



FDA CVM Animal and Veterinary Innovation Centers (AVIC)

May 2026



Introduction

The Animal and Veterinary Innovation Centers (AVIC) are long-term research partnerships established to address priority areas for FDA-CVM.

Goal is interactive collaboration with FDA and high impact results, e.g. breaking down regulatory science barriers that can speed product development/review or spurring new products in high-need but under-invested areas.

Applications that include partners or roadmaps of how research will be translated into results are encouraged.

Background – Cooperative Agreements



- June 2024- CVM issued a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) and established cooperative agreements with academic institutions to drive research in the following fields:
 - **Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)** virus in animals as it affects public health. And may also include other emerging zoonotic disease threats or One Health issues in future years.
 - **Intentional genomic alternations (IGA)** in animals, IGA regulatory science and applications towards agricultural resilience, food security, animal health or public health.
 - Veterinary products for **Minor species, minor uses in major species (MUMS)** and **other unmet veterinary medical needs in major species** that create a significant animal or public health burden.
- **Award Type:** Cooperative Agreements.
- **Project Length:** 5 year. Non-competitive annual renewal. Flat rate budget.



FY26 Funding Announcement

- Seeking applications that forge partnerships, drive targeted research, and advance regulatory science in:
 - Aquaculture
 - Minor Ruminant Species
 - Human Food Safety for Minor Species Drugs
 - Antimicrobial Use and Stewardship
- Encourage both short-term (1–2-year scope) and long-term applications (4–5-year scope).
- All funding is subject to the availability.



Aquaculture

- **Targeted research to support aquaculture drug approvals**, especially when coordinated with external partnerships with groups like veterinary associations, species associations, and governmental entities **aimed at addressing barriers to animal drug availability and enhancing domestic food production and security.**
- This could include research projects that are likely to result in new product availability for aquaculture and address high priority needs such as:
 - Residue depletion profiles in freshwater and saltwater finfish
 - Total residue and metabolism studies
 - Target animal safety



Aquaculture Cont...

- **Targeted research on aquaculture environments to support drug development, reviews, and approvals.** Approaches that are encouraged include:
 - Methods for gathering and compiling information on management practices and facility characteristics for ornamental and food species
 - Approach to generate environmental effects, fate, and physiochemical data for aquaculture drugs
 - Approaches for developing tools, including new alternative methods (NAM) to support environmental exposure assessments for aquaculture drugs



Minor Ruminant Species

- Regulatory science or targeted research that advances the development of high priority animal drugs for minor ruminant species (e.g., sheep, goats, bison), conducted in conjunction with establishing external partnerships aimed to overcome barriers to development and approval for these drugs



Human Food Safety for Minor Species

- Advancing human food safety regulatory science for animal drugs in food-producing minor species and minor uses in major food-producing species.
- The research aims should support new regulatory scientific approaches to meet human food safety standards and fill critical gaps needed to support human food safety assessments, particularly when in partnerships with veterinary medical groups, governmental entities, and species associations.
- Including but not limited to:
 - Approaches to speed up or modernize residue method development, qualification, and validation.
 - Approaches or methods to bridge data between different animal species.
 - Approaches to increase understanding of, or model drug metabolism and depletion in minor food-producing species.

Multi-Year Research on Antimicrobial/Stewardship



- To increase understanding of antimicrobial use practices and research that produces evidence that can be used by veterinarians for decision making, consistent with FDA policies on the judicious use and veterinary oversight of medically important antimicrobials.
- Models that involve partners, such as veterinary associations, state officials, and agricultural organizations and deploy novel approaches to data collection while ensuring data confidentiality and protection are encouraged.
- Proposals that include antimicrobial use database repositories or dashboards are also encouraged.



Multi-Year Research on Antimicrobial/Stewardship Cont..

- Proposals should address one or more of the following:
 - Support long-term antimicrobial use data collection efforts in the United States, including advancement of public-private partnership frameworks and development of a national data repository or dashboard to securely store, analyze, and report antimicrobial use data trends across multiple species or veterinary sectors.
 - Summarize antimicrobial use data using standardized formats appropriate to the studied population, sector, or subsector, including trend analyses and contextual information
 - Disseminate data summaries and resources through peer-reviewed literature, public-facing dashboards, or other appropriate mechanisms.
 - Conduct research that results in data and publications that can make scientific information available for veterinarians to make judicious antimicrobial use decisions in real-world setting

Questions?

avic@fda.hhs.gov



Application & Submission

PAR-24-251

Presented By:


Jenise McNair

Grants Management Specialist
Office of Acquisitions and Grants Services

Required Application Instructions



- Read and follow the Research (R) Instructions in the How to Apply - Application Guide, except where instructed to do otherwise (in the NOFO or in a Notice from the Guide for Grants and Contracts).

 Research Instructions	Standard instructions that apply to all applications plus research instruction call-out boxes. Activity Codes: Research (R), including Research Education (R25), and equivalent Cooperative Agreements (U)
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- Conformance to all requirements (both in the How to Apply - Application Guide and the NOFO) is required and strictly enforced.
- When the program-specific instructions deviate from those in the How to Apply - Application Guide, follow the program-specific instructions.
- Once the application is submitted, verify that it has been accepted and is free of errors.

Applications that do not comply with these instructions may be delayed or not accepted for review.



Application Submission

You must use one of these submission options to access the application forms for this opportunity:

- Use the [NIH ASSIST](#) system to prepare, submit and track your application online.
- Use an institutional system-to-system (S2S) solution to prepare and submit your application to Grants.gov and eRA Commons to track your application. Check with your institutional officials regarding availability.
- Use [Grants.gov](#) Workspace to prepare and submit your application and [eRA Commons](#) to track your application.



Required Registrations

- Applicant organizations must complete and maintain the following registrations as described in the How to Apply- Application Guide to be eligible to apply for or receive an award.
- **All registrations must be completed prior to the application being submitted. Registration can take 6 weeks or more, so applicants should begin the registration process as soon as possible.**
- Failure to complete registrations in advance of a due date is not a valid reason for a late submission, please reference the HHS Grants Policy Statement for additional information.
- System for Award Management (SAM) Applicants must complete and maintain an active registration, **which requires renewal at least annually**. The renewal process may require as much time as the initial registration. SAM registration includes the assignment of a Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code for domestic organizations which have not already been assigned a CAGE Code.
 - Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) - A UEI is issued as part of the SAM.gov registration process. The same UEI must be used for all registrations, as well as on the grant application.
- eRA Commons - Once the unique organization identifier is established, organizations can register with eRA Commons in tandem with completing their Grants.gov registration; all registrations must be in place by time of submission. eRA Commons requires organizations to identify at least one Signing Official (SO) and at least one Program Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) account to submit an application.
- Grants.gov Applicants must have an active SAM registration to complete the Grants.gov registration.

Page Limitations



Available Components	Component Type for Submission	Page Limit	Required/Optional	Minimum	Maximum
Overall	Overall	1 page	Required	1	1
Specific Aims	PHS 398 Research Plan	1 page	Required	1	1
Research Strategy	PHS 398 Research Plan	30 pages	Required	1	1
Bibliography & References	Bibliography & References Cited Attachment	No Limit	Required	1	1
Biographical Sketch	Senior/Key Person Profile	5 pages	Required	1	1

Application Tips

- Review and follow the instructions in the NOFO in its entirety.
- Confirm your registrations – today!
 - SAM (formerly CCR)– requires annual renewal
 - eRA Commons (Signing Official and PI)
- Submit your application early.
- Verify that the application has been accepted and is free of errors.
- **Late applications will not be accepted for this NOFO**

Application Due Date

June 12, 2026 by 11:59pm ET

Late applications will **NOT** be accepted