

Training: IaDCTA wants the volunteer experience to be as educational, efficient, and rewarding as possible. To achieve that goal, the Education and Volunteer Committees may hold multiple volunteer training sessions each year to help new (and experienced) volunteers learn about the various volunteer positions that are necessary for recognized and schooling competitions. These sessions are not required but are recommended.

IaDCTA Grants

Betsy Coester Fund Grant

The Betsy Coester Grant program was established in memory of Betsy Coester, one of Iowa's most prominent and well-respected equestrians. Betsy was dedicated to helping people learn more about dressage and eventing. The Betsy Coester Fund provides financial support to members to help further their dressage or eventing education. The grant has typically been given to cover tuition costs for clinics, workshops, conferences, or other educational opportunities. The grant is funded by donations from members and sponsors.

Grant Guidelines:

- To apply for a Betsy Coester Fund grant, a member must submit a letter of request, including an essay describing the activity, experiences of the applicant, and goals to be reached.
- The application must be received prior to the Board meeting preceding the event for which the grant is being requested. Awards will not be given retroactively for past events.
- The number of awards given in a particular year will depend on the level of funds available in the Betsy Coester Fund.
- Awards will be an amount to cover tuition for up to one half (1/2) of the cost of a clinic ride, workshop, or other educational event with no single award exceeding \$100.
- All IaDCTA members are eligible to receive grant funds.
- No member shall receive Grant funds in consecutive years.
- Current members, not meeting the minimum volunteer requirement for the previous year, will not be considered for a grant.
- Members must be in their second year of membership prior to being considered.
- Grant recipients are **REQUIRED** to submit an article for the Collection newsletter or website about the event for which the grant was given. **The grant money will not be given until this requirement has been fulfilled.**

After reviewing each grant application, the IaDCTA Board of Directors will decide if and for what amount a particular grant will be given, and will notify the applicant following its decision. The BOD will consider the following criteria in making its decision:

- Volunteer commitment and support of club events such as clinics, competitions, board meetings and other venues in the past/present years
- Number of members applying for a given program/clinic
- The monetary amount available in the Betsy Coester Grant fund
- Previously awarded grants to an applicant