



**State of Oklahoma  
Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission**

DATE

Organization Director  
Address

RE: Oklahoma Breeding Development Fund Special Account for the care of retired and unwanted Oklahoma-Bred racing stock

Dear Organization Director:

In the past, several organizations received money from the Oklahoma Breeding Development Fund Special Account (“the account”) for the care of retired and unwanted Oklahoma-Bred racing stock. The account, which was depleted, has now been replenished. As such, the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission will begin disbursements from the account again in accordance with OAC 325:75-1-21. Below is a summary of the requirements for eligibility to receive money from the account.

**ORGANIZATION ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

To be eligible to receive money from the account, the organization must be a non-profit entity which is exempt from taxation under 26 USC § 501(c). Further, the Thoroughbred Racing Association of Oklahoma must request that your organization receive money from the account. Finally, your organization must have a program developed for the care of retired and/or unwanted horses. Such program must comply with the requirements stated in OAC 325:75-1-21(2) & (3).

**ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS**

Two types of programs are eligible to receive funds from the account:

1. Adoption programs under which Oklahoma-Bred race horses are rehabilitated and/or rehabilitated and retrained for other uses. The purpose and goal of these programs shall be adoption of the horses by third parties after rehabilitation and/or retraining; and
2. Pension programs for the care and “pasturing” of retired or unwanted race horses who, because of their health or condition, are incapable of being rehabilitated/retrained and adopted.

The adoption programs and the pension programs may be operated by the organization and/or subcontractors.

**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Each program, whether conducted by the organization itself or through subcontracts, must

Comply with the following requirements to be eligible:

1. The program must enable horses to have access to clean, palatable, safe water, and horses must be able to drink their fill of water at least twice a day;
2. The program is to maintain all horses in a body condition score of three or more using the body condition scoring system developed by Dr. Don Henneke of Texas A&M University;
3. The program shall permit horses to have free access to natural or constructed shelter that is well-ventilated with adequate space and free of hazards. Stabled horses should be allowed exercise daily;
4. The program should ensure that horses are free of significant health problems or receiving appropriate health care to prevent unnecessary discomfort and promote prompt return to well-being;
5. The program must ensure that horses receive adequate hoof care to allow horses to stand in a normal posture and move at all gaits without discomfort;
6. The organization and all subcontractors must allow random, unannounced inspections of their care operations and facilities by the Commission's Law Enforcement Division;
7. The organization and all subcontractors must file complete quarterly reports with the Commission on the form provided by the Commission; and
8. No horse in the organization's program shall be sent to slaughter.

### **RACING STOCK REQUIREMENTS**

To be eligible to participate in a program, racing stock must meet the following requirements:

1. The horse must be of a participating breed;
2. The horse must be registered in the Oklahoma-Bred Program;
3. The horse's last race or workout cannot have occurred more than twelve months prior to its entering into care in a program receiving funding under this rule;
4. Ownership of the horse and its registration papers must be turned over to and become the property of the organization or its designated subcontractor;
5. The horse shall never be raced again; and
6. Horses of an owner who has not previously placed a retired or unwanted horse in an adoption program or pension program receiving funding authorized in accordance with this rule will have priority over horses seeking to be placed in such an adoption or pension program whose owners have already placed two (2) or more horses in such an adoption program or pension program.

### **COMMISSION PROCEDURES**

The following procedures will be used by the Commission in awarding money from the account:

- No organization will be eligible to receive money unless the Thoroughbred Racing Association requests that the organization receive funds during that calendar year. Such requests must be made annually;

- The Commission's Executive Director shall determine whether an organization is eligible for funding. The Executive Director shall determine the amount of funding to be disbursed consistent with the parameters set forth in OAC 325:75-1-21(5)(B).
- The organization may use up to fifteen percent of the funds provided by the Commission for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are any expenses not related to directly providing care to the horses in the program;
- Before receiving funding from the Commission, the organization shall establish a horse's eligibility to participate as follows:

The organization shall file with the Commission's Oklahoma-Bred Registry Department: (1) an Ownership transfer application which transfers Ownership of the horse to the organization or a subcontractor designated by the organization, together with (2) the horse's original registration papers, (3) documentation showing the horse's last race and/or last workout, and (4) a request that the horse be qualified as retired or unwanted racing stock within its care for the purpose of receiving Oklahoma Breeding Development Fund Special Account monies;

- The Oklahoma-Bred Registry Department will notify both the Commission's Executive Director and the organization whether the horse is an Oklahoma-Bred racing stock horse and whether the horse is eligible under OAC 325:75-1-21; and
- The organization must notify the Commission's Executive Director within **two weeks** on an eligible horse's leaving the organization's adoption or pension program by virtue of death, adoption or any other reason.



Enclosed is a copy of OAC 325:75-1-21, *Expenditure of Oklahoma Breeding Development Fund Special Account Monies for the Purpose of Caring for Retired and Unwanted Oklahoma-Bred Racing Stock*, for your reference. If you wish to apply for funds from the Oklahoma Breeding Development Fund Special Account for the care of retired and unwanted Oklahoma-Bred racing stock, please submit a completed Application to the Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission.

Sincerely,

Kelly G. Cathey  
Executive Director

c: Chief Financial Officer  
Oklahoma-Bred Registrar