

GEI FAQs

How will I know about events in my area/where will my event be published?

Events will be published in eNews and on the USDF Education Programs and Events Calendar and the National Education Calendar and Map. Also check out your GMO website and/or newsletter.

What are the application deadlines?

Applications for USDF GMO Education Initiative Events and Grants must be submitted at least 60 days in advance of the event date. Late applications may be accepted but an additional administrative fee will apply. Applications submitted 30 days or less prior to the event will not be accepted.

What are the USDF fees?

A non-refundable administrative fee of \$65 must be submitted with your completed application. The administrative fee for late applications is \$95

What are the requirements to receive a grant?

In order to be eligible for a grant the event must first be approved as a part of the USDF GMO Education Initiative. The event must also demonstrate a financial need for funding. Selection criteria will include demonstrated effort to address affordability or a local need, accessibility for members who have limited access to instruction in the sport of dressage or increasing the number of riding and auditor opportunities in the area. Grants will be awarded with regional/geographical representation considered. This USDF grant may be combined with outside grants and sponsorships. GMOs or Chapters not awarded a grant may re-apply provided the application is submitted prior to the deadline.

Who can apply to host a USDF GMO Education Initiative event?

GMOs and GMO Chapters may submit applications. Individuals and private facilities must work with their GMO.

Where can I find an eligible instructor?

A list of USDF Certified Instructors, Honorary Instructors, L Graduates, Faculty and Judges can be found on the Instructors and Officials List. When selecting an Instructor, please review the requirements for each event type in the Event and Grant Guidelines.

Who is eligible to receive a GMO Education Initiative Grant?

Only USDF GMOs or GMO Chapters hosting events are eligible for grant funding. Only one grant per GMO Chapter will be awarded in each fiscal year but, more than one Chapter of a GMO may qualify for funding of different programs in the same fiscal year.

What is the maximum amount we can receive in a grant, when will the funds be dispersed?

Each GMO or Chapter may apply for a grant not to exceed \$1,000. Funds for approved grants will be dispersed as follows:

- Up to 50% of the approved grant can be dispersed to the GMO or chapter prior to their event, as seed money, if requested.
- If the event generates a profit, the GMO or chapter will reimburse USDF for funds distributed prior to the event, up to the break-even point.

Remaining grant funds will be distributed after the event, upon USDF receipt of the final profit/loss statement, supporting documentation of a program loss, attendance roster, and all required evaluations. An event summary with photos is highly recommended

Why should our GMO make our program a GMO Education Initiative Program?

One of the primary objectives of the GMO Education Initiative is to create and support new programs that engage members who have been underserved in the past and provide education consistent with classical principles of dressage training. Hosting GMOs availing themselves of USDF support can be confident of the quality of the educational content. Utilization of approved clinicians/ instructors ensures delivery of information in adherence with classical dressage principles and consistent with the Pyramid of Training, promoting classically correct dressage training at all levels. Participation in the GMO Education Initiative demonstrates a GMO's commitment to providing quality educational opportunities for all its members.