



Cornell University

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**TO:** Faculty in the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Arts and Sciences, Human Ecology, Engineering, Veterinary Medicine, School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Boyce Thompson Institute and Weill Medical College

**FROM:** Steve Kresovich, Director, Institute for Biotechnology and Life Science Technologies

**DATE:** April 17, 2009

**RE:** **Call for CAT Funding Awards Proposals**

Our 2009-10 call for proposals is different from the past. The annual Center for Life Science Enterprise (CAT) awards will remain under the auspices of the Institute for Biotechnology and Life Science Technologies. The former Innovation Award program is not being carried forward. (The *new* Nanobiotechnology Integrated Research Awards are administered by the Nanobiotechnology Center.) PI's are invited to submit proposals for consideration to either or both competitions; however, the same proposal cannot be submitted to both. Instructions and forms for the CAT proposals are available by going to [www.biotech.cornell.edu](http://www.biotech.cornell.edu) and clicking on CAT-Life Science Enterprise, then on Funding Opportunities. The CAT funding awards require collaborative applied research and technology transfer with industry that will lead to quantifiable economic impact in New York State. We encourage new faculty to apply with projects that might be of future interest to industry and to collaborate with potential industrial partners when preparing the proposal. **Application deadline is May 15, 2009.**

For the 2009-10 year we will be making grants in the areas of:

- Bioremediation/biodegradation
- Diagnostics & detection technologies
- Agricultural & environmental biotechnologies
- Medical biotechnology
- Medical devices
- Biological pest control
- Healthcare & biomedical engineering
- Nanobiotechnology
- Computational biology
- Proteomics
- Biochemistry and biophysics
- Science education and public policy
- Science communication to the public
- Genomics

Multi-investigator CAT proposals between scientists in different disciplines and between faculty in the Medical College and the Ithaca/Geneva campuses are encouraged. Priority on CAT awards will be given to those applications that involve a genuine collaboration with New York industry and which will have potential significant impact on economic development in New York. PIs are urged to collaborate with their industrial sponsors in preparing the economic impact portion of their proposal, an increasingly important element in proposal evaluation. The Institute is available to assist the partnering with industry if desired. A limited number of new investigator awards will be considered. If your proposal is funded you will be asked to provide a series of power point slides to be used as an example of the research being undertaken with Institute funding. A brief 150 word update in January and a 3 page final report in June are expected. In addition, a faculty presented poster session in the spring of 2010 is planned.

Details concerning the CAT award program are posted on the website. Please send any questions by e-mail to [biotech@cornell.edu](mailto:biotech@cornell.edu) or to [sv27@cornell.edu](mailto:sv27@cornell.edu).

## Guidelines for CAT Funding Awards

**Who is eligible:** Principal investigators must have faculty status (assistant through full professor) at any campus of Cornell University. Senior Research Associates may be eligible; consult with the Director prior to applying. PIs receiving awards will participate in a poster session sometime during Spring 2010; Postdocs and GRAs may also present posters on the same project (in addition to the PI) at that event.

**Criteria for CAT awards:** Proposals will be evaluated on scientific promise and potential economic impact. Although the proposed work may be *related to* ongoing work, it must not duplicate projects funded elsewhere. We will be emphasizing high-quality projects that also generate a high degree of industrial support. Priority is given to those applications that involve a genuine collaboration with New York industry, have an impact on economic development and have matching funds from a New York company. A New York company is defined as one that has a manufacturing or research entity or headquarters in the State. New faculty are encouraged to apply with projects of possible future interest to industry. Successful applications in the past have often been able to: define the expected intellectual property and to have the industrial sponsor define the dollar value of the industrial matching support and the commercialization plan and economic impact of the technology.

**Application form:** Forms and instructions are available on our website at <http://www.biotech.cornell.edu>; click on CAT-Life Science Enterprise and then on Funding Opportunities. Proposals are to be brief, extensive documentation is not necessary, and only a few key references should be cited. **Note:** For Biographical data - 1 page limit, Current & Pending support - 1 page limit, Research plan - 3 page limit.

**Budgets:** The dollar amount for a single investigator project will range up to a maximum of \$50,000 per year. Support levels for multi-investigator CAT projects will be based on total industrial matching dollars of all investigators on the project. Fringe benefits are to be budgeted, but not indirect costs.

**Budget restrictions:** Funds cannot be used for building renovations, foreign travel, entertainment, consultants, journals and books, or office equipment. Requests for equipment and travel must be justified.

**Industrial matching funds:** Scientifically excellent proposals for research and development activities in collaboration with companies in New York will be given priority for CAT awards. NYSTAR requires the CAT meet a minimum match of 1.5:1 (industry: CAT) in total direct costs. Matching funds and CAT funds **must be expended during the same time period**. The expectation is that the match will be a cash match. Per NYSTAR, an "in kind" match is not a cash match. PIs should contact us for clarification.

**CAT Award Schedule:**       Application deadline: May 15, 2009  
  Award notice by the end of June

**Questions:** Please send any questions by e-mail to [biotech@cornell.edu](mailto:biotech@cornell.edu)