



Embryo Transfer Scheme 2026

(*Applicants who have received funding for this scheme before, please see **Appendix 1A** before completing)

Horse Sport Ireland are delighted to re-launch the Embryo Transfer (ET) scheme in 2026. This initiative is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine under National Breeding Services. Applications will be deemed invalid if incomplete or do not contain the relevant supporting documentation.

Applications must be submitted online only. Queries may be submitted for the attention of ET Schemes, Horse Sport Ireland, Beech House, Millennium Park, Osberstown, Naas, Co Kildare, W91 TK7N. Phone. Tel: 045 854800; Email: amcgreal@horsesportireland.ie

Before completing this application form, please read the Eligibility Criteria (Appendix 1), the Donor Mare Performance and/or Progeny Performance Criteria (Appendix 2) and ensure that you have submitted all of the supporting documentation outlined in the checklist (Appendix 3).

2026 Deadlines	
Closing	45-D Scan returned
17/07/2026	18/09/2026
*Subject to availability under the maximum budget allocation, this scheme may close earlier owing to demand.	

Appendix 1: Terms and Conditions of the HSI Embryo Transfer Scheme (ET Scheme)

Please see [Scheme FAQ's](#) for any queries regarding the below.

- Applicants must be the registered owner of the donor mare(s) subject to the application and ownership of the animal cannot be changed for the purpose of gaining entry onto the scheme.
 - For equines registered in dual ownership, permission in writing or email correspondence must be received by HSI from the non-applicant owner.
 - Scheme approval/ payment of funds will not occur in the absence of this written or email permission.
- Proof of [Equine Operator Profile \(EOP\) \(ROI\)](#) or [Equine Establishment Number \(EEN\) \(NI\)](#) must be uploaded as part of the application process.
 - Applications are not valid without proof of same.
- Applicants must provide their own IBAN payment details during the application process, no other IBANs will be accepted. An IBAN may only be used for two applications, as per T&Cs, and must be that of the applicants.
- Applicants must be resident on the island of Ireland (includes Northern Ireland).
- An applicant can apply for up to two Embryo Transfers (ET's).
- Native/rare breeds can apply and be assessed on their rarity, horse must be registered in the main section of a DAFM approved studbook and have a kinship value of less than 1.25.



- This scheme operates on a first come first served basis up to the maximum allocation facilitated by the existing budget allocation. Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to close the scheme prior to the advertised deadline.
- Provision of funding is subject to a complete feedback form on completion of the scheme.
- Please note that applicant and horse application data will be shared with the relevant studbook to confirm breed, studbook, ownership, and any other relevant eligibility.
- Successful applicants must provide Horse Sport Ireland with proof of registration of the foal in a Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM) Approved Studbook. Foals must obtain a passport before 31st December of the year of birth or within 6 months following the date of its birth, whichever occurs later. **If this is not provided the applicant will be exempt from this scheme for the following three years.**
- **Donor mares must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:**
 - Be registered/endorsed in a DAFM Approved studbook.
 - Be three years old or more.
 - Meet veterinary requirements of the initial examination at the *Designated Veterinary Clinic as required.
 - Provide verified results demonstrating that the mare meets the performance and/or progeny performance criteria outlined in Appendix 2. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the donor mare meets the performance requirement.
Applications received without verified results will not be processed.
 - HSI will consider pony embryo transfer applications on a case-by-case basis in accordance with equivalent pony performance criteria.
 - HSI reserve the right to use performance standard equivalents
- The Embryo Transfer procedure **MUST** be carried out at a veterinary clinic which is designated for this scheme and **MUST** take place in 2026, and an application must be submitted before the associated tranche deadlines.
 - The verification of pregnancy must be received by HSI by the associated '45-D Scan returned' deadline. The veterinary clinic must provide a dated letter confirming the pregnancy is 45 days implanted. The recipient mares microchip number must be documented on this letter.
- Semen used for the embryo transfers **MUST** be from Stallions which are Approved/Preliminary Approved in a WBFSh/DAFM Studbook, or a Pony Studbook approved by DAFM. Stallions who have presented for inspection into the Irish Sport Horse Studbook and passed Stage 1 in the year of the scheme are also eligible.
- The recipient mare must meet the veterinary requirements of the initial examination at the Designated Veterinary Clinic as required (this includes checking the mare's microchip). Recipient mares are required to be registered and if no microchip is located the veterinary surgeon during the initial examination will have to insert a microchip and complete markings for registration.



PLEASE NOTE: To ensure that schemes operate on a first come first term basis; applications where the above is not in order cannot be approved. Should the applicant update their/horse's details thereafter, a new application will need to be submitted.

Documents required for draw down of funds:

- In order to draw down the **€1,500** payment per embryo applicants **MUST**
 - Submit **Proof of Payment** for the Embryo Transfer procedure by the '45-D Scan returned' deadline.
 - Grant payments are made in respect of costs already incurred. Receipts/Invoices (marked with proof of payment) **must** include the following:
 - Name and address of person receiving invoice (owner)
 - Name and address of person giving invoice (producer/ Vet Clinic etc.)
 - Date of Invoice (must be dated within scheme dates)
 - Invoice Number
 - Name and UELN/Microchip of equine the invoice refers to, which must be the same as the approved equine for the scheme
 - Description of services provided
 - A total figure for the invoice, provided in **€ euro**
 - **Proof of Payment-** invoices not marked as paid or accompanied by proof of payment are not accepted.
 - Only a physical, PDF or scanned copy of paid invoice will be accepted, photographs of invoices on other screens will not be accepted.
 - **Invoices without the required detail cannot be accepted.**
 - **AND**
 - A zootechnical certificate for the Embryo signed and stamped by the Designated Veterinary Clinic by the '45-D Scan returned' deadline.
 - **AND**
 - Confirmation that the recipient has been **scanned 45 days in foal**, signed and stamped by a Veterinary Surgeon by the '45-D Scan returned' deadline.
 - **AND**
 - Submission of payment details of the applicant **ONLY**
 - **AND**
 - Completion of Feedback form
 - Payment will not be issued until receipt of valid copy of the paid invoices, receipts, and 45D scan from the veterinary clinic.
 - Once the above supporting documentation has been received payment of €1,500 (vouched) will be transferred to account details provided in 2026.
- Applicants must be prepared to provide Horse Sport Ireland with a Tax clearance certificate should the sum of their approvals and or prize money equal €5,000 or more. If a tax clearance cert cannot be furnished on request, grants cannot be provided. [CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY.](#)



By submitting an application, I declare that:

- I understand and agree to the terms and conditions of this scheme in their totality
- I provide my informed consent to participate in this scheme
- I understand that HSI may use the pseudo-anonymised detail in the scheme for research purposes including but not limited to scientific publication
- I understand that HSI will publish a list of awardees (forename, surname, county and mare name) on the HSI website
- I understand that drawdown of funding is subject to the completion of scheme feedback.
- I understand that applicant details and results will be shared as necessary with the DAFM studbook of origin/endorsed DAFM studbook.

PLEASE NOTE: Applicants must comply with Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine legislation for equine foal passport registrations to be eligible to participate in future Embryo Transfer Schemes. Proof will be required.

Horse Sport Ireland reserves the right to use performance equivalents and will consider breeding values from other studbooks on a case-by-case basis.

Horse Sport Ireland reserve the right to change, amend or update scheme terms and conditions. In the event of same, existing applicants will be notified.

Applicant and horse application data will be shared with the relevant studbook to confirm breed, studbook, ownership and any other relevant eligibility.

Appendix 1A: Declaration or verification of registration of foals participating in the HSI Embryo Transfer Scheme 2024

Please submit a veterinary declaration in relation to the foal or proof of the foal's passport (e.g. photo of front page or foal registration number) if you received funding from the Embryo Transfer Scheme in 2024.

Designated Veterinary Clinics for this scheme are:

Clinic	Contact Name	County	Phone
Ballyorney Vet Clinic	Larry Dunne	Wicklow	01-2867146
Carrickview Stud	John Haughey	Armagh,	0044-7810855087
Dearbhla Quinn	Dearbhla Quinn	Dublin	085-7299290
GCS Veterinary	Tim Brennan	Kilkenny	056-7733546
Katarzyna Engiel-Murray	Katarzyna Engiel-Murray	Roscommon	085-1976413
Kilcash Equine Clinic	Carmel Welsh	Tipperary	052-6139461
Lisadell Equine Hospital	Emma Chedghey	Meath	046-9059040
Rivergrove Equine Veterinary	Amy Fitzgerald	Cork	087-3794989
Rua Equine Ltd	Conor McCrarren	Tyrone	0044-2886467001
SES Equine Vet Services	Susan Salter	Wicklow	087-6036006
Waterside Equine Repro Services	Julie Storme	Wicklow	087-1351359



Appendix 2: Donor Mare Performance and/or Progeny Performance Criteria

	Mare own Performance	Mare Progeny Performance	Mare is Full/Half-sister to one or more animals that meets the following
Show jumping	<p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 4* level (Grand Prix or Nations' Cup class or equivalent²) or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Has a minimum Estimated Breeding Value (EBV-SJ) of 130 or pedigree index.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Mare has qualified for RDS Dublin Horse Show in current age category (4-8yr old)</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Placed in the top 6 in the final of any of the Young Horse competitions in 2025 at the following shows: DAFM Studbook Series Final, Balmoral, RDS, Millstreet, Irish Breeders Classic</p>	<p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 2* level⁹ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.40m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 double clear rounds at National 1.45m level³ or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>1 progeny with 2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p>	<p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO 4* level (Grand Prix or Nations' Cup class or equivalent²) or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds at CSI/CSIO3* level⁶ or 2 double clear rounds in FEI competitions at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or 2 top 4 placings in FEI speed classes at a fence height of at least 1.45m at CSI/CSIO level or higher</p> <p>Or</p> <p>2 double clear rounds in National (1.40m) or Premier GP (1.50m) which can be verified by SJI records</p>



Eventing	2 MERs ¹⁵ at CCI4*-L level ¹¹ or higher Or 2 MERs ¹⁵ at CCI4*-S /EI120 level or higher Or 2 MERs ¹⁵ at CCI3*-S /EI115 level or higher Or Qualified for the RDS or Burghley in the current year in the 4-year-old or 5-year-old Young Event Horse classes Or Placed in the top 6 of the RDS Dublin Horse Show Young Event Horse Final in previous year in the 4-year-old or 5-year-old sections	1 progeny with 2 MERs ¹⁵ at CCI3*L /EI115 level or higher Or 1 progeny each with 2 Top 25% finishes at CCI3*L level or higher Or 1 progeny each with 2 Top 25% finishes at CCI3*-S level or higher	2 MERs ¹⁵ at CCI4*-L level ¹¹ or higher Or 2 MERs ¹⁵ at CCI4*-S /EI120 level or higher Or 2 MERs ¹⁵ at CCI3*-S /EI115 level or higher
Dressage	2 placings at CDI/CDIO4*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher Or 2 placings at CDI/CDIO3*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher Or 2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher	1 progeny with 2 CDI/CDIO3* level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher Or 1 progeny each with 2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher	2 placings at CDI/CDIO4*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher Or 2 placings at CDI/CDIO3*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher Or 2 placings at CDI2*level (big tour or equivalent) with a score of 65% or higher