



Agriculture Fund New Project Request 2026

Project Lead/Requestor

Name:	Kim Pitigliano	Title:	Faculty, Animal Science/Equine Science
Email:	kpitigliano@cos.edu	Phone:	559.688.3117
Signature:	 <small>Kim Pitigliano Feb 26, 2026 11:35:23 PST</small>	Date:	2/25/2026

Senior Manager

Name:	C. Louann Waldner	Title:	Provost, Tulare Campus
Email:	louannw@cos.edu	Phone:	559.688.3050
Signature:			

Fund Request

1. Project Title:	Horse Breeding Project — COS Equine Program
2. Requested amount:	\$17,600.00
3. Briefly describe if the funding is one-time or annually renewed and the estimated project timeline:	This is a one-time project request intended to pilot enhanced instructional support for the equine breeding sequence during the 2026–27 academic year with desire to renew 1-2 years. Project timeline: August 2026 – June 2027.
4. Estimated number of students that would benefit. As relevant, please provide context to that number, such as overall program size.	Approximately 35–50 students annually across the Equine Studies course sequence (breeding, foal management, training, and sale preparation). These students are part of a growing equine program that integrates hands-on applied learning throughout multiple semesters.

Rationale *Please keep all responses to 200 words.*

5. Project Description:	<p>This project requests funding for a Professional Expert in Horse Breeding to support the instructional breeding sequence in the COS Equine Program. The position will provide specialized, industry-level expertise in reproductive planning, foaling preparation, documentation, and animal welfare while working alongside faculty in laboratory settings. The Expert will help design breeding plans aligned with course timelines, assist during critical breeding and foaling periods, and model best practices for students. Duties are instructional-support only, time-limited, and project-specific. The work strengthens hands-on learning while maintaining high standards of safety, animal care, and risk management. In addition, we have put in a few hours for support for a Veterinarian to provide additional expertise.</p> <p>This proposal aligns with Foundation goals by removing instructional barriers, enhancing workforce readiness, and piloting an approach that — if successful — may later be integrated into department planning or external partnerships. Funding will be used exclusively for the Professional Expert's hourly wages and associated hiring costs, following District hiring procedures.</p>
-------------------------	--

6. How will the project benefit student success?

Students gain authentic, supervised exposure to the full equine breeding process — from planning and reproduction through foaling, early handling, and sale preparation. These skills are required for employment in equine facilities, training barns, breeding operations, and veterinary support roles. The Professional Expert ensures students observe high-quality, industry-standard practices that may not currently exist within our staffing capacity. Students benefit through:

- stronger technical competence
- increased confidence working with live animals
- improved safety practices
- clearer understanding of career expectations
- meaningful resume-level experience

The project also enhances retention by increasing student engagement through applied learning experiences directly tied to career outcomes.

7. How will the project benefit the college? What department(s)/division(s) will benefit?

This project strengthens one of COS's signature hands-on agriculture programs, supports employer-aligned training, and enhances campus reputation for applied workforce preparation.

Benefits include:

- safer, more structured breeding operations
- improved alignment with industry standards
- stronger graduate employability
- positive visibility for COS Agriculture programs
- pilot data that can inform long-term resource planning

The Agriculture Division, Applied Technology & Trades, Foundation partners, and regional employers all benefit as students develop workforce-ready skills through authentic agricultural projects.

8. What are the anticipated outcomes of the project, and how will they be measured?

Outcomes

- Students demonstrate increased competency in equine reproductive management, to include mares, foals and stallions.
- Safe and successful management of the breeding/foaling cycle.
- Documented improvement in applied learning experiences including equine software and on-line registration platforms.
- Stronger program relationships with regional equine partners.

Measurement

- student skills rubrics tied to course outcomes
- faculty observation and evaluation
- safety and incident tracking
- completion of breeding records and project documentation
- brief student reflection surveys
- end-of-project summary report prepared for the Foundation

Project evaluation findings will be shared with Foundation staff and used to assess sustainability going forward.

I attest that:

- What I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- The Project Lead Staff will keep Foundation staff apprised of the progress of the project.
- The COS Foundation will be included in funding recognitions and publicity where applicable.
- The Project Lead Staff will submit at least one written project update or evaluation within one year of initial funding.
- The Project Lead Staff will follow COS Foundation policy and procedures appropriate for financial transactions and Foundation records.
- The department or program affected by the Project currently has a satisfactory or above rating in the most recent program review.

Submit this application and budget document to timf@cos.edu and CC your senior manager.

Budget for Equine Breeding Project

Breeding Assistant (Part-time, Hourly)				
Total Hours	Rate	Total	Benefits	Total
280	\$ 40.00	\$ 11,200.00	\$ 1,120.00	\$ 12,320.00

Veterinarian Support				
Total Hours	Rate	Total	Benefits	Total
30	\$100	\$3,000		\$3,000

Breeding Assistant Hours			
Dates	# weeks	Hours/Week	Total Hrs
Aug 1 - Dec 15	20	5	100
Feb 1 - June 1	18	10	180
			280

Breeding Supplies				
Item	Quantity	Cost		Total
Double Guarded Sterile Uterine Culture Swab	10	\$ 5.49		\$54.90
ET Sheath From IMV .5 cc	10	\$ 4.69		\$46.90
ET Sheath From IMV .25 cc	10	\$ 3.69		\$36.90
ET Syringe Gun From IMV .5 cc	1	\$ 135.99		\$135.99
ET Syringe Gun From IMV .25 cc	1	\$ 130.99		\$130.99
EZ Way Filter w/Tubing	10	\$ 24.99		\$249.90
Flush Bag w/Y-Junction	1	\$ 27.99		\$27.99
Foaling Position Lamlated Poster	1	\$ 22.49		\$22.49
Graduated Glass Cylinder 100 ml	1	\$ 5.19		\$5.19
INRA 96 Extender	1	\$ 32.99		\$32.99
Lactated Ringers Injection 1000 ml	24	\$ 14.99		\$359.76
Microscope Slides 72 ct.	1	\$ 6.99		\$6.99
Microscope Slide Covers 100 ct.	1	\$ 699.00		\$699.00
Next Generation Embryo Transfer Straws 0.5 ml, 5 x 10 pk	1	\$ 18.99		\$18.99
Next Generation Embryo Transfer Straws 0.25 ml, 5 x 10 pk	1	\$ 16.99		\$16.99
Next Generation Modified Tail Wrap	1	\$ 16.99		\$16.99
Next Generation Super Dex Sterile Sleeves 25 pk	2	\$ 16.99		\$33.98
Plastic Graduated Cylinder 2000 ml	1	\$ 32.99		\$32.99
Priority Care OB Lube	12	\$ 4.49		\$53.88
Search Dish-4 Well	10	\$ 2.79		\$27.90
Semen Safe All Plastic Sterile Syringes Luer Slip Tip 66 cc, 30 ct	1	\$ 31.99		\$31.99
Shoulder Length OB Gloves 100 ct.	1	\$ 18.89		\$18.89
Stainless Steel Pails 4 ct.	1	12.99		\$12.99
21" Sterile Insemination Pipette, 25 ct.	2	\$ 20.99		\$41.98
ABT 360 Holding Media	2	\$ 21.80		\$43.60
Blood Auger Plates (10 pack)	2	12.95		\$25.90
Antibacterial Dawn Dish Soap (1 case)	1	63.49		\$63.49
Blue Paper Towels Rolls (case of 12)	1	\$47.00		\$47.00
				\$2,297.55
GRAND TOTAL				\$17,617.55