

## **FY 2010 VETERINARY MEDICAL EXPERIMENT STATION (VMES) Research Grant Program Guidelines**

### **Statement of Intent**

VMES competitive research funds support projects that directly impact the health of animals and livestock in the State of Georgia. VMES funds also are used to initiate extramurally funded animal health research programs at the College of Veterinary Medicine. Accordingly, consideration will be given to 1) proposals addressing important disease problems that can be completed within a one-year period, and 2) proposals submitted by new and established researchers that are relevant to the mission of VMES and the USDA Animal Health and Disease Research Program and are likely to result in extramural funding.

Investigators are encouraged to develop long-range plans for their research programs. This approach will enhance their competitive position for extramural funding, promote more effective utilization of College resources for research, and implement solutions to major animal health problems.

### **Eligibility**

Faculty members<sup>1</sup> at the College of Veterinary Medicine are eligible to submit VMES competitive grant proposals if the following eligibility criteria are met:

1. Project support will be restricted to faculty that have had no more than two consecutive years of VMES project support previous to the date of application.
2. The proposed VMES research must be 1) innovative, applicable to animal health, and capable of generating data capable of supporting competitive grant proposals, or 2) solve current health problems that affect animals in the state. (see funding guidelines for USDA scope of research requirements).
3. Only one proposal per researcher is allowed as principal investigator or co-principal investigator.

### **Proposal**

Start-up support from VMES for new faculty in their first or second year of appointment is determined through the Office of the Associate Dean for Research, and not through the competitive research funding process.

**Note: Submitted proposals that do not follow the instructions provided in the “FY2010 Proposal Application” will be returned to the principal investigator and will not be considered for funding.**

### **Funding**

VMES grants are funded for a period of one year. The maximum amount that can be funded for each project is \$13,000 (barring additional budget reductions). As a result of state budget reductions, it will be necessary in FY10 to use a combination of both VMES funds and USDA Formula Funds for research support. This will require that all funded projects meet

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<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.

USDA guidelines, which are provided below. Based on these guidelines, projects that target only companion animals (with the exception of horses) are not allowed. If you have questions whether your project meets these guidelines please contact the VMES director's office.

USDA Section 1433 Animal Health Research Program "scope of research" as documented in section B of the Administrative Manual for the Continuing Animal Health and Disease Research Program - *The scope of research which may be conducted with Section 1433 funds is quite broad. It includes research to promote the general welfare through improved health and productivity of domestic livestock, poultry, aquatic animals, and other income-producing animals which are essential to the nation's food supply and the welfare of producers and consumers of animal products; to improve the health of horses; to facilitate the effective treatment of, and where possible, prevent, diseases in both domesticated and wild species which, if not controlled, would be disastrous to the United States animal industries and endanger the Nation's food supply; to minimize livestock and poultry losses due to transportation and handling; to protect human health through control of animal diseases transmissible to humans; to improve methods of controlling the birth of predators and other animals; and otherwise to promote the general welfare through expanded programs of research and extension to improve animal health.*

In addition, USDA funds must be expended by September 30, 2009, which requires that 56% of the total funding for the project must be encumbered by this date.

Salary support for technicians and graduate students must include fringe benefits. Fringe benefits are not required for part-time student assistants. Funding for personnel per VMES project will be limited to \$5,000 of the total project budget. However, in certain circumstances there may be no personnel funds available. Sharing of personnel costs is encouraged, e.g., VMES and USDA or NIH grants. Anticipated statistical support costs should be incorporated into the budget. Please contact Mrs. Renita Anthony if you have questions regarding preparation of the budget.

Release of funds will be contingent upon the PI's participation in the USDA CRIS reporting system, and the filing of annual reports and a final report to CRIS. This is important to assure future availability of Formula Funds dollars.

### **Funding Expectations**

In FY 2009, 5 of 11 submitted VMES proposals were funded with about \$69,000 available from the state VMES budget. For FY 2010, \$65,000 is anticipated from the combined VMES budget funds and USDA Formula grant funds. In the event of additional budget cuts funding may be reduced or withdrawn prior to the award notification, or during the budget period.

### **Service Rates**

Use the latest rates provided to your department for the various services, when you are preparing your budget.

### **Required Number of Copies**

One original with signatures and an electronic (PDF or Word) copy should be sent as an email attachment to office of the Associate Dean for Research, i.e. Melissa Farmer, melissam@uga.edu.

**Deadline**      April 20, 2009

**Notification of Action of Review Committee**      July 1, 2009

**Applications FY10**

Proposal Application packets are available through the Office of the Director of the Veterinary Medical Experiment Station or may be obtained from our website (<http://www.vet.uga.edu/research/vmes/forms.php>).