



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



The board of the European Society of Veterinary & Comparative Nutrition (ESVCN) is proud to announce the ESVCN & WALTHAM Research Grant 2017. The award is intended to support researchers who are currently studying for a post-graduate (e.g. Masters or PhD other) 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.

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. A grant of up to 22,500€ (or equivalent currency) will be considered though the review board may choose to fund smaller grants of 9,000€ (or equivalent currency) or less.

Eligibility

- Applicant must be a current member of the ESVCN
- 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 September 2017.
- Submissions must be received by e-mail by 15 July 2017
- Decisions will be made by 26 August 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 2-year but no cost extensions of up to 6 months can

be granted. A final report should be submitted to the secretary of the ESVCN. The ESVCN must be informed of any publications that arise from the research. Presentation of an abstract at the annual ESVCN meeting is encouraged.

The grant proposal must be prepared as a Word document (12 pt. Times New Roman, letter-sized pages, double-spaced with 2.5 cm 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, co-investigators and addresses
- Total grant amount, background, objective/hypothesis, materials and methods, clinical 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 web site - <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 or more volunteers from the society who have not submitted research grants to this competition and are not from the same institute as the applicants. In the event of a lack of reviewers, additional reviewers may be drawn from the AAVN.

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

¹. For successful applications approved animal care and owner consent must be confirmed prior to budget transfer