



UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE CENTER FOR WILDLIFE HEALTH SEED GRANT PROGRAM FY2014



APPLICATION DEADLINE: 31 OCTOBER 2013 AT 5:00 PM

The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture (UTIA) Center for Wildlife Health (CWH) was established in 2003 to advance research, education, and outreach in wildlife and zoonotic diseases. For FY 2014, the CWH received Organized Research Unit (ORU) support from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville (UTK) Office of Research with matching funds from UTIA AgResearch and College of Veterinary Medicine. **The goal of the CWH-ORU is to foster new research collaborations on wildlife or zoonotic diseases among UTK and UTIA scientists.** As such, the CWH is soliciting proposals for seed grants to support collaborative research or travel during FY 2014.

Research Seed Grants

- **\$5000: six proposals will be funded**
- **\$10,000: two proposals will be funded**

Eligibility: At least two faculty per proposal: one must be affiliated with UTK and one with UTIA.

Support can be used for personnel (excluding PI salary and benefits), supplies, and minor equipment. Seed grants may not be used for faculty salaries, administrative supplements, additional pay, course release time, administrative/accounting supports or other costs generally supported by department (e.g. telephone, network ports). Salary for research faculty supported by extramural funds is allowed. Seed grant funds can be used to support travel associated with data collection, but cannot be used for travel to conferences, workshops, or meetings with professionals (see travel grants below). The split of monies among investigators will be determined by the applicants, and should be specified in the proposal.

A purpose of seed grants is to generate new information to increase competitiveness of extramural grant proposals. As such, the CWH-ORU will require that the lead PI of an awarded seed grant proposal submit at least one extramural grant proposal by 31 December 2014. The Tennessee Electronic Research Administration (TERA) affiliated departments field should be used to recognize the UTIA CWH contributions in extramural grant proposals. Additionally, the UTIA CWH should be acknowledged as a contributor in all publications or presentations resulting from seed grants or travel awards.

Travel Grants

- **\$500 – \$1000: 6 – 12 proposals will be funded.**

Eligibility: One UTIA or UTK faculty. Funds can be used to support travel for research staff (e.g., students, research associates, post-docs) under direction of the faculty member.

Funds must be spent on travel to conferences, workshops, or meetings with professionals to establish new research collaborations. Funds cannot be used to cover travel associated with data collection (see seed grants above).

Other Requirements

- All CWH-ORU funds must be spent by 30 June 2014.
- The lead investigator will be required to submit an annual report by 31 July 2014.
- Investigators may submit more than one proposal.

Judging Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated by an external scientific advisory board selected by the CWH-ORU leadership team.

Seed Grant Proposals: Proposals must address a contemporary topic in wildlife or zoonotic disease. Applicability of the proposed project to CWH's missions (<http://wildlifehealth.tennessee.edu/index.htm>) and general scientific merits will be evaluated. The potential for extramural funding based on seed grant findings will be a component of seed grant proposal evaluation.

Travel Award Proposals: The purpose of travel awards is to increase national and international awareness of UTIA-UTK research findings, and to generate new opportunities for research with professionals. Support of proposals for researchers to present at prestigious conferences or symposia associated with wildlife or zoonotic diseases will be a funding priority.

Applications and Schedule

The Seed Grant application should include:

- (1) Proposal (3 page limit, 1 inch margin, 12 point font, single spaced) containing: Title of the project; Funding requested (\$5000 or \$10000); List of participants; Abstract (one paragraph); Background and significance; Approach; Management plan (delineating how the team of researchers will collaborate effectively); Budget justification; List of future funding opportunities the PIs intend to target; and Names and contact information of two professionals (one at UTK/UTIA and one non-UT) that are qualified to write an unbiased review your proposal.
- (2) NSF/NIH-style biosketch (3-page limit) for each of the Principal Investigators, including current and pending funding for the past 5 years.
- (3) Support letters from collaborators (optional).

The Travel Grant application should include:

- (1) Proposal (1 page limit, 1 inch margin, 12 point font, single spaced) containing the name and title of the faculty member (and traveler if different), a justification for the proposed travel, amount of funding requested, and budget justification.
- (2) NSF/NIH-style biosketch (3-page limit) for the faculty member (and traveler if different).

Applications should be sent electronically to the CWH-ORU Director, Dr. Graham Hickling at ghicklin@utk.edu, no later than **31 October 2013 at 5:00 pm**. Applicants will be notified of awards by 1 December 2013. Funds must be spent by 30 June 2014.