ALAN AND HELENE GOLDBERG IN VITRO TOXICOLOGY GRANTS

Fast-Track Grant for Research on Non-Animal Approaches to Investigate Mechanisms, Medicines, and Vaccines for Coronaviruses

2020-2021

GRANT APPLICATION KIT
ALAN AND HELENE GOLDBERG In Vitro TOXICOLOGY GRANTS
The Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing

GRANT APPLICATION KIT

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I. INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

A. VISION / MISSION STATEMENT OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS CENTER FOR ALTERNATIVES TO ANIMAL TESTING (CAAT)

Vision
To be the leading force in the development and use of reduction, refinement, and replacement alternatives in research, testing, and education to protect and enhance the health of the public.

Mission
• Promote and support research in the development of in vitro and other alternative techniques.
• Serve as a forum to foster discussion among diverse groups leading to creative approaches to facilitate acceptance and implementation of alternatives.
• Provide reliable information on the science, philosophy, and public policy of alternatives to academia, government, industry and the general public.
• Educate and train in the application of alternatives*.

*Alternatives are defined as new methods that refine existing tests by minimizing animal pain or distress, reduce animal usage, or replace whole animal tests.

B. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Areas of Funding
The Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT) is soliciting projects to help accelerate the discovery of mechanisms, medicines and vaccines for coronaviruses. The program’s goal is to centralize the information and stimulate the funding of the development of non-animal, human biology-based models to help coordinate and accelerate response to emerging pandemics in the future.

Maximum grant amount is $40,000 per project up to 1 year. Examples of acceptable projects could include: providing mechanistic understanding of in vitro responses to coronaviruses in human cells, screening of potential drugs and vaccines in human relevant cell models, AI tools to detect new treatments, etc.

2. Eligibility
Any institution that has an established mechanism for handling private funding is eligible to receive grant awards from the Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT). Non-university applicants, please provide documentation.

3. Deadline for submission
Proposals must be received no later than 11:59pm (EDT) on April 30th.

4. Approval by Institutional Review Board
If human material and/or records are to be used, approval of your institutional review board must be submitted as part of your proposal.
5. **Criteria for Evaluation of Proposal**

Grant proposals will be evaluated for scientific merit and for significance of the research in developing new knowledge or providing alternative methodologies indicating appropriateness to the mission of the Center (described under Section A). Assessment of scientific merit will be based on the originality and feasibility of the proposed studies as well as on the research design and methodology.

6. **Conditions of Award**

I. If an award is made, a letter of acceptance should be received by CAAT no later than June 30th. The letter of acceptance should include:

a. a realistic statement of specific milestones for the project.
b. a short (250 words) description of your project written for a non-scientific audience for posting on CAAT’s web site.
c. the grant identification number. This number should appear on all correspondence relating to the award.
d. a signed “Conditions of Award” letter.

II. Acceptance of a grant from the Center implies that funds for this specific research are not currently available from other sources.

III. A final expenditure and progress report (see below) is required within **3 months** of completion of the grant period.

IV. Final reports must include:

a. An expenditure report, signed by the institutional administrator, following the outline of the original projected budget.
b. A progress report which will include:
   i. The original specific aims.
   ii. A specific indication that milestones have been met.
   iii. An explanation why a milestone has not been met.
   iv. If the original specific aims/milestones have changed, state the change and why they were changed.
   v. A short summary about the effectiveness of the research as it relates to reducing or replacing animals.
   vi. A list of publications resulting from this research (an acknowledgment of CAAT support should be included in all publications resulting from this project).
   vii. A notification of other funding, which may have resulted from this project.

V. PI’s are expected to provide CAAT with follow-up information about papers published (including reprints) and grant support received as a result of CAAT funding for up to five (5) years after the award period.
C. GUIDELINES OF APPLICATION
The expected format includes a discussion of the specific goals of the project, a statement of the experimental plan to attain the stated goals. Sufficient details of experimental design must be provided to convince the reviewers that the project is feasible. However, because of space limitations, detailed specific methods should be referenced.

If the project involves the development of novel testing approaches, then it is important that the investigators provide documentation of available expertise to successfully conduct the project.

D. PREPARATION OF APPLICATION GENERAL

1. Use the forms provided with this application kit. Please submit the application via e-mail to caat@jhu.edu

2. The typeface in this application should be no smaller than 12 pitch or 10 point.

3. The name of the principal investigator must be at the top of each page of the application.

4.Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

II. GRANT APPLICATION FORMS

SECTION 1. FORMS
The following forms must be included:

1. Title Page
2. Table of Contents
3. Abstract
4. Detailed Budget
5. Budget Justification
6. Other Support
7. Biographical Sketch - 2 pages

SECTION 2. NARRATIVE
(This section is limited to six (6) typewritten pages).

1. Specific Aims - A concise statement of the questions being asked, the long-range goals and specific statements of objectives for the project.

2. Research Plan - please include:
   a. Necessary background information
   b. Rationale for the study
c. Approach: including research plan and methods, evaluation and interpretation of data  

d. Innovation/Unique aspects of the proposal  

e. References

3. Milestones - Include a realistic statement of milestones and estimated length of the project.

4. Programmatic Goal - Indicate how information obtained can be applied toward the development of alternative methods to animal testing and how this will meet the mission of the Center.

5. Facilities - Describe the facilities where the research will be conducted.

6. Research subjects - Include appropriate committee approvals for any animal or human subjects to be used in the study. An institutional approval number must be supplied on the signature page. If not applicable, include an institutional assurance letter.

7. Personnel - List individuals who will participate in the project and their responsibilities.

SECTION 3. SUPPORTING MATERIALS
Include any supporting materials you feel will support your application. This section is limited to a maximum of three (3) items. Anything over that amount will be discarded.