



## Required application materials:

### 1. Cover page:

“APPLICATION FOR VETERINARY STUDENT SUMMER RESEARCH STIPEND” must be clearly indicated at the top of the page. The title page should also prominently display the project title, name of faculty sponsor, student name, and class year of the student applicant.

### 2. Project Description:

Up to 5 typed pages. Please use 11 pt Arial font, 1-inch margins, 1.5-line spacing, and page numbers. The bibliography (literature cited) and progress report are not included in the 5-page limit. The text must be prepared by the student with assistance from the faculty sponsor. Remember that clarity and logic are important criteria used for evaluating the proposals (see below). The student’s role on the project needs to be explicitly defined including which experiments the student will complete. If the proposed work is part of a larger ongoing project, it must be clearly stated exactly what the student will be doing over the summer and what they plan to present at the fall research symposium.

The following sections must be included in the project description:

#### Summary (~250 words)

Briefly summarize the research problem being investigated, the significance of the problem, the hypothesis to be tested, the specific objectives that will test the hypothesis, the approach to be used, and the expected outcome. (It is recommended that this section should be written last to ensure it is consistent with the rest of the application and to avoid excessive rewrites.)

#### Background (1 page)

Describe the research problem being investigated with enough background information (including literature references) such that a person unfamiliar with the field can understand the importance and rationale for the work being proposed. Identify the specific gaps in knowledge that need to be understood in order for the field to advance.

#### Significance (1/2 page)

Provide justification regarding the importance of the problem being investigated as it pertains to animal and/or human health.

#### Hypothesis (1 sentence)

State the specific hypothesis that will be tested by the proposed work.

#### Specific Objective/s (1 sentence per objective)

List the specific objective/s of the proposed work that will test the hypothesis under consideration.

#### Approach (2 pages)

Briefly describe the proposed studies including the rationale for the study (how does each experiment address the specific hypothesis), the experimental methods that will be used, and how the data will be analyzed. As needed, include justification for the sample size, describe the statistical methods used to

compare groups, and the criteria that will be used to confirm that the hypothesis is confirmed or rejected. Also include an assessment of the potential problems that might be encountered and any strategies that could be used to overcome those problems. Provide a timeline to establish feasibility for completion of the proposed work within the summertime-frame.

Outcome (1/2 page)

Briefly state what results you are expecting to find and speculate on what would be done next if the hypothesis is confirmed OR if the hypothesis is rejected.

Progress report (1-2 pages, not included in 5-page limit)

If applying for a subsequent year of funding, provide a detailed summary of the previous year's work including any study successes/failures and project-related training opportunities. Be sure to indicate if/where/when you presented your work, if you have planned or accepted publications related to that work, or if patents related to your work are expected. Also, be sure to indicate if your previous work relates to the currently proposed project or is new.

References (no limit; less than one page recommended, not included in 5-page limit)

Provide sufficient references to support statements made in the application and enable reviewers to understand the problem being addressed.

**3. Letter from student applicant:**

One-page letter signed by the applicant describing the anticipated benefits of this research experience, with emphasis on the importance of the proposed mentored research experience to their future career development. Please use 11 pt Arial font, 1-inch margins, 1.5- to 2-line spacing.

**4. Faculty sponsor's statement:**

One-page letter signed by the faculty mentor that provides the information listed below. Please use 11 pt Arial font, 1-inch margins, 1.5-line spacing.

- a. Brief description of the role of the student in the proposed work, including the design of the project, the writing of the proposal, the conduct of the study, analysis of results, and writing of any project required documents (e.g., presentations, posters, progress/final reports, and/or anticipated publications).
- b. A statement verifying the student is not currently on academic probation.
- c. Indicate the source and sufficiency of funds for the proposed research (exclusive of the student stipend funds). Stipends will not be awarded if the funds needed for the research itself are not already in place at the time of the application. If funding is from departmental sources, the mentor's letter must be co-signed by the department head.
- d. If the study involves the use of live animals, the mentor should indicate the status of the IACUC approval.

**How to submit your application:**

Combine all of the above required elements of your application, including the applicant and mentor letters, into a single electronic PDF file and name the file as follows: "lastname\_firstname\_VSRFP\_2023." This file must be submitted via a Qualtrics link [https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_40jvqbAxnva5htk](https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_40jvqbAxnva5htk) by **5:00 PM MST on Friday, February 3, 2023**. You will receive written notification of the disposition of your application by no later than the end of March 2023.