

CeZAP Interdisciplinary Team-building Pilot Grant RFP
Supported financially by Fralin Life Sciences Institute, and Agency 229

Purpose: The Center for Emerging, Zoonotic, and Arthropod-borne Pathogens ([CeZAP](#)) at Virginia Tech requests pilot grant applications to build interdisciplinary research teams in the broad area of infectious diseases, leading to collaborative extramural grant submissions. These pilot grants are supported financially by [Fralin Life Sciences Institute](#) and [Agency 229](#). Priority will be given to proposals seeking to advance CeZAP's mission to promote and foster interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research collaborations across different colleges. The maximum amount of award for each proposal is \$20,000.

Eligibility: At least two CeZAP affiliated faculty, each from a different [CeZAP-affiliated college](#), should serve as PI and Co-PI. To build a competitive team for subsequent extramural grant applications, co-investigators from Virginia Tech who are not CeZAP affiliated faculty, and/or from other Institutions, may be included.

Research topics: We seek interdisciplinary research proposals that take advantage of the broad faculty expertise within CeZAP to tackle complex emerging problems in infectious diseases, leading to potential future successful extramural funding. Current CeZAP's [thematic research focus areas](#) include:

- Antimicrobial Countermeasures (vaccine/drug)
- Computational Biology and Disease Modeling
- Ecology and Epidemiology
- Environmental Microbiology
- Host-Pathogen Interactions
- Human Dimension of Infectious Diseases
- Immunology
- Public Health and Clinical Microbiology
- Vector Biology and Vector-borne Diseases
- Zoonotic Diseases

If your pilot grant proposal does not fit one of these thematic areas, please contact Dr. X.J. Meng <xjmeng@vt.edu> for further discussion before writing and submitting your proposal.

Requirements: This pilot grant program is intended to help build collaborative research teams across disciplines within CeZAP and to generate preliminary data that will result in the submission of an extramural collaborative grant application by July 2022. The award recipients therefore shall provide an annual report on manuscript publications and presentations until an extramural grant application is submitted. The Fralin Life Sciences Institute, Agency 229, and CeZAP should be acknowledged for support in publications and presentations.

Timelines: The deadline for application is **October 15, 2020**. A single pdf file of the proposal [last name_CeZAP_pilotgrant.pdf] should be emailed to **Dr. Janet Webster** <jbwebste@vt.edu>. Notification of awards will be made by November 1, 2020. The funds must be spent by June 15, 2021.

Review criteria: A committee consisting of CeZAP affiliated faculty with diverse expertise in different thematic focus areas will review the proposals. The review criteria will include the scientific merit and feasibility of the proposal, composition of interdisciplinary team benefiting diverse CeZAP faculty groups, relevance to CeZAP mission and thematic focuses, and documentation of a well-thought plan for submission of an extramural collaborative grant.

2020 CeZAP Interdisciplinary Team-building Pilot Grant Application
[3 page limit (single-spacing, 12 font), excluding the cover page and BioSketch]

Cover page

Title of Proposal:

PI:

Name, email address:
Department, College:

Signature

Co-PI:

Name, email address:
Department, College:

Co-PI:

Name, email address:
Department, College:

Co-PI:

Name, email address:
Department, College:

Co-I:

Name, email address:
Department, College:

Co-I:

Name, email address:
Department, College:

Requested amount:

Brief Summary (75 words): This will be used to announce the awards and will be published on the CeZAP website. Therefore, please do not include any proprietary information in the summary.

Project description (2-page or less): Describe the uniqueness and significance of your proposed work, rationale and hypothesis to be tested, experimental strategies, and anticipated outcomes, along with other things thought to be pertinent.

Plan for submission of a collaborative extramural proposal by July 2022: Briefly describe your planned timeline leading to the submission of an extramural collaborative proposal. What is the funding agency or RFA (if available) for your planned proposal submission, and other information thought to be important for future funding.

Budget:

Wage:

Reagents and supplies:

Equipment (if necessary):

Other (specify):

Total amount requested:

BioSketch: NIH or NSF style BioSketch of PI and co-PI only.