



WINN FELINE FOUNDATION

For the Health and Well-being of All Cats

637 Wyckoff Ave., Suite 336, Wyckoff, NJ 07481
Toll Free: 888-963-6946; Local: 201-275-0624; Fax: 877-933-0939
www.winnfelinefoundation.org * info@winnfelinefoundation.org

SPECIAL CALL FOR RESEARCH STUDY PROPOSALS PERTAINING TO FELINE SHELTER MEDICINE

Winn Feline Foundation is a nonprofit organization founded by The Cat Fanciers' Association, Inc. in 1968. Our mission is to advance feline health by supporting research and education. Projects funded by Winn have provided information that is used every day in all aspects of feline medicine.

Since its inception, grants totaling over \$6.4 million have been awarded by the Foundation for scientific studies, encouraging veterinarians and researchers to focus attention on the health needs of cats.

Every cat, every day benefits from Winn-funded research.

Specific Subject Area: Research with a special emphasis on diseases or conditions affecting shelter and free-roaming cats.

In addition to the general 2019 Winn Feline Foundation grant cycle, Winn, in collaboration with PetSmart Charities®, is pleased to announce again for 2019 a special emphasis request for proposals in feline shelter medicine. Animal shelters in the United States take in and care for over 3 million cats each year. Some are healthy kittens with a high likelihood of adoption; many are adult or senior cats that are injured or ill, and often stressed, increasing their susceptibility to disease. Illness and behavioral issues reduce the likelihood of adoption and place a significant burden on shelter resources at both the level of population-based care and individual animal care. Winn Feline Foundation is requesting proposals to address the needs of shelter and free-roaming cats, which includes but is not limited to the following:

Clinical Disease:

- Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)
- Ringworm
- Internal and external parasitism (eg. Scabies)
- Panleukopenia
- Unweaned (Neonatal health)
- Diarrhea in neonates/foster kittens

Behavioral health:

- Impact of housing and its associated stressors which can lead to:
 - Stress-associated reactivation of latent herpesvirus infection and feline URI
 - Intensive handling needs that increase transmission of serious disease such as panleukopenia, ringworm or diarrhea.
- Stress-associated failure to engage in normal health maintenance behaviors, such as elimination, grooming and eating, and the associated consequences.
- Euthanasia due to feral/fearful behavior.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Monday, December 10, 2018 and awards will be announced by mid-May, 2019.

- The maximum grant amount is \$25,000 and expectations are to fund at least three separate proposals. Awards will be determined in March 2019. Only proposals that can be completed within a 1-year time frame will be considered.
- Projects should have discrete and achievable goals within the \$25,000 limit. They must demonstrate their relevance or benefit to improving feline health and welfare, particularly regarding shelter or free-roaming cats. Pilot studies will be accepted and should be clearly designated as such. Competitive proposals will include application of research outcomes to both individual animal care as well as population-level management, and must include a clear communication plan to disseminate findings to academic colleagues (in peer-reviewed publication) and shelters (in a lay-language technical bulletin).
- Applicants may be faculty veterinarians, post-doctoral fellows (PhDs, either DVM or non-DVM), practicing veterinarians or veterinary students with an interest in feline shelter medicine or population management. Funding will not be provided to individual shelters to enhance adoption, as the intention of this special emphasis RFP is to broadly impact shelter medicine and foster dissemination of best practices to all shelters across the US.



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FORMAT:

To apply for a Winn Feline Foundation grant, submit your electronic proposal as ONE complete Microsoft Word document (provided in order listed below) to grants@winnfelinefoundation.org to be received no later than Monday, December 10, 2018. Proposals submitted in separate pieces will not be reviewed. The Primary Investigator and Grant Administrator will receive a confirmation email once the document is received. **Winn Feline Foundation can provide assistance for grant writing by offering examples of successful grant proposals and/or advising on mentorship.**

Summary Guidelines (Every copy of the proposal must include the following information in order):

I. Cover Page (maximum one page):

You **MUST** use the cover page template located on the Winn website grants process section in the application forms sub-section at <http://www.winnfelinefoundation.org/grants/grant-process>.

1. Includes the title of the proposed study.
2. Name, institution, email, and regular mailing address of all primary investigators and a list of co-investigators.
3. Agency/Institution, mailing address, institution's EIN Number (US applicants only), grant administrator name/email for the agency to which the grant would be payable.
4. Amount requested.
5. Signature of the principal investigator and appropriate grant administrator.

II. Scientific Summary (maximum 250 words):

A scientific abstract suitable for veterinary journals that describes the purpose and background of the study should be provided.

III. Lay-language Abstract (maximum 250 words):

Also include an abstract in simple non-technical language for use in Winn Feline Foundation's press releases, newsletters and website geared towards the general public.

IV. Continuation Studies (maximum 3 pages):

If the proposal is a continuation of a prior Winn funded study, include a progress report of this earlier study.

V. Study Proposal (maximum 3 pages, not including references):

1. Background (including preliminary data), which clearly address study objectives and hypotheses.
2. Include precise reasons for experimental design, number of animals needed, expected outcome, possible limitations to study and alternative approaches.
3. It is highly recommended that a statistician be consulted during the design of the study. A thorough description of data analysis must be included in the methods section, including sample size calculations. For power analysis, describe how it was performed and reference the data used for assumptions in the analysis.
4. Applicants using client-owned animals must document that the institutional caseload is adequate to provide the number of animals per year needed to complete the study as proposed.

VI. Timeline (maximum one page): Provide a detailed estimate of time to complete work.



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VII. Itemized Budget with justification (maximum one page):

Applicant must provide an estimate on how much time each investigator will spend on the project, as well as their role. Indicate and justify a percent effort on this grant for all individuals, such as technicians, graduate students, etc. for whom funds are requested.

The Foundation does not fund salaries of investigators, major equipment expenditures, travel, publication or indirect costs. Salaries, supplies, and animal care costs not justified may be deleted from the budget.

VIII. Animal Involvement Justification:

1. Studies must meet stringent humane standards of care when animals are involved. Download the Winn Humane Use of Animals Guidelines (Please note: Revised March 2015) for additional information at <http://www.winnfelinefoundation.org/grants/grant-process>.
2. If applicable, provide a description of the animal care unit at the investigator's facility, including certifications held (such as IACUC guidelines), and plans for maintenance of animals during and after the study (maximum 1 page). Humane treatment of animals is of utmost importance to Winn Feline Foundation and will be reviewed closely.

IX. References (maximum 2 pages):

Include complete pertinent literature references. All references should include full citations including titles.

X. Curriculum Vitae (maximum 2 pages each): Provide for every primary investigator.

XI. Consent Forms and Questionnaires:

If applicable, studies requiring client consent or questionnaires must include the proposed consent form and questionnaires as examples.

PUBLICATIONS and PROGRESS REPORTS:

Investigators receiving a grant award are **REQUIRED** to credit Winn Feline Foundation and PetSmart Charities® in any and all publications arising from this research. Copies of all publications arising from this project should be submitted to the Foundation on or before the time of publication. As stated previously, awarded studies must include a clear communication plan to disseminate findings to academic colleagues (in peer-reviewed publication) and shelters (in a lay-language technical bulletin). Winn Feline Foundation and PetSmart Charities® will collaborate in the distribution of technical bulletins if requested.

A progress report of the funded project is **REQUIRED** every January 1st following the receipt of the grant award until the final project report is submitted. Reports must be submitted on the Winn template, which will be provided. **Failure to submit progress/final reports will delay any possible future funding.**

Winn will require the acceptance of a written agreement to release funding.