

**New Mexico State University
Agricultural Experiment Station
Animal Health and Disease Research FY26
Request for Proposals**

Overview

The [Animal Health and Disease](#) Research Capacity Program supports research projects addressing the health and disease of agricultural animals.

Specifically, the Animal Health and Disease Research (AHDR) Program Administrative Manual states “this includes research to promote the general welfare through improved health and productivity of domestic livestock, poultry, aquatic animals, and other income-producing animals which are essential to the nation’s food supply and the welfare of producers and consumers of animal products; to improve the health of horses; to facilitate the effective treatment of, and where possible, prevent diseases in both domesticated and wild species, which if not controlled, would be disastrous to the United States animal industries and endanger the Nation’s food supply; to minimize livestock and poultry losses due to transportation and handling; to protect human health through control of animal diseases transmissible to humans; to improve methods of controlling the birth of predators and other animals; and otherwise to promote the general welfare through expanded programs of research and extension to improve animal health.”

Eligibility Requirements

Animal Health funding is open to faculty members in the College of ACES whose research aligns with the outlined areas of research as defined by the AHDR Program Administrative Manual. Priority will be given to faculty who do not currently receive significant funding from a College-administered funding program, e.g., AES Seed Grants, Chile Association grants, and federal capacity funds. Faculty from other colleges and universities may serve as collaborators on a project; however, funding may not be used to directly support non-NMSU/College of ACES collaborators.

Funding Limitations

- The total funding available for the FY26 Animal Health award cycle is \$12,500. Relative to the FY26 funding cycle:
 - Proposals may be submitted for any amount up to \$12,500/yr for 2 years
 - Funds will be available after awardees are selected, and first-year funds must be expended by September 30, 2026.
- Second-year funding will be contingent upon progress during the first year
- No project will be considered without a proposal, even if you have been funded with Animal Health Capacity funds in the past.
- Project duration should not exceed two years.
- Approved projects must be completed within the project duration time frame.
- Research in nutrition, if no disease is produced or under study, is not included in Animal Health research.
- Research on reproductive biology per se is not included.
- Research to improve performance is not included except as it is related to improved health.
- The Animal Health and Disease Research Program was established to address health and disease problems that exist in the pre-slaughter of animal products; so-called post-harvest problems are not included.

- Funds cannot be used for course buy-outs or summer salary for PIs.

Evaluation Criteria

- Alignment with the Animal Health and Disease Research (AHDR) Program specified areas of research
- Overall quality of proposed research
- Emphasis on impact in New Mexico
- Realistic budget
- Plans for seeking extramural funding. It is expected that PIs will leverage capacity funds to obtain additional research funding.

Proposal Format

Proposal pieces (including the project title, proposed duration, non-technical summary, and methodology should not exceed two pages (12-point font, 1-inch margins).

- 1. Project Director and Department**
- 2. Collaborating Project Directors and Departments,**
- 3. Project Title**
- 4. Proposed Start and End Date**
 - a. Animal Health Projects can be written for up to two years in duration. Projects begin and end with the Federal Fiscal Year from Oct 1 to Sept 30. If your project will begin mid-year, please make sure the end date is Sept 30.
- 5. Non-Technical Summary (Justification)** **This is an entry in the NIFA Reporting System (NRS); you will be asked to expand this section if your proposal is selected.*
 - a. In nontechnical language, briefly describe the following: (1) the issue and why it is important, (2) your goal and objectives, (3) the target audience and how they will benefit, and (4) how your proposed activities will lead to the outcomes described in the goal statement or objectives.
- 6. Methodology**
 - a. Describe the ways in which the project will be conducted with emphasis on the general scientific methods and any unique aspects or significant departures from usual methods.
 - b. If IRB approval or IACUC approval is needed, that approval information will be needed if the proposal is accepted for submission to NIFA.
- 7. Project Budget** *(not included in total proposal length; please use the provided budget template)*
 - a. Provide a detailed breakdown of annual expenses. IDC is not an allowable charge. Please be aware that if your proposal is approved for funding, this approval does not necessarily approve the budget as requested. Funding approvals are contingent on funding availability and allowability on capacity grants. Costs should be properly justified.
- 8. CV of Project Directors** *(not included in total proposal length):* An up-to-date, abbreviated 2-page CV for the Project Director

Submit proposals to: aces_proposals@nmsu.edu. Please submit a single PDF of your complete proposal packet using the title and subject: AES_Animal_Health_2025-2026 Proposal_[PI Last Name]. **Proposals that do not follow the required title format and proposals submitted to a different email address WILL NOT be accepted.**

Application Deadline: September 30, 2025 (late applications will not be accepted).