

Soliciting Peer Reviewers for Various ORA/OP Grant & Cooperative Agreement Programs

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Office of Partnerships (OP) within the Office of Regulatory Affairs (ORA) is seeking peer reviewers to read and evaluate grant and cooperative agreement applications related to food and feed safety and human health issues. These grants/cooperative agreements provide Federal-State & Local Agencies with the opportunity to enhance or develop new and existing programs intended to aid in safeguarding products intended for human or animal use.

In FY2015, we anticipate the announcement of grant and cooperative agreement funding in the following subject areas:

- Human health
- Animal health
- Animal feed standards
- Retail Program standards
- Rapid Response
- Feed safety
- Food lab capacity/capabilities
- Lab accreditations
- Manufactured food standards

If you are interested in serving as a peer reviewer for grant and cooperative agreement competitions offered by the Office of Partnerships, you must provide the following documentation via e-mail:

- Current resume, CV, or Biographical Sketch

A signed FDA Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality, and Non-Disclosure Information for Reviewers of Grant Applications will also be required once selections are made.

Applying to be a peer reviewer is the first step in the selection process. Interested persons must still be deemed qualified for a particular review, indicate their availability for a review panel meeting, and be selected before they actually become a reviewer. Reviewers must be unbiased, critical thinkers who are able to independently assess and articulate the strengths and weaknesses of an application compared to the review criteria in the FOA. Due to a conflict of interest, a person will not be eligible to serve as a reviewer for an FOA of which his/her organization or office has applied. Anyone selected to be a grant reviewer must be able to demonstrate that they do not have a conflict of interest. Supervisory concurrence is required to participate.

The application review process involves orientation, reading and evaluating applications, and discussions with other panelists. Panelists will evaluate and score applications using the evaluation criteria outlined in the Funding Opportunity Announcement(s) (FOAs). Selected reviewers will be required to participate in a panel discussion which may take place in person or via teleconference in order to finalize their

evaluations and complete the peer review process.

Peer reviews are voluntary; reviewers will not receive any honorarium for applications reviewed; however, an official letter of appreciation/commendation can be provided to reviewers. Peer reviewers may expect to read an estimated five (5) to ten (10) applications per session. Total review times, including the panel meeting, will vary depending on the number of applicants and the peer review experience of the reviewer; given these factors, a reviewer could spend anywhere from one (1) to three (3) hours per application in the peer review process which is spread over the course of thirty to forty days.

For general summaries of the grant programs managed by the FDA/ORR, Office of Partnerships, including those that may need objective reviewers, please visit the following page describing our existing grant and cooperative agreement programs:

<http://www.fda.gov/ForFederalStateandLocalOfficials/CooperativeAgreementsCRADAsGrants/ucm234305.htm#> . You may also contact the Office of Partnerships Contracts and Grants Staff at Ph: 301-796-5875 or E-mail: OP.reviewers@fda.hhs.gov .