

## College Funded Clinical Research Proposals Grant Program Guidelines

Each fiscal year the Clinical Research Committee announces a competitive funding cycle.

### Statement of Intent

The main goal of these funds is to implement solutions to major health problems in companion animals. Funding from this program will support promising projects as a part of the college's commitment to encourage investigators to develop long-range plans for their research programs. This approach to funding will also promote more effective utilization of College resources for research, and may enhance our researchers' competitive position for extramural funding,

### Eligibility

Faculty members<sup>1</sup> at the College of Veterinary Medicine are eligible to submit for these competitive grant proposals. Research must involve client-owned animals that are patients of the University of Georgia Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

### Proposal

Proposals will be reviewed and ranked by the Clinical Research Committee. **For researchers who have previously received clinical research funding, new allocation of funding will be influenced by evidence of productivity (ie. manuscript publication, abstract presentations or generation of additional external grants or contracts).** A lack of productivity from previous grants may be viewed unfavorably in the consideration of the current proposal.

### Funding

Grants are funded for a period of one year.

The maximum amount that can be provided for each project is **\$10,000 with the potential for competitive renewal based on annual spending limits.** A detailed budget justification must be provided. Funding is not provided for salaried personnel or travel expenses.

### Notification of Action of Review

Within two months of submission.

## GRANT PROPOSAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

<sup>1</sup> Faculty includes all tenured ranks and the non-tenured faculty ranks of Research Scientist and Public Service Associates. Adjunct and visiting faculty, clinical interns and residents, graduate students, and post-doctoral associates are not eligible to serve as principal investigators.

Proposals must include the following:

- A. Title and Signature Page: The title must provide a brief, clear, and specific designation of the subject of the research
- B. Abstract Page: In 250 words or less, describe your proposed research including its objectives, methods, and significance including benefits to animal health.
- C. Research Plan: This section is limited to 5 pages.
  1. Introduction/Statement of Problem/Justification.

Describe (1) the importance of the problem and the basis used to establish this importance; and (2) explain how completion of this research will contribute to improved animal health.
  2. Goals, Hypothesis, and Objectives. List the broad, long-term goals of your

laboratory. Describe how the specific research proposed in this application facilitates the accomplishments of these goals. State the hypothesis to be tested and the objectives.

3. **Background and Significance.** Briefly describe the background leading to the current proposal, critically evaluate existing knowledge, and specifically identify the gaps which this project is intended to fill. Cite important and recent publications from other institutions, as well as from your own institution.
  4. **Current Research.** Describe the relevancy of the proposed research to any ongoing research either here at UGA or at another institution.
  5. **Research Design and Methods.** Provide a statement of the essential working plans and methods to be used in attaining each of the stated objectives. Procedures must correspond to the objectives and follow the same order. Procedures must include items such as the sampling plan, experimental design, and analyses anticipated. Discuss expected results, potential difficulties with the proposed procedures, and alternative approaches to achieve the stated objectives. Please state species of animals used and special steps to be taken to ensure humane care and treatment of these animals. Provide endpoints where animals may be removed from the study if their health or well-being is compromised or if an alternate therapy is clearly superior. Point out any procedure, situation, or materials that may be hazardous to personnel and the precautions to be exercised.
- D. **References:** (Maximum 2 pages) List all references cited in the proposal. Citations must be accurate and complete including the title of the article.
- E. **Personnel Support:** List names of all personnel (principal investigator, co-investigators, collaborators) who will be involved in the research, and an estimate of their time commitment to the project.
- F. **Budget and Budget Justification:** On an additional page, provide a comprehensive justification of items requested.
- G. **Informed Consent:** If this is a clinical trial involving client owned patients, an informed consent form must be included, and tailored to your research proposal.
- H. **Biohazardous Research Checklist:** If necessary, please ensure this form has been submitted to Biosafety.
- I. Because these funds are primarily directed to solve companion animal health issues, progress and productivity for previously funded grants is required. Future and current funding for individual researchers will be directly tied to previous productivity.