



AAVN & WALTHAM Research Grant for 'Early Career' Researchers 2017



The board of the American Academy of Veterinary Nutrition (AAVN) is proud to announce the AAVN & WALTHAM Research grant for 2017. The award is intended to support researchers who are currently studying for a post-graduate qualification, or for researchers who have been awarded a postgraduate qualification within the past 5 years.

Applications are now being solicited for research proposals concerning companion animal nutrition. Equine related proposals should be directed to the WALTHAM & Buckeye Award.

The proposed project should have application to dogs and/or cats. The studies must conform to ethical principles of WALTHAM (see below) and informed owner consent must be obtained from any participants in clinical trials.

The amount of the grant is not set, but will be considered on merit. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be considered though the review board may choose to fund smaller grants of \$10,000 or less.

Eligibility

- The applicant must be a current member of the AAVN
- The primary investigator must be studying for, or have been awarded, a postgraduate qualification within the past 5 years.
- The research proposal must be applicable to dogs and/or cats and conform to WALTHAM ethical guidelines
- The research grant should be used to support direct research costs, but not for post-doctoral or graduate student stipends, or indirect costs such as institute overheads, travel, etc.

Timings

- Funds will be available from June, 2017.
- Submissions must be received by e-mail by 15 April 2017
- Decisions will be made by 14 May 2017.

Please send your submission to richard.butterwick@effem.com.

The proposal should be accompanied by a cover e-mail that details the eligibility of the applicant to receive this grant. Grants are generally between 1 and 2-years, but "no cost" extensions of up to 6 months can be granted. A report must be submitted to the secretary of the AAVN after one year and also at the end of the term of the grant. The AAVN must be informed of, and acknowledged in, any publications that arise from the research. Presentation of an abstract at the annual AAVN meeting is also encouraged.

The grant proposal must be prepared as a word document (12 pt. Times New Roman, letter-sized pages, double-spaced with 1 inch margins all around) and must not be longer than 6 document pages (plus references, 2 pages of CV for each investigator, and submitted or approved animal care and use consent form).

The grants should be structured as follows:

- Title, principal investigator and address, other investigators and addresses
- Total grant amount, background, objective/hypothesis, materials and methods, implication of the project, ethics statement, budget and justification.
- Statistical justification for the number of animals intended for study and establishment of the validity of any novel assays are both essential.

Grant proposals that do not adhere to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

Ethical considerations:

Research must not result in pain, suffering, or euthanasia of any animals involved. The husbandry and care of animals should meet the minimum guidance as described in the following reports for dogs and cats, respectively:

1) Dogs: the BVA/AFW/FRAME/RSPCA/UFAW report on Refining Dog Husbandry and Care (Laboratory Animals 2004 Vol. 38; Suppl. 1), which can be found at this website - <http://www.lal.org.uk/pdf/Dogworkingparty.pdf>

2) Cats: the guidelines for cats adopted by the European Community (European Convention for the Protection of Vertebrate Animals used for Experimental and other Scientific Purposes (ETS No. 123 Appendix A), which can be found at this web site - <http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/EN/Treaties/PDF/123-Arev.pdf>

Review board:

This will consist of 3 volunteers from the Academy who have not submitted research grants to this competition.

Please send any questions to richard.butterwick@effem.com
