2019 Research Grant

Application Form

Deadline March 29, 2019

Please send your application as one complete PDF e-mail attachment by March 29, 2019 to ssterling@peanut-institute.com.

We need an electronic copy only. Please do not send paper copies.

General information:

The Peanut Institute Foundation is a non-profit entity that funds peanut nutrition research. We are currently requesting human peanut nutrition research proposals with an emphasis on the effect of consuming peanuts, peanut butter, and other peanut products on: (1) cognition/brain health, (2) chronic disease risk and outcomes, (3) diet quality, and (4) gut microbiome in various populations. Other research areas that increase the understanding of peanut consumption and human health are encouraged. All novel and noteworthy proposals that advance the health and wellness message of peanuts will be reviewed. A suggested minimum funding amount of $25,000 not to exceed $250,000 is requested.

Our Mission:

Doing our part in creating a healthier world…. we grow awareness of the health and wellness benefits of peanuts and peanut products through targeted research and communication.

Guiding Principles:

- **We facilitate and monitor research that advances the scientific understanding of the link between peanuts and good health.**
- **We actively develop and promote the health and wellness messages of peanuts to targeted audiences.**
- **We balance our research and communication efforts based on a thoughtful review of need, resources, and potential impact.**
- **We are a strong voice for the health and wellness messages of peanuts, and we serve as a valued resource to our industry partners worldwide.**
- **We create and facilitate forums to ensure dialogue with manufacturers and other industry partners on health and wellness issues and consumer trends.**
FUNDING
Submission of a proposal does not guarantee funding. Funding is only available for a 12-month period, after notification of approval. Suggested funding amount: $25,000 - $250,000. Requests to continue multi-year projects must be submitted annually.

ELIGIBILITY
Any scientist/researcher affiliated with a research institution or organization (public or private) that has the facilities to deliver results and that demonstrates the expertise to perform peanut nutrition research described above is eligible to apply.

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS
Proposals may address multiple areas listed above but must not exceed 10 pages, including vitae, and should be organized in the following format:

Proposal Title
1. Project Summary
   Brief summary of the proposed research, anticipated products and potential benefits to the peanut health and wellness message.
   a. Principal investigator(s), Institution or Organization address
   b. Contact Person, full mailing address including phone, fax and email
   c. Collaborators

2. Research Objectives

3. Annual Budget
   Indirect costs will not be funded, but will be considered as an institutional investment in the project. In most cases, major capital items of equipment will not be funded.
   a. Summary (separate line items for salary & benefits, supplies, outside services, travel)
   b. Budget Explanation and Justification (for each budgetary line item)
   c. Other funding that supports the proposed research (Source & nature of support)
   d. TPI funds must not be used to pay overhead costs. “Overhead costs” are defined as ongoing operating expenses that include, but are not limited to, insurance, telephone bills, the purchase of facilities and utilities costs. In the event of any disagreement regarding whether a particular cost or expense is an “overhead cost,” the determination by TPI shall be final.

4. Technical Review
   Review of previous research relevant to objectives and pertinent technical items.
5. **Research Methods & Approach**
Provide sufficient information on plans and methods to be used in obtaining project objectives and a rationale for how it will contribute to the solution of the project objectives. Also describe the facilities and equipment available to conduct proposed research. If your project is approved, the equipment and facilities described will become a part of our research contract with you.

6. **Implementation Statement**
A statement that demonstrates a vision of how the results could be beneficial to the peanut health and wellness message. *This will be a major consideration in project funding.*

7. **Schedule of Events**
A time schedule of the major steps outlined in the proposal, and a proposed length of the project. *Multi-year projects may be submitted; however, funding must be approved on a year-to-year basis and availability of future funding is not guaranteed.*

8. **List Facilities & Equipment Available**

9. **Investigator Qualifications**
Include a brief vitae for each investigator, including citations for publications within the past five years.

Evaluation criteria include: scientific merit, relevance to the advancement of the peanut nutrition message, estimated timeline for the availability, release or commercial application of anticipated products from the research, availability of equipment and facilities, probability of success, and appropriateness of the budget. Any documents that the proposer expects TPI to sign should be submitted with the proposal. The Board of Directors of The Peanut Institute Foundation will approve the projects to be funded and the amount of funds allocated for each project.
Potential research areas

**Other research areas that increase understanding of peanut/peanut product consumption and human health are encouraged.** All proposals that advance the health and wellness message of peanuts will be reviewed.

**I. Diet quality/overall health**

A. Peanut/peanut product consumption and diet quality/overall health
   1. Pregnant women (eg., gestational diabetes; effects on offspring health)
   2. Children
   3. College students
   4. Older adults
   5. Rural residents

B. Dietary pattern analysis (association with overall health)

**II. Brain**

A. Peanut/peanut product intake and brain health
   1. Cognition: Memory and learning
   2. Stress/Mood/Anxiety/Depression
   3. Neurodegenerative diseases

**III. Chronic diseases**

A. Peanuts/Peanut Products and Diabetes
   1. Post-prandial glucose levels
   2. Long-term glucose control
   3. Gestational diabetes

B. Peanuts/Peanut Products and Metabolic Syndrome

C. Peanuts/peanut product consumption and CVD
   1. Anti-inflammatory biomarkers
   2. Endothelial function
   3. Stroke risk
   4. Myocardial infarction
   5. Hypertension

D. Peanuts/peanut products and obesity

E. Peanuts/Peanut products and cancer

**IV. Gut microbiome**

A. Prebiotic effect of peanuts/peanut products

B. Modulation of the gut microbiome for protecting against chronic diseases and/or improving overall health