

Merck-Merial Animal Health Grants Program-2003
Student Elective Research Scholarships
School of Veterinary Medicine
Louisiana State University

Guidelines for Preparation and Submission of Proposals:

A total of \$40,000 will be available for 8 student projects of up to \$5,000 each. A request for proposals will be sent to Year 1 and Year 2 students and to faculty in January, announced at an informational meeting and posted on the LSU-SVM Internet site. A list of potential faculty mentors with currently active research programs willing to mentor a student research scholar will be prepared by the Student Research Electives Committee (See Appendix 1). All SVM faculty are eligible to serve on student advisory committees. Scientists in other research units and universities in South Louisiana with a major role in project work can serve on advisory committees or as a Co-Mentor, with the SVM mentor (e.g. Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Delta Regional Primate Research Center, LSU Health Sciences Center, Tulane Health Sciences Center, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine). Proposals for funding will be submitted by 4:00PM, April 8, 2003 to the SVM Associate Dean for Research and Advanced Studies. Students are eligible to apply for funding on a one-time basis in the year 2003 for research that can be accomplished in 12 weeks or more. Recipients of awards will be notified by April 18, 2003 to allow early planning, purchase of supplies and preparation for summer research projects. Research projects will be considered for funding for which work can be done in a single summer. Students enrolled in the research elective emphasis area may submit a continuation plan on anticipated further work to be done in separate modules funded by other means (e.g. a research mentor's funded grant) that span up to 2 summers and/or multiple 2-4 week elective blocks. Proposals will be single spaced, and will comply with the following format:

Title/Abstract Page:

Student Applicant:

Faculty Mentor and Advisory Committee:

Abstract: (up to 250 words)

Aims and Objectives: (a brief, clear statement of specific research objectives)

Introduction: (up to 1 page to support the rationale of the research hypothesis and work plan, with a review of key literature relating proposed work to previous and current work in the field. Include a statement on relevance to your career goals and why it is an innovative, original contribution that will advance animal health).

Work plan: (a 1-2 page statement of the essential work plan and methods that will be used to attain the stated objectives and test the hypothesis)

Literature Cited:

Proposed Budget:

Letter of Support: (attach letter of support from the mentor)

Submit an original and 3 copies of the proposal, single-spaced, by 4:00 PM April 8, 2003, to the Associate Dean for Research and Advanced Studies, LSU-SVM. Include a routing sheet signed by responsible SVM officials, as relevant to the work plan, to assure compliance with university policy. Notification of awards will be made on or before April 18, 2003.

Evaluation and Funding of Proposals:

Grants will be awarded to 8 students upon the recommendation of a Student Research Electives Committee composed of 5 departmental representatives, each an accomplished researcher with an active current program, and 3 *Ex Officio* members: J Tabaoda, Director of Professional Instruction, TR Klei, Associate Dean for Research and Advanced Studies, and JB Malone, the committee chair. Proposal evaluations will be based on:

- Originality and relevance to the future advancement of animal health 30%
- Student grade point average, academic background, interest in research 20%
- Feasibility of the research plan, budget, and value as a learning experience 20%
- Level of support and guidance to be provided by mentor/advisory committee 20%
- Potential for publication of findings in a scientific journal 10%

Funds to support successful proposals will be placed in an account for expenditure by students according to a budget approved by the advisory committee for summer stipends (\$3500) and for such items as supplies and operating expenses (\$1500) needed to accomplish the research plan. Funds will not be provided for travel, capital expenses, or graduate, post-doctoral or residency stipends. Intellectual property rights for results of these studies will be assigned following LSU guidelines.