

AAVLD Innovation in Veterinary Diagnostic Medicine Grant Program Official Rules

Sponsored by Thermo Fisher Scientific

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN

1. HOW TO APPLY:

To participate in the AAVLD Innovation in Veterinary Diagnostic Medicine Grant Program (the "Program"), you must submit your online Grant Proposal (the "Proposal") at jkistler@aavld.org and copy rozuna@aavld.org. All required information for the Proposal must be completed. Additionally, the submitter must review and accept these Program Official Rules. The Proposal must be received by AAVLD between March 15, 2017 and 11:59 p.m. US Eastern Time on June 15, 2017. By applying, you represent that you and your institution or employer are not prohibited by employment, law, regulation, industry code of conduct or the policies or practices of your institution or employer from participating. The Program is void wherever prohibited or where registration or bonding is required, and is subject to all applicable laws and applicable industry codes of conduct.

2. ELIGIBILITY:

The primary investigator ("PI") and all co-investigators must be American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians ("AAVLD") members located in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) or Canada (excluding Quebec). Although an individual may be an investigator on more than one Proposal to this Program, an individual can serve as the PI on only one Proposal. For clarification, the same individual may be a PI on one Proposal and a co-investigator on another Proposal.

The person submitting the Proposal is the applicant ("Applicant") and is entering on behalf of their employer, which will be the recipient of the Award (each a "Grant Recipient"). Applicant warrants that they have obtained any necessary permission to submit a Proposal to this Program and authorization from their employer or responsible supervisor. Void where this promotion or acceptance of a grant is prohibited or restricted by law or subject to registration or other procedures that AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher Scientific ("Thermo Fisher") may not have undertaken. Determination of eligibility is at the sole discretion of AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher. Affiliates, subsidiaries, distributors and other sales intermediaries, advertising, promotion, and fulfillment agencies of Thermo Fisher, and immediate family members and employees, officers and directors of Thermo Fisher or those living in their same household, are not eligible to participate. Individuals entering on behalf of their institution/employer give permission on behalf of themselves and their institution to Thermo Fisher to contact them and their institution about Thermo Fisher's products and services, whether or not participant is selected to receive a grant.

Human Healthcare Professionals may not participate in this promotion. The term Healthcare Professionals includes clinical or non-clinical physicians (including MDs and MDs/Ph.D.s), physician assistants, nurses, technicians, researchers and research coordinators, administrators and purchasing personnel) practicing individually or

working for any entities (including hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing facilities, home health agencies, clinics and group purchasing organizations, managed care organizations, physician group practices, health insurance organizations) and are involved in the provision of health care services or in the context of their profession use, procure or sell medicinal products or medical devices.

Federal or state government employees (excluding state university employees) may not participate in this promotion.

3. OBJECTIVE OF PROGRAM:

The objective of this Program is to provide funding to individuals pursuing innovative ideas that advance veterinary diagnostic medicine. Through this Program, the Sponsor seeks to support innovation in research and development, help to define the next generation of scientific breakthroughs and reward and enable important research by providing funding to individuals pursuing innovative experiments.

4. GUIDELINES FOR PROPOSAL:

Proposals must be in the English language and must follow these guidelines:

Title Page

1. Title
2. Investigator(s)
3. Proposal Type: New
4. Funds requested (must not exceed \$25,000 USD)
5. Signatures of all investigators and respective administrators (include date of signature)

Project Summary (200-300 word lay language summary of the project)

1. Statement of the problem
2. Hypothesis to be tested
3. Experimental plan and expected results

Body of Proposal (maximum of 3 pages - single-spaced)

1. Brief literature review statement of the problem/hypothesis
2. Objectives
3. Plan of work -- approach, methodologies and timetable
4. Justification -- relevancy to diagnostic medicine and stated research priorities
5. Previous work of investigator(s) related to this proposal

References - up to one page, single-spaced

Biographical Sketch - one for each investigator, up to one page each

1. Name
2. Title

3. Education
4. Research & Professional experience - most significant/recent publications

Current and Pending Support for each investigator related to this Proposal

1. Project title
2. Source
3. Amount requested/awarded

Budget (no indirect costs)

1. Maximum of one page
2. Include a brief budget justification narrative

5. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE GRANT RECIPIENTS:

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of five AAVLD members with expertise in different areas of veterinary diagnostic medicine. Two representatives from Thermo Fisher Scientific with backgrounds in veterinary diagnostics will serve as non-voting review committee members. The committee will make the final decision on which proposals are funded based on the quality of the proposal and fit with stated research priorities for the year.

Priority will be given to proposals related to developing innovative new ideas for the use of current diagnostic assays (e.g., use of oral fluids in pigs for PCR and serology) or development of innovative new assays (e.g., metabolomics) for use in veterinary medicine. Criteria utilized in the evaluation process will include scores for innovativeness, potential for broad impact on veterinary diagnostic medicine, clarity of the proposal, quality of the science, and plan and likelihood that the work could be completed within one year of award of the grant.

Proposals will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Significance/Impact: Does this study address an important problem? If the aims of the Proposal are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies in the given field of veterinary diagnostics? (30%)

2. Science Approach/Content: Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well-reasoned, and scientifically sound appropriate to the aims of the project? (30%)

3. Innovation: Is the project original and innovative? For example, does the project challenge existing paradigms; address an innovative hypothesis or critical barrier to progress in the field? Does the project develop or employ novel concepts, approaches, methodologies, tools, or technologies for this area? (30%)

5. Feasibility: Is there a clear plan to complete the work within one year from award of the grant? (10%)

6. CANCELLATION:

There must be a minimum of three Proposals received to the Program to proceed to the judging stage. If a minimum of three Proposals are not received by June 15 2017, the Program will be cancelled. Should the Program be cancelled, all entrants will be notified via email. Judges' decisions are final on all matters and shall not be subject to challenge or appeal. In addition, the Sponsor and AAVLD reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, modify, or suspend this Program should any virus, bug, non-authorized human intervention, fraud or other causes beyond its control corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, or proper conduct of the voting process. The Sponsor, AAVLD, their affiliates, partners and promotion and advertising agencies are not responsible for technical, hardware, software, telephone or other communications malfunctions, errors or failures of any kind, lost or unavailable network connections, the site internet, or ISP availability, unauthorized human intervention, traffic congestion, incomplete or inaccurate project information (regardless of cause) or failed, incomplete, garbled, jumbled or delayed computer transmissions which may limit one's ability to complete necessary steps to complete submission, including any injury or damage to participants or any other person's computer or mobile device relating to or resulting from participating in the voting or downloading any materials. The Sponsor and AAVLD are not responsible for lost, late, illegible, incomplete, invalid, unintelligible, technically corrupted or misdirected submissions, which will be disqualified. The Sponsor and AAVLD shall use commercially reasonable efforts to ensure the security and accuracy of all submissions (provided, however, that you acknowledge and agree that such methodologies are not infallible, and that the Sponsor makes no guarantee as to their effectiveness).

7. GRANT RECIPIENTS:

Two Grant Recipients will be selected by the panel of judges from all eligible Proposals received, based on the criteria set forth in Section 5 above.

8. NOTIFICATION and GRANT RECIPIENT'S OBLIGATIONS:

The Grant Recipients will be notified by email or mail of their selection as a winner on approximately August 1, 2017. Any notification returned as undeliverable may result in disqualification. The grant is not transferable; no substitutions are allowed except by Sponsor. No responsibility or liability is assumed for damages, losses or injury resulting from acceptance or use of any grant. All other expenses and costs not expressly set forth herein are the Grant Recipient's sole responsibility. **The winning Applicants and Grant Recipients will be required to execute and return an Affidavit of Eligibility/Release of Liability/Assignment of Rights/Publicity Release (where legal) and the Grant Recipients will be required to execute and return an Acceptance of Grant document. Each document must be signed and returned to the Sponsor and AAVLD within 15 days of notification..** If a winning Applicant and/or Grant Recipient fails to return these documents by the deadline, the grant will be forfeited and an alternate recipient may be determined, based on the criteria set forth above. TAXES, INCLUDING SALES, FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL TAX, IF ANY, RELATED TO THE AWARD ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GRANT RECIPIENT AND AAVLD WILL, IF APPLICABLE, ISSUE A 1099-MISC TO THE GRANT RECIPIENT. No responsibility or liability is assumed for damages, losses or injury resulting from acceptance or use of any grant. All

other expenses and costs not expressly listed above are the Grant Recipient's sole responsibility.

. By participating, the Grant Recipient agrees to these Official Terms and Conditions. The determination of each of the Grant Recipient by AAVLD and Thermo Fisher shall be final and binding in all respects. Acceptance of the grant constitutes permission to use the Grant Recipient's name and additional information as stated in the release. Such information may include, but not be limited to, biographical information, likeness and company information without further compensation, except where prohibited by law and as otherwise provided herein. No information regarding judging or selection will be disclosed.

The Grant Recipient will have to ensure full transparency within its employer and institution and must fully disclose the support provided by Thermo Fisher in all oral or written presentations of the results of the research.

9. AWARD:

Each winning Grant Recipient will receive \$25,000 USD to be used to further their research. The check will be presented to the PI of the winning Grant Recipients during the AAVLD Annual Conference in San Diego, CA on October 20, 2017. **The PI of the Grant Recipient, a member of the Grant Recipient team, or their proxy must be present at the conference to claim their prize. The Grant Recipients will be responsible for their own accommodations and travel to the Conference; no travel assistance or accommodations will be provided.**

10. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

Ownership of the pre-existing underlying intellectual property of the participant remains the property of the participant subject to AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher's rights to reprint, display, reproduce, perform, use and exhibit the Proposal and any results for the purpose of administering and promoting the Program and for Thermo Fisher's marketing and advertising purposes. By participating in the Program, each participant grants to Thermo Fisher a non-exclusive, worldwide, fully paid, royalty-free, perpetual, transferable license to reprint, display, reproduce, perform, use and exhibit (including the right to make derivative works of) the funded Proposal and materials, and information submitted on and in connection with the Program or use or receipt of the grant, as well as materials and information provided by Thermo Fisher for the purposes of running this Program, and the results. Each participant hereby warrants that any Proposal and other materials and information provided by participant, and any results, are original with participant and do not violate or infringe upon the copyrights, trademarks, rights of privacy, publicity or other intellectual property, or other rights of any person or entity, and do not violate any rules or regulations. If the Proposal or information or materials provided by participant, and any results, contain any material or elements that are not owned by participant and/or which are subject to the rights of third parties, participant represents that he or she has obtained, prior to submission of the Proposal; and information or materials, and any results, any and all releases and consents necessary to permit use and display of the Proposal, information and materials, and results by Sponsor in the manner set forth in these Official Rules without additional compensation.

11. GENERAL RULES:

Return of any grant or grant notification as undeliverable may result in disqualification and alternate determination. By participating in this Program, participants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher, and that information provided is subject to Thermo Fisher's Privacy Policy, available [here](#), and AAVLD's Privacy Policy available [here](#). AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher reserves the right at its sole discretion to disqualify any participant who tampers or attempts to tamper with the Proposal process or the operation of the Program or website; violates the Official Rules; or acts in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner, or with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass any other person. Any attempt by any person to deliberately undermine the legitimate operation of the Program may be a violation of criminal and civil law, and, should such an attempt be made, AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher reserves the right to seek damages from any such person and participant to the fullest extent permitted by law. AAVLD's and/or Thermo Fisher's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Program if it is not capable of running as planned due to circumstances including, but not limited to, infection by computer virus, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures or any other problems beyond the control of AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher. AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher and each of its respective affiliates, officers, directors, agents and employees will have no liability or responsibility for any claim arising in connection with participation in this Program or any grant. Each Grant Recipient assumes all liability for any injury or damage caused, or claimed to be caused, by participation in this Program or use or redemption of any grant. AAVLD and/or Thermo Fisher have no liability for any costs incurred by participants in entering this Program.

12. RELEASE/LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY:

YOU HEREBY HOLD AAVLD AND THERMO FISHER HARMLESS FROM AND AGAINST ANY THIRD-PARTY CLAIM ARISING FROM USE OF THE PROGRAM, THE PROPOSAL, OR THE RESULTS. AAVLD AND THERMO FISHER AND THEIR AGENTS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST, LATE, DAMAGED, MISDIRECTED, ILLEGIBLE, INCOMPLETE OR MUTILATED PROPOSALS; OR FOR ANY COMPUTER, ONLINE, TELEPHONE OR TECHNICAL MALFUNCTIONS, DELAYS OR HUMAN ERRORS THAT OCCUR IN THE PROCESSING, TRANSMISSION OR RECEIPT OF PROPOSALS; OR FOR INACCURATE TRANSCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL INFORMATION; OR FOR PROPOSALS THAT ARE STOLEN, MISDIRECTED, GARBLED, LOST OR DELAYED BY COMPUTER TRANSMISSIONS; OR IF FOR ANY REASON THE PROGRAM IS NOT CAPABLE OF BEING CONDUCTED AS PLANNED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO INFECTION BY COMPUTER VIRUSES, BUGS, TAMPERING, UNAUTHORIZED INTERVENTION, FRAUD, TECHNICAL FAILURES OR OTHER CAUSES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF AAVLD AND THERMO FISHER. AAVLD AND THERMO FISHER RESERVE THE RIGHT AT THEIR SOLE DISCRETION TO CANCEL, TERMINATE, MODIFY OR SUSPEND THE PROGRAM. AAVLD AND THERMO FISHER ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR INCORRECT OR INACCURATE PROPOSAL INFORMATION, WHETHER CAUSED BY INTERNET USERS OR BY ANY OF THE EQUIPMENT OR PROGRAMMING ASSOCIATED WITH OR UTILIZED IN THE PROGRAM, OR BY ANY TECHNICAL OR HUMAN ERROR THAT MAY OCCUR IN THE PROCESSING OF THE PROPOSALS IN THE PROGRAM.

13. CHOICE OF LAW; VENUE:

Any disputes in connection with this Program will be resolved in the appropriate courts in San Diego, California, and will be subject to the laws of California, exclusive of its conflicts of laws principles.

14. SPONSOR:

The Sponsor of the Program is Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc. 2130 Woodward St, Austin, TX 78744. To obtain the name of the Grant Recipients, send a request with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Jill Greene, Director Market Development, 2130 Woodward St. Austin, TX 78744.