AEMV Research Grant

The purpose of the AEMV Research Fund is to promote research that specifically leads to the improvement in clinical care of exotic companion mammals. This includes ferrets, rabbits, guinea pigs, chinchillas, hamsters, gerbils, rats, mice, hedgehogs, sugar gliders, prairie dogs, degus and other less traditional pet species. The AEMV Research Fund is sustained through the auction at the annual conference, sales of AEMV "In Memoriam" cards, and private donations.

Proposals involving wildlife and zoo species that are not primarily pet species and/or those dealing with these species in the wild and are conservation oriented do not qualify for submission. Any projects promoting commercial breeding for the pet trade of non-domestic species will not be accepted. Only survival/non-terminal studies are acceptable. Studies about third generation antibiotics must be thoroughly justified or they will be considered non-acceptable.

Only members of AEMV are eligible for application. The chairperson of the grant review committee is not eligible for application and any members of the review committee that submit a proposal will recuse themselves from the proposal process.

The following guidelines should be followed for the proposal submission:

1. Funding level is limited to a maximum of $12,000 per submission.
2. Competitive proposals must be clearly outlined with projects achievable within two (2) years of funding. Priority will be given to projects that are founded on sound research principles, can be fully completed at the level of requested funding, and are likely to result in presentation at a scientific conference preferably the AEMV annual conference and publication in a peer-reviewed journal.
3. The following outline should be strictly followed. The proposal should contain 2 pdf documents: 1 document with the title page and the appendices and 1 document with the body of the proposal (items b-f below). The body of the proposal should not exceed ten (10) double-spaced pages excluding Principal Investigator (PI) and co-PI CVs, two (2) letters of support and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (or similar committee) letter of approval. New Times Roman 11-point font, double line spacing, and 1-inch (2.5 centimeters) margins should be used throughout.
    a. Title Page: this page and the appendices are the only pages that should contain nominative information about the research as the rest of the proposal will undergo blind revision.
    Title of study; investigators names and proportional time allocation (%) to the project; full contact details (including mailing address, contact telephone and fax, and email address) for the Principal Investigator; and signatures from all investigators, and the Department Chair or Dean if applicable.
    b. Hypothesis and/or Objectives
    c. Rationale and Significance
    d. Materials and Methods (including statistical analyses)
    e. Budget:
    No indirect costs, salaries, publication costs or equipment are funded. Outside funding: will additional sources of funding be needed to complete the project? If yes, please specify and have these sources been secured? If outside funding sources do not come through within the timeline established by AEMV, then the funds will be returned to AEMV.
    f. References: Please follow this style:
    Graham JP, Lipman AH, Newell SM. Esophageal transit of capsules in clinically normal cats. Am J Vet Res 2000;61:655-657.

g. Appendix 1: A short CV should be included (maximum two pages) from each PI and co-PI(s). The CV should indicate qualifications, awards and honors, relevant research presentations, and scientific journal publications.
h. Appendix 2: For proposals that involve co-investigator labs and/or use of other facilities, letters of support must accompany the proposal.
i. Appendix 3: If ANY aspect of the proposal involves animals that falls under the jurisdiction of the Animal Welfare Act and the USDA (or similar regulatory agency), then a copy of the written approval from the Institutional Care Animal Care and Use Committee (or similar committee) must be included. If in doubt, investigators should contact their local IACUC representative (or similar representative) for advice. If IACUC approval cannot be obtained by the deadline, please submit the proposal and funding will only be sent following full approval from the IACUC committee, which should be sent to the Scientific Committee Chair by email once granted.

4. Once funding has been awarded, the PI is requested to provide an update every six (6) months until completion of the project.
5. If for any reason the project cannot be completed in the requested time line, or is terminated prior to the anticipated end the principal investigator is required to write a summary on the status and may be asked to return the funding.

Please refer to the AEMV website for the current year's submission deadlines and when winners will be notified.

Submit your research grant proposal and all supporting documents AEMV at info@aemv.org and include the Subject Line: AEMV Grant Proposal