



Guidelines on Application for a BCVA Student Research Grant

The BCVA makes available a small number of student research grants each year. Any student member of the BCVA in their clinical years is eligible to apply for a research grant. All student applications must be supported by an academic member of their teaching staff. This staff member is expected to supervise the students research, as well as the production and delivery of a verbal presentation to the BCVA and the production of a paper for *Cattle Practice*.

The BCVA is particularly interested in supporting projects likely to provide results of immediate relevance to its members. In the majority of cases therefore the subject under investigation will be of clinical importance to cattle practitioners within the UK. The maximum available grant at the current time is £1,000.

In addition to filling in the attached application form, applicants should provide a short description of the project of not more than 1,000 words. This should be written under the following headings: -

1. **Title of Proposed Project:**
2. **Contact Details of Student Applicant and Supervisor:** Name, Address, Tel, Fax, E-mail etc.
3. **Year of Undergraduate Study and Expected Graduation Date:**
4. **Introduction:** Brief introduction stating the reasons you consider the research should be undertaken, the aims and objectives of the research and why BCVA members should support the project.
5. **Research Protocol/Study Design:** State how the research is to be undertaken, specific details such as case/control selection, sampling methods, assays and statistical analysis to be employed should be included.
6. **Costing:** The project should be costed in full. Any other sources of funding or potential funding should be identified. The amount applied for should be clearly stated (current maximum £1,000).
7. **Legal/Ethical Considerations:** There should be a clear statement that the applicants have given full consideration to the techniques to be employed, and have taken necessary steps to ensure that they are working within the Law. If there is any doubt whether the procedures employed will fall within the remit of *The Animals (Scientific*

Procedures) Act 1986 advice should be sought from a Home Office Inspector before the application is submitted to the BCVA.

8. **Duration of Project:** Expected start and finish date of the project.
9. **Risks:** What problems can you foresee may occur with this project? *e.g.* lack of case material.
10. **Educational Reason for the Project:** Is this to form part of your elective?

Administration and Conditions:

1. Applications will be considered in the first instance by the Education, Clinical Research and Student Liaison Officer of the BCVA with the assistance of the Education Group.
2. The final decision whether to fund an application rests with the full BCVA Council.
3. Applications will therefore be considered at the earliest meeting of Council. Council meetings are held in January, April, July and October/November with occasional additional meetings at other times of the year.
4. It is a condition of all BCVA Grants that the results are presented verbally at a BCVA meeting and as a paper in the Associations journal *Cattle Practice* as soon as possible after the completion of the work (usually within 12 months).
5. Awards are paid in two halves. Half at the time the initial award is made and half on completion of the work and after condition 4 has been fulfilled.
6. All applications for funding will be considered; however, please note that applications where all or the majority of the incurred costs are related to travel are unlikely to be funded.

Jon Huxley
Clinical Research Officer
January 2009