

**CVM COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH (COR)
FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSALS 2018**

Application Due Date: October 23, 2017

Required Application Instructions

Applications that do not comply with the instructions below may not be accepted for review.

Purpose

The purpose of this funding program is to support CVM faculty initiatives in establishing independent research programs that will be sustained by extramural resources.

Award Budget and Project Period

Application budgets must not exceed \$18,000 and should be well justified to reflect the needs of the proposed project. The maximum project period is 1 year. A no-cost extension of up to one additional year may be requested if necessary to complete the project. Do not include publication costs in the proposal budget. Publication funds may be requested at the time a manuscript resulting from the project has been accepted for publication.

Cost Sharing is not required.

Eligibility Information

- Eligible Applicants: Regular and non-regular faculty at the assistant professor level or above who have a salaried appointment in the CVM.
- A faculty member is not eligible to be the PI on more than one COR grant at the same time. This includes COR grants that receive a no-cost extension.

Content and Form of Application

Font size shall be no smaller than 11 point and 15 characters per inch (Arial or Helvetica 12 pt. is recommended). Margin size shall be no smaller than one-half inch.

1. **COVER PAGE:** Complete all information requested on the form. Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator(s) and Department Chair signatures are required on the cover page.
2. **PROPOSAL CHECKLIST:** Check the boxes to indicate components included in the application.
3. **ABSTRACT (1-2 paragraphs):** The abstract must describe the proposed activity, objectives and methods, and should be understandable to the technically literate lay reader.
4. **DETAILED BUDGET:** Provide an itemized budget, organized by category. If the proposed budget is not adequate to complete work, identify additional resources to be committed to the project.
 - A. **Personnel:** Include names, time commitments and requested salary and fringe benefits.
 - Benefit-eligible personnel receive 35.37% fringe
 - Non-benefit-eligible personnel receive 7.65% fringe
 - Faculty salary requests are NOT allowed and cost-shared effort is NOT required.
 - B. **Equipment:** List each item that exceeds \$5,000 and justify the need for the equipment purchase.
 - C. **Travel:** Identify the total funds requested for travel, the purpose the destination and number of individuals for each trip
 - D. **Other Direct Costs:**
 - **Materials and Supplies :** List total funds requested and indicate general categories such as glassware, chemicals and animal costs
 - **Miscellaneous:** Include services, consultants, fees, etc.

- 5. RESEARCH STRATEGY (No more than 6 pages total for sections A-F below)**
- A. Specific Aims (1 page suggested):** Provide a brief introduction, state the goals and summarize the expected outcomes, including the potential impact.
 - B. Significance (1 paragraph suggested):** Describe the importance of the problem, how the project will improve scientific knowledge and how the field will be changed if the aims are achieved.
 - C. Innovation (1 paragraph suggested):** Describe paradigm shifts and new concepts.
 - D. Approach (3 pages suggested):**
 - Briefly review the literature and describe the current status of research in this field. Include work funded by previous CVM research grants.
 - Describe the overall strategy, methodology and analyses to be used
 - State the hypothesis and the rationale behind the approach
 - Discuss potential problems and alternative strategies
 - Describe any strategy to establish feasibility. Preliminary data is not required, but is helpful.
 - Include merits of collaborations and co-investigators, where applicable.
 - E. Future Funding Potential (1 paragraph suggested):** State the potential for future funding and list specific examples of appropriate funding opportunities and funding agencies.
 - F. Potential for Career Development (1 paragraph suggested):** How does the proposed research relate to your overall research program?
- 6. CURRENT, PENDING AND ALTERNATIVE SUPPORT:** List any current, public or private research support (including in-house support) to which key personnel identified in the proposal have time commitments. List pending proposals under consideration or expected to be submitted by the PI in the near future. When any part of the present proposal has been submitted for funding elsewhere, the PI must submit the review summaries, if available.
- 7. PRODUCTIVITY SUMMARY:** If principal investigator has been awarded CVM research funds in the last 5 years, list publications with complete references that resulted from the work. Also list date, agency and title of any grant applications submitted for extramural funding.
- 8. SUMMARY OF COMPLETION OF CURRENT FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD:** If the PI currently has a CVM Faculty Research Award, a paragraph is required to describe how the goals of the previous award have been [or will be] achieved prior to initiation of a new CVM Faculty Research award.
- 9. REFERENCES:** List selected publications of yours and/or others (including those in press) which relate to this proposal.
- 10. LETTERS OF SUPPORT:** If applicable, include letters from collaborators willing to participate in the proposed research. Letters of collaboration that document the capacity to obtain the requisite numbers of animal subjects are required. Co-investigators do not need to provide a letter, but must sign the cover page.
- 11. Biographical Sketch for PI and Co-Investigators (limit of 2 pages per investigator)**
- 12. Animal and/or biosafety approvals (if available).** Funds will not be released unless approved Animal Care and Use Protocol certification is on file in the CVM Office of Research.

Application Review Information

Responsive applications will be reviewed and scored by the CVM Committee on Research. Applications that do not follow the required instructions will be considered non-responsive. Awards will be based on scientific merit and the perceived potential to secure extramural funding upon completion of the proposed work. Thus, it is essential that the proposed research meets the following expectations: 1) will lead to a competitive extramural grant submission; 2) will easily pass the scientific scrutiny of peers at other research institutions; and 3) holds promise to help build a sustainable research program. Importantly, a faculty research award is expected to contribute to the career development of the PI through the scholarship of the research achievement. The PI must provide overall leadership for the research program, but collaborative partnerships that enrich the scientific approach and merit are encouraged. While students, interns/residents, and fellows are encouraged to contribute to the research, the PI must be a salaried CVM faculty member who is responsible for the conduct and successful completion of the research work.

The Faculty Research Grant Program recognizes the importance of supporting new and early stage investigators as they transition to independence. Of equal importance is the support of more established investigators who are

caught between funding periods, require seed-money to move a priority score into the fundable range, or need to establish proof of concept for *a new area of research*. CVM faculty members should consider the priorities of this funding program when preparing an application.

Review Criteria

Merits of the Research (60% of total score)

- **Significance of the Problem** (30%)
Does the study address an important problem? How would the proposed work advance our knowledge? Does the research theme advance our understanding of biological systems, improve the control of disease, and/or enhance health? Would you expect the scientific scope and potential of the research to be nationally competitive?
- **Experimental Approach** (30%)
Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses of the data adequately developed, well-integrated, and appropriate to the aims of the project? Does the project employ novel concepts, approaches and/or methods? Are the aims original and innovative? Does the project challenge existing paradigms and/or develop methodologies or technologies? Does the PI provide a basis for interpretation of results, recognize potential problems, and consider alternatives when necessary? Is the study feasible with the expertise, personnel, and resources, etc. that are available? What is the likelihood that the proposed work will lead to definitive results? Are there any impediments to the successful outcome of this work that are unseen by the PI? Is the proposed work reasonable to achieve in a timely manner with the resources available? Are additional skills, technologies, and/or competencies required to pursue this research theme to become competitive nationally?

Potential for Extramural Funding (40% of total score)

Text of the proposal should permit the reviewer to answer these questions:

Is the project original and innovative? Is there a demonstrated potential for this research theme to be attractive to national foundations and/or agencies? Were specific examples of extramural funding opportunities provided? Does the research theme fit with a program goal of a foundation and/or funding agency? Would the research theme of this proposal be well received through peer review by committees of research funding foundations and/or agencies? How would completion of this work provide the essential element necessary for extramural funding? Does this work open a new research theme for the PI? If applicable, how was this work received in previous extramural peer review(s)? If available, please provide a synopsis or copy of outside review sheets, and how this proposal responds to those review(s)?

Additional Review Considerations

Budget

Is the budget reasonable and justified? Can the work be completed with the requested budget? Are there other resources committed to complete the work?

Investigator(s)

Is the PI appropriately trained and well suited to carry out this work? Do the co-investigators/collaborators bring complementary and integrated expertise to the project (if applicable)? Will completion of the proposed work enrich the career development of the PI?

If the PI currently has a CVM Faculty Research Award, was the progress described and will the goals of the previous award be achieved by the time the new project is funded?

Proposal Preparation

Was the proposal organized according to the required format and did the applicant follow the instructions? Was the application well-written and easy to read? Was the value of the research explained in a clear, succinct and professional manner?