Fund For Horses at mdfundforhorses@gmail.com