



The mission of the Alternatives Research & Development Foundation (ARDF) is to fund and promote the development, validation, and adoption of non-animal methods in biomedical research, product testing, and education.

Grant Application Guidelines

PART I – General Information

The deadline for submission of proposals is Monday, May 2, 2016. Recipients will be informed by Monday, July 18, 2016. Funds will be distributed by August 1, 2016.

Maximum funding available is \$40,000.

Proposals are judged primarily on the basis of:

- The extent to which the project will significantly reduce or replace laboratory animals
- Scientific merit and feasibility

Note: funding is not intended to support clinical studies.

Preferential consideration will be given to proposals that:

- Are from U.S. institutions or organizations
- Use pathway-based approaches as exemplified by the National Academy of Sciences 2007 report: [*Toxicity Testing in the Twenty-first Century: A Vision and A Strategy*](#)
- Utilize in silico or in vitro methods with human (rather than non-human vertebrate) cells or tissue

Proposals will NOT be considered if the project:

- Uses intact, non-human vertebrate or invertebrate animals
- Uses monoclonal antibodies produced by *in vivo* methods

Special considerations:

- If antibodies are used at all, ARDF prefers non-animal methods of generation as well as production. *Source and production method for all antibodies must be clearly identified in the proposal.*
- ARDF strongly encourages investigators to reduce or eliminate the use of serum or medium supplements obtained from non-human vertebrates (for example, fetal bovine serum). *Type and source of all culture supplements must be clearly identified in the proposal.*

Grants from the Foundation are made only to non-profit, tax-exempt, educational and/or research institutions, or a foreign equivalent.

PART II – Application Requirements

* PLEASE NOTE: The primary grant application should be **no more than fifteen (15) pages**, including ARDF 2016 Alternatives Research Grant Program Application Form.

PRIMARY GRANT APPLICATION–required information

1. An **abstract** (not to exceed 200 words) that describes the proposed research project and includes an explanation of how the work will contribute to reducing or replacing current uses of laboratory animals in biomedical research, product safety testing, or educational demonstrations.
2. A proposal that presents a **clear research plan** and includes sections on: Materials and Methods, Expected Results, and a list of relevant References. **Your proposal must clearly identify the source and production method for all antibodies as well as the type and source of all culture supplements, and justification if cell culture media contain animal serum.**
3. A description of **how the proposed research will lead to a significant reduction or replacement of laboratory animals.**
4. A **detailed budget and justification** for equipment and supplies.
Notes on the budget:
 - Funding is for one year. If justified, additional years may be considered following satisfactory progress reports.
 - Grants from ARDF may *not* be used for a principal investigator's salary or salary supplements, fringe benefits, or travel.
 - Salary and fringe benefits for technicians, graduate students, and related personnel are permitted, but not travel or tuition.
 - Publication costs are permitted.
 - The Foundation is able to provide a maximum of 10% for indirect costs. Applicants are encouraged to request an indirect cost waiver from their institutions. If this is not possible, indirect costs must be justified in the budget and assurances provided that funds will not support programs contrary to ARDF's mission to replace and reduce animal-based research methods.
 - The total of direct and indirect costs may not exceed \$40,000.
5. A description of **additional sources of funding** for the project currently available or applied for. Also supply information about previous grant support in this project area during the past two years.
6. A **curriculum vitae** for the principal investigator. NIH Biosketch format recommended.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL – *if applicable*

1. Previous publications which directly support your current grant application.
2. *Curriculum vitae* (one page each) for up to three personnel involved other than the PI. If there is a Co-PI, a CV of up to three pages may be included in the Supplemental Material.

CONDITIONS OF FUNDING:

- » Projects may be submitted without prior approval of the appropriate institutional review entity. Successful applications must have such approval, however, before funds can be disbursed.
- » Applicants must state their intention if patents, copyrights, or intellectual property rights are expected to be secured from work sponsored by the ARDF, in which case ARDF expects to retain an interest, financial and otherwise, in the work product. The extent of the interest is negotiable.
- » ARDF expects the submission of at least one abstract during the granting period and encourages publication. Any publications or presentations must mention the "Alternatives Research & Development Foundation" in the acknowledgments, with copies sent to ARDF.
- » A brief, informal progress report is due on April 15, 2017. A final report, including financial accounting, is due upon completion of the project, expected by November 1, 2017. If funds are not used, ARDF must approve an extension or a refund must be issued.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL PROPOSAL:

Your proposal will meet the goals of the ARDF Alternatives Grant Program if it directly answers the following questions:

- How does the project **significantly** reduce or replace laboratory animals?
- How does the proposal demonstrate **practicality** in terms of reducing or replacing the use of animals, not on a theoretical basis to be explored, but to be applied in the near future?
- How does the project demonstrate **innovation** in replacing or reducing animal use in areas not successfully addressed thus far?
- To which **other areas** of laboratory animal use in biomedical research, education or toxicology would the project be **applicable**?

PART III – Application Submission

ARDF encourages electronic submissions via Dropbox.com.

In order to submit via Dropbox.com, YOU MUST SEND AN EMAIL BY 11:59 P.M. (eastern), APRIL 28, 2016.

TO: grants@ardf-online.org

SUBJECT LINE: Request Dropbox

INCLUDE: Full name of Primary Investigator(s), and the email address you would like used for access.

ARDF will write back within 3 days, providing a link and instructions for accessing a secure folder created for each applicant in Dropbox. The completed [Application Form](#), Primary Grant Application, and any Supplemental Material must be uploaded to your folder by 11:59 p.m.(eastern), May 2, 2016.

Or, you may send Grant proposals (5 copies) to the address below via the U.S. Postal Service, Fed Ex, UPS, or similar carrier, postmarked no later than May 2, 2016. Please do not send proposals via Fax or regular email.

Alternatives Research & Development Foundation

Alternatives Research Grant Program

801 Old York Rd., # 316

Jenkintown, PA 19046 USA

Tel: (215)887-8076 • Fax: (215)887-0771

www.ardf-online.org • grants@ardf-online.org