

Request for Proposals

Louisiana Beekeepers Association: Grant Awards for Applied Honey Bee Research



State of Louisiana Funds from Specialty Honey Bee License Plate Fees

Background: According to the 2012 Louisiana Revised Statute 47:463.157, an annual royalty fee shall be collected by the Department of Public Safety and Corrections and forwarded to the Louisiana Beekeepers Association, Inc. or its successor organization. “The money received shall be used solely for financial aid for graduate students working on applied honey bee research projects at the United States Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service Honey Bee Breeding, Genetics and Physiology Research Laboratory in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The Louisiana Beekeepers Association, Incorporated, shall establish and disburse the funds for the scholarship program.”

Following several years of these specialty license plate fee collections, the Louisiana Beekeepers Association has adequate funding to announce a competitive grant program for the awarding of one or several applied honey bee research grants for 2017. We now welcome graduate student research proposals for potential grant funding. Grant funds may be requested and used for project-related needs such as research supplies, purchase or rental of equipment, and travel. There will be one or several grants totaling \$5,000 potentially awarded in 2017. Deadline for applicant proposals for this research funding is November 1, 2016.

Proposal Submission Criteria: 1. Proposals are welcome from graduate students attending Louisiana universities for conducting applied honey bee research. The justifications for the proposed research, its objectives, and a plan for work activities during the year after a funding award should be clearly stated. Proposals should not exceed four pages (double-spaced), excluding a title page, as well as a possible reference listing, a short personal resume, and a letter of support from a graduate faculty advisor. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

2. The investigator should present his or her work progress and/or conclusions at the annual December convention of the Louisiana Beekeepers Association following this grant award. Acknowledgement of the source of this financial support and the role of Louisiana Beekeepers Association should be included in any presentations or publications that result from this funded research.

3. The proposal should be arranged in the following format: (a) cover page to include title of research, applicant name, university affiliation, and e-mail address and telephone number; (b) need and justification for proposed research; (c) research objectives; (d) project description; (e) work/activity timetable; (f) budget; (g) reference listing; (h) short (half-page or less) personal resume; and (I) letter of support from a graduate faculty advisor.

4. Electronic copy of the proposal should be submitted by November 1, 2016 to the following e-mail address: steve@labeekeepers.org Questions concerning this grant competition can also be directed to this address.

Proposal Review Process: Board members of the Louisiana Beekeepers Association and experienced researchers working at the USDA Honey Bee Lab in Baton Rouge will serve on this five-person grant review panel. None of the panel members will have a direct connection to any research project for which a proposal has been submitted. In case of such conflicts, that panel member will be excused from voting. Evaluation of proposals will be made on the following criteria: scientific merit; relevance of project to improving beekeeping and honey bee sustainability; and reasonableness of the budget proposal to actual work to be performed. All funds awarded from this scholarship must be expended within a year of the award, and a full accounting of expenditures made available to the LBA treasurer with 15 months of the award.