



WINN FELINE FOUNDATION

For the Health and Well-being of All Cats

637 Wyckoff Ave., Suite 336, Wyckoff, NJ 07481 • www.winnfelinefoundation.org
Toll Free 888-9MEOWIN (888-963-6946) • Local Phone 201-275-0624 • Fax 877-933-0939

CALL FOR RESEARCH STUDY PROPOSALS

Winn Feline Foundation is a nonprofit, charitable organization. Our mission is to improve feline health by supporting research and education.

Since the Foundation's inception, grants totaling in excess of \$7 million have been awarded to researchers and veterinarians.

"Every cat, every day, benefits from Winn-funded research"

Topic of Interest: Feline Kidney Health and the Impact of Dietary Phosphorus and Calcium

Winn Feline Foundation, in a special funding opportunity co-sponsored by Nestlé Purina Petcare and Mars Petcare is calling for proposals that address the effect that dietary phosphorus and calcium to phosphorus ratio have on renal health in cats. Approximately \$400,000 is available to fund proposals of sufficient scientific merit, relevance and potential to impact feline health.

- The deadline for receipt of applications is Monday, September 21, 2020 (5pm EDT)
- The maximum grant amount is \$50,000 for 1 to 2-year projects, and awards will be announced by mid-December 2020.

- It is expected that grants will be in the range of \$10,000 to \$50,000. Projects should have discrete and achievable goals within their stated budget. They must demonstrate their relevance regarding the topic of interest and their benefit to improving feline health, particularly regarding domestic cats.
- Applicants may be faculty or practicing veterinarians, faculty researchers, post-doctoral fellows, veterinary residents, PhD candidates, or veterinary students. Research collaborations across various scientific disciplines is encouraged.

Additional research is critically needed to further the understanding of renal health in cats, and to better define potential risks associated with dietary phosphorus and dietary calcium to phosphorus ratio of foods. A recent consensus agreement from experts in veterinary nephrology and nutrition concluded that excess of certain forms of dietary phosphorus can damage kidneys and cause acute or chronic kidney disease, different phosphorus sources can have different physiological effects, and the detrimental effect of phosphorus is inversely related to the calcium to phosphorus ratio. In addition, short-term acute studies indicate that an increase in post-prandial phosphorus and associated regulatory hormones may explain, in part, the mechanism of adverse effects associated with certain forms of dietary phosphorus. Nevertheless, many gaps in scientific knowledge regarding phosphorus and feline kidney health still exist; therefore, there is need for additional investigators and independent centers to participate in filling in these gaps. The overall goal of such research is to provide evidence that will lead to scientific consensus on safe levels and types of dietary phosphorus for feline diets. High priority areas that have been identified and will be given special consideration include investigation of factors that influence phosphorus bioavailability and metabolism including source and form of phosphorus in foods, identification of biomarkers of renal injury (i.e., especially markers that detect early kidney changes before irreversible damage occurs) and identification of *in vitro* assays that correlate with *in vivo* function of phosphorus sources.

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, September 21, 2020 (5pm EDT). Proposals submitted in separate pieces will not be reviewed. Grant application information can be found on the Foundation website at <https://www.winnfelinefoundation.org/grants/grant-process>. **Winn Feline Foundation can aid with grant writing by offering examples of successful grant proposals and/or advising on mentorship. Request for successful grant proposals example can be made to**



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grants@winnfelinefoundation.org. The Primary Investigator(s) and Grant Administrator will receive a confirmation email once the document is received.

Summary Guidelines (The proposal must include the following information in order)

I. Cover Page (maximum one page):

You **MUST** use the cover page template which can be found at

<https://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.

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 in this area.

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. Foundation does not fund salaries of investigators, major equipment expenditures, travel, publication or indirect costs.
5. Salaries, supplies, Applicants using client-owned animals must document that the institutional case load 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):

The final numbers on the budget page must match the amount requested on the cover page. Include a list of any other current sources of funding and/or related grants requested.

VIII. 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.



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IX. The and animal care costs not justified may be deleted from the budget.

X. Animal Involvement Justification:

Studies must meet stringent humane standards of care when animals are involved. Download the Winn Humane Use of Animals Guidelines for additional information is located at <https://www.winnfelinefoundation.org/grants/grant-process>. 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.

XI. References (maximum 2 pages):

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

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

XIII. 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 October 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.