

# PEST MANAGEMENT RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

## PART 1 | 2020 SOLICITATION

### PEST MANAGEMENT RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) established the Pest Management Research Grant Program to develop practices that reduce the use of and risk from pesticides of human health or environmental concern in California.

### SCOPE OF PROSPECTIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

The current solicitation funding is for projects that advance safer, more sustainable pest management alternatives to chlorpyrifos with the goal of developing and fostering integrated pest management practices (IPM) that can be voluntary adopted.

DPR uses the University of California Statewide IPM Program definition of IPM as an ecosystem-based strategy that focuses on long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques. These techniques might include biological control, habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices, and use of resistant varieties. Pest control materials are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, beneficial and non-target organisms, and the environment.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCEPT APPLICATIONS

Concept Application forms must be downloaded from DPR's Research Grants webpage. Completed Concept Application forms must be emailed to [dprpmgrants@cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:dprpmgrants@cdpr.ca.gov) and be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 7, 2020.

Concept Applications: <https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pestmgmt/grants/research/solicitation.htm>

### 2020 FUNDING PRIORITY:

Projects that advance safer, more sustainable pest management alternatives to chlorpyrifos.

|                     |               |  |
|---------------------|---------------|--|
| Phase I, Concepts   | Jan 2, 2020   | Release grant solicitation   |
|                     | Jan 9, 2020   | Conference call for questions about the Research Grant Program and Solicitation (See <a href="#">Conference Call</a> ) |
|                     | Feb 7, 2020   | Concepts due by 5:00 p.m.  |
| Phase II, Proposals | Feb 21, 2020  | Notice of invitation to submit proposals   |
|                     | April 6, 2020 | Proposals due by 5:00 p.m.   |
|                     | July 1, 2020  | Grants awarded   |
| Project             | Sep 1, 2020   | Project start date   |
|                     | Jun 30, 2023  | All work must be completed   |
|                     | Sep 28, 2023  | Final invoices due   |

## GRANT SUBMISSION PHASES

**Phase I, Concept Applications:** This is a screening tool to ensure that the project meets the objectives of the grant funding priority and that the applicants and project team meet the eligibility requirements of the Pest Management Grant Program and have the background and technical experience to successfully complete the project. A concept application is a brief and concise description of the project. It describes the research need, methodology, objectives, deliverables, schedules, research design and analysis, and the project team.

**Phase II, Proposals: *Proposals are by invitation only.*** A proposal is an elaboration of the details and methodology of the project. It should provide: concise descriptions of the project methods; a detailed scope of work; a detailed description of the tasks and the deliverables that will be produced to meet the project goals; a schedule describing when the deliverables will be produced; a task budget; a budget statement; a budget justification, and; commitments from each team member to participate in the project.

## FUNDING

On July 1, 2019, \$2.1 million was made available for projects that advance safer, more sustainable pest management alternatives to chlorpyrifos. Approximately \$1.1 million remains to fund further projects. DPR will consider applications for chlorpyrifos projects that range from \$150,000 to \$500,000.

DPR expects to fund 2 to 4 chlorpyrifos projects.

The terms and conditions in the grant agreement templates are **NOT NEGOTIABLE**. Applicants, including UC/CSUS applicants, must be able to comply with all the terms and conditions in the solicitation and the proposed grant agreement (**including overhead capped at 25% and Exhibit G for UC/CSUS applicants**). If you cannot comply with those terms and conditions, please do not submit a proposal. A project cannot be dependent on other sources of funding for the completion of any task or deliverable. However, in-kind contributions of personnel time, equipment, facilities, and materials by team members are allowed.

## TIMELINE

Projects may not begin before the stated grant funding start date or before the state budget is approved, whichever is later. The grant agreement must be fully executed before any chargeable work begins. All project work must be completed by June 30, 2023.

## ELIGIBILITY

Government and tribal agencies, universities, colleges, consultants, pest control businesses, commodity groups, marketing orders, and nonprofit organizations that have experience performing research are eligible. DPR employees are not eligible to receive funds. Principal investigators cannot have outstanding fines or penalties with DPR or the County Agricultural Commissioners. Projects that focus on research and development toward product registration will not be funded.

Members of DPR's Pest Management Advisory Committee (PMAC) are eligible but:

- Must recuse themselves entirely from the grant review and selection process and may not score, discuss, or vote on any proposed grant project in the grant cycle if during that grant cycle, they: (a) are on the management team or are a principal investigator for a proposed grant project; or (b) have an immediate family member that is on the management team or is a principal investigator for a proposed grant project.
- Must recuse themselves from scoring, discussing, or voting on the proposed grant project for which they are associated if they participate as consultants, advisors, or in any other capacity (other than as a management team member or a principal investigator) for a proposed grant project. They are not precluded from scoring, discussing, or voting on proposed grant projects for which they are not involved.

## REQUIRED REPORTS, MEETINGS, AND TECHNICAL DELIVERABLES

### • Reports

- **Quarterly Progress Reports:** Concise summaries of project activities, completed milestones, and unexpected problems or special situations are required. The reports must focus on results, problems, and special situations that are explicitly related to project deliverables and must clearly describe any potential or actual effects on the deliverables or their completion dates. The reports must also detail personnel work hours or percent time. They are due by the last day of every calendar quarter after the grant agreement is executed.
- **Annual Reports:** Annual reports include detailed accounts of results to date, problems encountered, milestones achieved, and plans for the next year. The reports must focus on results, problems, milestones, and plans that are explicitly related to project deliverables and must clearly describe any potential or actual effects on the deliverables or their completion dates. They are due every June 30<sup>th</sup> after the grant agreement is executed except for June in the final year of the project when the final report is due.
- **Final Report:** The final report describes in detail how project goals and objectives have been fulfilled through the completion of project deliverables, summarizes and evaluates project activities and accomplishments, and includes recommendations for outreach and/or future research. The final report must focus on how project results are explicitly related to project deliverables and must clearly describe any potential or actual effects on the deliverables. A draft of the final report is due two weeks before the completion of the project and the final version that incorporates suggested edits is due no later than the project completion date. The final report may be submitted in the form of a publishable paper, with supplemental appendices as needed to correlate the findings in the paper with how project goals and objectives have been fulfilled through the completion of project deliverables, and also to include recommendations for outreach and/or future research.

### • Meetings

- **Initial Project Meeting:** The grant manager and the principal investigator will meet in person within 30 days after the agreement is executed. The agenda of this meeting will be a review of the role of the PI, the project timeline, the project deliverables, and provide an opportunity to discuss any questions regarding the objectives and tasks (administrative staff will discuss invoicing via a separate conference call).

- **Quarterly Project Update Meetings:** Project update meetings will occur by the last day of every calendar quarter, in person or by conference call, as requested by the grant manager or a designated representative. All key personnel needed to explain project results, problems, and special situations that are explicitly related to project deliverables must attend. The principal investigator must notify the grant manager of meeting dates and locations at least two weeks in advance. If requested by the grant manager, meetings should occasionally include representation by the intended end-users of the research results (e.g., growers, marketing boards) for feedback and insights to improve effectiveness and usefulness of the results. The grant manager may require additional meetings as needed.
- **DPR Presentation:** The Principal Investigator(s) or other key personnel will make a summary presentation in the greater Sacramento area during the project's final year, or in the year following the completion of the project. The presentation will provide information connecting the reported results and conclusions with the project's goals, objectives, and results.
- **Required Technical Deliverables**
  - **Administrative:** In addition to the meetings and reports described above, each grantee is required to submit a research plan, proposed experimental design, and description of study sites for DPR's review and approval within 30 days after the agreement is executed. For each of the experiments or studies the deliverable must include detailed accounts of relevant methods and procedures that include: working hypotheses; working significant treatment differences that are relevant for decision makers; experimental design; choice of statistical software; treatments; sampling methods; response variables; analytical methods; treatment means comparison methods; study sites, and; study site characterization.
  - **Research:** Tangible research products must be specified as deliverables for each significant step of the project and sufficient detail must be provided so that the grant manager can determine if the goals and objectives stated in the grant agreement are being met.

## PHASE I, CONCEPT APPLICATIONS

### REVIEW PROCESS

Concept Applications will be reviewed by DPR staff to determine which applicants will be invited to submit a Proposal. DPR staff will review the Concept Applications using the criteria provided below.

### QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. The project must primarily benefit the people of California.
2. The applicants, primary investigator, key-persons, subcontractors, and consultants included in the project must be eligible to contract with the Department of Pesticide Regulation.
3. The requested funding is within the specified minimum and maximum funding limits.
4. The goal of the project to advance safer, more sustainable pest management alternatives to chlorpyrifos.
5. The project deliverable must contribute to an IPM system.
6. The project results and deliverables must be freely available to the public.

## REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. Project Description
  - Does the project advance safer, more sustainable pest management alternatives to chlorpyrifos?
  - If successful, will the project significantly contribute to satisfying that need?
  - Is the research methodology and project plan clearly described, does it have merit, can it be reasonably implemented, and is it likely to answer the research questions?
  - Are the IPM strategies and any pesticides proposed as alternatives clearly described?
2. Project Objectives
  - Are the objectives clearly stated and related to the Pest Management Research Grant Program needs?
3. Project Deliverables
  - Are the deliverables clearly stated and likely to satisfy the objectives?
4. Project Deliverable Completion Dates
  - Are all of the completion dates reasonably achievable within the grant period?
5. Project Design and Analysis
  - Are the proposed experimental designs, surveys, analytical studies, statistical analyses, or modeling approaches logical, implementable, and capable of answering the research questions?
6. Principal Investigators and Key Research Team Members
  - Do the principal investigator and key research team members have the background and technical experience to conduct the research, and administer and complete the project?

## PHASE II, PROPOSAL

*Proposals are by invitation only for the selected Concept Applications. DPR will email Proposal packages and instructions to the invited applicants. Uninvited proposals will not be accepted and will not be reviewed.*

## QUESTIONS & FEEDBACK

### Pest Management Research Grant Questions:

Contact Jordan Weibel at [Jordan.weibel@cdpr.ca.gov](mailto:Jordan.weibel@cdpr.ca.gov) or 916-445-0430.

### Conference Call:

Conference call for general questions about the Research Grant Program and the Solicitation.

Time: Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 p.m.

Phone: 1-877-820-7831

Passcode: 357242

### FEEDBACK

We continue to strive to create a Pest Management Grants Program application and review process that is straightforward and easy to use. Your input is valuable in letting us know what we are doing right and where we can improve. We appreciate your constructive feedback in the form of comments and suggestions regarding our Pest Management Grants Program and application process. Please submit them to the contact person listed above.

**PART 2 | GRANT AGREEMENT TEMPLATES**