

CVM Trainee Research Proposal Program

University of Missouri

College of Veterinary Medicine

The College of Veterinary Medicine is accepting research proposals written by trainees within the college. Travel/Publication funds will be awarded for top-scoring research proposals. For each proposal selected, the trainee applicant will be provided funds to be used prior to June 30, 2027, under the following conditions (choose only one of the two options): **1)** Up to \$750 will be provided for travel if the results of the project are presented at a scientific meeting, **OR 2)** Up to \$1,000 will be provided for publication if a manuscript for the funded project has been accepted by the publisher.

A research budget estimate is required as part of the proposal writing exercise, but research funds will not be covered by the award.

Who May Apply?

CVM veterinary medical students, interns, residents, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows are eligible. **Priority will be given to students submitting a proposal for the first time.** To provide adequate guidance and supervision of projects, and to encourage submission of thoughtful, high-quality proposals, all submissions must be supported by a faculty sponsor who has an academic appointment within the CVM. Due to funding limitations, trainees may only submit one proposal.

What are the Evaluation and Selection Criteria?

1. **SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM** - Is the study likely to produce new and useful information?
2. **PROPOSED PROCEDURES** - Is there a clearly stated hypothesis or application need to be tested with a feasible experimental design using reasonable procedures and an acceptable method of data analysis?
3. Are the **SPECIFIC AIM(S)** achievable and does the project meet the guidelines?
4. Is the **BUDGET** realistic?
5. If applicable, what **PROGRESS** has been made with a previously funded Phi Zeta or CVM Research grant project?

What are the Time Frames?

Proposals due electronically
Decisions and Awards Announced
Deadline to request reimbursement for publication OR travel

11:59 p.m., Friday, October 2, 2026
November 2026
June 30, 2027

What Strings are Attached?

If the project will use animals, the protocol must be submitted to the MU Animal Care and Use Committee (forms available at [Animal Research | Research, Innovation & Impact \(missouri.edu\)](#)) and approved prior to initiation of the project. Submit an "Institutional Biosafety Committee Form" if recombinant DNA or biohazards are involved in the proposal. **PRELIMINARY PROJECT RESULTS MUST BE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE RESEARCH DAY in May 2027, as a poster or oral presentation.**

In addition, a brief report describing the progress made on the project and the measurable outcomes associated with the project (such as presentations at meetings, use of data for other grant proposals, publications, etc.) will be due July 15, 2027.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND GUIDELINES CVM TRAINEE RESEARCH PROPOSAL PROGRAM

Submission time/date is 11:59 p.m. Friday, October 2, 2026

- I. Complete Cover Page with Trainee Investigator and **CVM Faculty Sponsor** signatures (no electronic signatures accepted).
- II. Proposal Preparation: The proposal should be single-spaced. Font size shall be no smaller than 12-point and 15 characters per inch (Helvetica or Arial 12 pt. recommended). Margin size shall be no smaller than one-half inch.
- III. Project Description: The proposal shall include the following sections (page limits indicated):
 - A. **ABSTRACT (Limited to 1 page)**: Summary of your application.
 - B. **RESEARCH PLAN**
 1. **Specific Aims (Limited to 1 page)**:
Include the following.
 - a. Objective: State the overall objective(s) of the proposed research.
 - b. Rationale: Present concisely the rationale behind your approach to the problem and state the HYPOTHESIS or NEED (for non-hypothesis-driven applied research)
 - c. Specific Aim(s): List the Specific Aim(s) of the project
 2. **Research Strategy (Limited to 3 pages)**
 - a. **Background and Significance**:
Briefly review significant previous work and describe the current status of research in this field. Briefly discuss the importance of the proposed work as it relates to the field of study.
 - b. **Methods**:
Give details of your research plan, including a description of the experiments; the methods, species and number of animals, and techniques you plan to use; the kind of data you expect to obtain; and how you plan to analyze or interpret the data (e.g. statistical analysis).
 - c. **Expected Results/Pitfalls**:
Briefly describe results expected to satisfy the hypothesis/need and possible data/process/result pitfalls that may occur. Additionally, include mechanisms to reconcile potential pitfalls..
 3. **Progress Report from previously funded Phi Zeta/CVM Research Project(s), if applicable (Not included in the 3-page limit)**:
If the applicant has been funded by Phi Zeta/CVM in the last 3 years, provide a summary of productivity including a brief summary of the findings and how the data from the previously funded grant led to presentations, publications, etc. If the current proposal is a continuation of the previously funded grant, it should be described clearly why additional funding is warranted.
 4. **References (Not included in 3-page limit)**
 - C. **BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING** (Itemize by main categories)
 1. Supplies
 2. Animals: Estimate number, cost and per diem for animals.
 3. Miscellaneous Costs: Identify costs essential to completion of proposed research.
 4. **The budget is an exercise/learning experience. Awarded funds will not cover project costs.**
 - D. **BIOSKETCH**
A biosketch in NIH format (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm>), from the Trainee Investigator and Faculty Sponsor are required.

- III. **SUBMIT ELECTRONIC COPY** of the proposal using the InfoReady system ([InfoReady](#)) by the deadline. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be reviewed.
- IV. One of the objectives of the CVM Trainee Research Proposal Program funding is to provide experience and practice in grant writing; as a result, **only original proposals written by the trainee investigator** (*i.e.* student, intern, graduate student, resident, post-doc) will be reviewed.
- V. Priority ratings will be given to each proposal. Budgetary restrictions may limit the number of applications that we can fund. **Incomplete proposals will not be evaluated.**
- VI. **Results from these research activities are to be presented at the annual CVM Research Day, in May 2027, as a poster or oral presentation.**