

**RESEARCH PROPOSAL FORMAT AND CONTENT
ACVS FOUNDATION**

Privileged Communication

NOTE: The names of investigators or their institutions should not appear in this portion of the grant application.

REQUIRED FORMAT:

- Type double-spaced
- Leave 1-inch margins (left, right, top, bottom)
- Use Times New Roman or Arial type face, 10-12 point size
- Number all pages at the bottom of the page
- The title of the proposal should appear on the first page immediately preceding the Hypothesis
- Submit in PDF format

REQUIRED CONTENT:

1. Hypothesis: (Not to exceed ½ page)
Concisely state your hypothesis as a statement or series of related statements that can be tested by experiment. The statement(s) should be followed by a brief explanation of how the hypothesis would be tested.
2. Specific aim: (Not to exceed ½ page)
Describe what the proposed research is intended to accomplish within the one-year funding period.
3. Background and Significance/Preliminary Studies: (Not to exceed 2 pages)
 - Briefly discuss the background of the proposal by critical evaluation of existing knowledge and by identification of gaps that would be addressed by the proposed research.
 - State concisely the importance of the proposed research by relating the specific aims to the broad, long-term objectives of the proposed investigation and the field of veterinary surgery.
 - Describe preliminary studies that are pertinent to the application or to provide other information that will help establish the competence of the investigator to undertake the proposed research.
 - The proposal must demonstrate the need for and potential impact of the study weighed with humane treatment of animals; terminal studies must be justified adequately.
4. Experimental approach: (Not to exceed 4 pages)
 - Describe in detail the experimental design, procedures, and materials to be used.
 - Describe how data will be collected.
 - Discuss potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed procedures and alternative approaches to achieve the stated aim (Section 2 above).
 - Provide a tentative sequence or timetable for the investigation.
 - Indications of the implementation of the NIH guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals is required if the experiments involve the use of animals protected by the Animal Welfare Act.
5. Statistical methods: (Not to exceed 1 page)
Describe how the data will be analyzed and interpreted. State the statistical methods to be used. Specify the number of observations required to yield statistically significant results at a particular confidence level (e.g., 0.05).
6. References: (Not to exceed 2 pages)
List appropriate articles in order cited according to the format of *Veterinary Surgery*.