



WINN FELINE FOUNDATION

For the Health and Well-being of All Cats

637 Wyckoff Ave., Suite 336, Wyckoff, NJ 07481
Toll Free: 888-963-6946; Local: 201-275-0624; Fax: 877-933-0939
www.winnfelinefoundation.org * info@winnfelinefoundation.org

CALL FOR RESEARCH STUDY PROPOSALS PERTAINING TO FELINE INFECTIOUS PERITONITIS

Winn Feline Foundation is a non-profit organization founded by The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. in 1968. Our mission is to enhance the relationship between cats and humans by fostering improvements in feline health through research and education. Projects funded by Winn have provided information that is used every day in all aspects of feline medicine.

Since its inception, grants totaling almost \$6.4 million have been awarded by the Foundation for scientific studies, encouraging veterinarians and researchers to focus attention on the health needs of cats.

Specific Subject Areas: Research pertaining to feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), including genetics/molecular biology, prevention, diagnostics, and safe and effective treatment.

Winn Feline Foundation, in a special funding opportunity made possible through The Bria Fund for FIP Research, is calling for proposals that address genetics/molecular biology, prevention, novel diagnostics, and safe and effective treatment(s) of FIP. Additional funding is available to award proposals of sufficient scientific merit, relevance and potential to impact feline health.

Feline infectious peritonitis is an often fatal, inflammatory disease caused by a corona virus that affects cats worldwide. Cats of any age may be affected, but young cats (< 2y) have an increased risk of developing FIP. FIP virus is caused by mutation of a common, highly contagious, feline enteric coronavirus after which the virus gains access beyond to gastrointestinal tract. Clinical signs usually include non-specific symptoms such as anorexia, antibiotic non-responsive fever, and weight loss making diagnosis difficult. At present, diagnostic distinction between the benign feline enteric coronavirus and the FIP virus can also be problematic. Two forms are recognized; namely, a “wet” form that results in ascites or pleural effusion, and a “dry” form that involves inflammatory granulomatous growths on various organs, including the nervous system. Prior stress events as well as multi-cat environments, such as shelters, cat sanctuaries and catteries appear to increase risk of developing FIP. To date, there are no effective treatments for FIP. Therefore, FIP studies are of utmost urgency.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Monday, December 9, 2019 and awards will be announced by mid-May, 2020.

- The maximum grant amount is \$25,000, and awards will be determined in March 2020. Only proposals that can be completed within 1-2 years will be considered.
- Projects should have discrete and achievable goals within the \$25,000 limit. They must demonstrate their relevance or benefit to domestic cats.
- Applicants may be faculty veterinarians, post-doctoral fellows, practicing veterinarians or veterinary students.

FORMAT:

To apply for a Winn Feline Foundation grant, submit your electronic proposal as ONE complete Microsoft Word document (provided in order listed below) to grants@winnfelinefoundation.org to be received no later than Monday, December 9, 2019. Proposals submitted in separate pieces will not be reviewed. The Primary Investigator and Grant Administrator will receive a confirmation email once the document is received. **Winn Feline Foundation can provide assistance for grant writing by offering examples of successful grant proposals and/or advising on mentorship.**



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Summary Guidelines (Every copy of the proposal must include the following information in order):

I. Cover Page (maximum one page):

You **MUST** use the cover page template located on the Winn website grants process section in the application forms sub-section at <http://www.winnfelinefoundation.org/grants/grant-process>.

1. Includes the title of the proposed study.
2. Name, institution, email, and regular mailing address of all primary investigators and a list of co-investigators.
3. Agency/Institution, mailing address, institution's EIN Number (US applicants only), grant administrator name/email for the agency to which the grant would be payable.
4. Amount requested.
5. Signature of the principal investigator and appropriate grant administrator.

II. Scientific Summary (maximum 250 words):

A scientific abstract suitable for veterinary journals that describes the purpose and background of the study should be provided.

III. Lay-language Abstract (maximum 250 words):

Also include an abstract in simple non-technical language for use in Winn Feline Foundation's press releases, newsletters and website geared towards the general public.

IV. Continuation Studies (maximum 3 pages):

If the proposal is a continuation of a prior Winn funded study, include a progress report of this earlier study.

V. Study Proposal (maximum 3 pages, not including references):

1. Background (including preliminary data), which clearly address study objectives and hypotheses.
2. Include precise reasons for experimental design, number of animals needed, expected outcome, possible limitations to study and alternative approaches.
3. It is highly recommended that a statistician be consulted during the design of the study. A thorough description of data analysis must be included in the methods section, including sample size calculations. For power analysis, describe how it was performed and reference the data used for assumptions in the analysis.
4. Applicants using client-owned animals must document that the institutional caseload is adequate to provide the number of animals per year needed to complete the study as proposed.

VI. Timeline (maximum one page): Provide a detailed estimate of time to complete work.

VII. Itemized Budget with justification (maximum one page):

Applicant must provide an estimate on how much time each investigator will spend on the project, as well as their role. Indicate and justify a percent effort on this grant for all individuals, such as technicians, graduate students, etc. for whom funds are requested.

The Foundation does not fund salaries of investigators, major equipment expenditures, travel, publication or indirect costs. Salaries, supplies, and animal care costs not justified may be deleted from the budget.

VIII. Animal Involvement Justification:

1. Studies must meet stringent humane standards of care when animals are involved. Download the Winn Humane Use of Animals Guidelines (Please note: Revised March 2015) for additional information at <http://www.winnfelinefoundation.org/grants/grant-process>.



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2. If applicable, provide a description of the animal care unit at the investigator's facility, including certifications held (such as IACUC guidelines), and plans for maintenance of animals during and after the study (maximum 1 page). Humane treatment of animals is of utmost importance to Winn Feline Foundation and will be reviewed closely.

IX. References (maximum 2 pages):

Include complete pertinent literature references. All references should include full citations including titles.

X. Curriculum Vitae (maximum 2 pages each): Provide for every primary investigator.

XI. Consent Forms and Questionnaires:

If applicable, studies requiring client consent or questionnaires must include the proposed consent form and questionnaires as examples.

PUBLICATIONS and PROGRESS REPORTS:

Investigators receiving a grant award are **REQUIRED** to credit Winn Feline Foundation in any and all publications arising from this research. Copies of all publications arising from this project should be submitted to the Foundation on or before the time of publication.

A progress report of the funded project is **REQUIRED** every January 1st following the receipt of the grant award until the final project report is submitted. Reports must be submitted on the Winn template, which will be provided. **Failure to submit progress/final reports will delay any possible future funding.**

Winn will require the acceptance of a written agreement to release funding.