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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Investing in the Future of Feline Veterinary Medicine: The American Association of Feline Practitioners and Merck Animal Health Announce Scholarships**

*Scholarships available for veterinary students with a passion for feline medicine*

**BRIDGEWATER, NJ; April 20, 2023** – The [American Association of Feline Practitioners](#) (AAFP) and Merck Animal Health are pleased to announce the return of the [Scholarships for Academic Excellence in Feline Healthcare](#) aimed at empowering second- and third-year veterinary students devoted to feline medicine. Three students enrolled and in good standing at an AVMA-accredited school of veterinary medicine will be selected to each receive a \$5,000 scholarship. The scholarships will be awarded based on academic excellence, exceptional leadership skills, and a heartfelt commitment to feline medicine and wellbeing.

"We are excited to announce our continued partnership with Merck Animal Health for this scholarship program," stated Heather O'Steen, CAE, AAFP CEO. "Our aim is to foster and develop the next generation of feline veterinary leaders, and this program brings us one step closer to achieving that goal. By supporting aspiring veterinary professionals, we can contribute to a brighter future for feline healthcare."

Interested students must apply for this scholarship by May 14, 2023, and submit several documents, including a resume/CV, college transcript, and the name of a faculty member or AAFP Member who can provide a reference. In addition, three essay questions must be completed that explore the applicant's interests in feline veterinary

medicine, their long-term career goals in feline medicine, leadership skills, and experience.

The three scholarship winners will be announced in a press release and featured in several AAFP communications, including *The Feline Practitioner*, the AAFP's new member-exclusive magazine.

The AAFP offers additional resources specifically for students in its [Student Center](#), including a directory of externships, complimentary access to webinars, the exclusive student-only newsletter *AAFP Student Connection*, and a free Toolkit that outlines the latest feline resources from the AAFP.

Visit the [AAFP website](#) for more information and to apply.

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### **About the American Association of Feline Practitioners**

The [American Association of Feline Practitioners \(AAFP\)](#) supports its members in improving the health and wellbeing of cats through high standards of practice, continuing education, and evidence-based medicine. As a trusted leader in the veterinary community, the AAFP has a long-standing reputation and track record for increasing the standard of care for cats through the development of practice guidelines, feline-specific education and resources, and [feline caregiver resources](#). Home to the Cat Friendly Practice® and Cat Friendly Certificate Programs, the AAFP encourages veterinary professionals of all levels to re-evaluate preconceived notions of practice strategies and advance the quality of feline medicine.