

Please read application in its entirety.

Application for Production & PostHarvest Research Funding

Introduction:

Thank you for your interest in submitting a research application to identify and solve floral industry challenges. Your work and expertise is extremely important to us and to the future of floriculture.

In an effort to streamline our review process and make the application process easier for you, AFE has moved to a single application review system. No longer will there be a pre-proposal application followed by a full proposal submission. We've created this new application that will be reviewed by the AFE research committee, SAF's Growers Council, and then peer reviewed, if selected.

To help guide your research projects, we've provided our research priorities as identified by our stakeholders. While these are our current priorities, we encourage you to submit any research proposals that identify and solve current and future floral industry challenges. AFE's research priorities are reviewed annually and modified as needed.

The primary research priorities are listed below. They are focused on all floricultural crops – fresh cut flowers, fresh cut greens, flowering potted plants, foliage plants, bedding plants and perennials.

- Botrytis Control and Management
- Thrips Control and Management
- Biocontrol of Pests
- Postharvest Technology
- Production Technology
- Advanced Breeding Technology, including CRISPR
- Long-Term Storage and Shipping Conditions for Cut Flowers
- Automation and Technology Leading to Labor Savings
- Sustainable Production and Handling Practices
- Reduce the Impact of Climate Change on Production, Handling and Product Quality

If you have any questions about this new process, or the application, please don't hesitate to contact AFE Research Coordinator Dr. Terril Nell (tnell@afeendowment.org), or AFE Executive Director Debi Chedester (dchedester@afeendowment.org)

Application Timeline and Guidelines

Research Application

- The application must be completed in its entirety using the provided form, including a two-page description, and a letter of endorsement acknowledging compliance with university policies.
- A realistic timetable, budget and scientific approach must be provided. Inclusion of preliminary data is desired.
- Literature review must be brief, but include relevant research conducted either domestically or internationally.
- Applications do not require an intellectual property agreement. However, all researchers must be aware of and conform to their organizational property rights agreements.
- Applications not conforming to these guidelines will not be reviewed.

Application and Review Timeline:

- Applications with supporting materials must be submitted electronically in a single PDF file by August 1 of each year – PDF should be emailed to: dchedester@afeendowment.org
- All applicants will be notified of application status/preliminary approval and peer review no later than October 15.
- Projects selected for final funding will be notified in January of each year.
- If funded, researchers agree to:
 - Present a special research reports at the conclusion of the project (within 60 days of the completion of project.
 - Provide acknowledgment of funding by the American Floral Endowment in all publications and presentations.
 - Submit an annual project progress report annually (for multi-year projects).
 - Publish not only in professional journals and other scientific publications but also in industry publications.

Multiple-Year and Team Projects

To accomplish the research goals of the project, the Endowment funds one to three-year projects. In addition, projects with either a single researcher or multiple researchers at the same or different institutions are considered. When two or more researchers are included, a “team leader” must be designated to coordinate the implementation and reporting of the project. Grants will be paid to each team member and/or institution separately as requested.

Industry Relevant Research

Research funded by the American Floral Endowment should be relevant to current and future industry needs and results should provide information that has commercial applications directly to the industry – growers, wholesalers, retailers and transportation. Publication of trade magazine articles, AFE newsletter articles and scientific publications will be requested as part of funded projects. Researchers may be asked to participate in webinars and to provide presentations for the flower industry.



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Production & Post-Harvest Research Application

Application must be typed into this form and submitted by August 1. Submit electronically (PDF) to: American Floral Endowment, dchedester@afeendowment.org

Research Project Title: Must be concise and descriptive.

Running (three word) Title: _____

Identification of Research Goals: Precise identification of the specific objectives of the project.

Proposed Project Duration	Start (Mo/Yr)	Completion (Mo/Yr)	Total Years
	_____	_____	_____

Designated Research Category (Check only one):

Breeding and Genetics	Flower Storage and Shipping	Production Technology/Protocols
Disease Management	Nutrition/Water Management	Automation/Labor Saving Technology
Insect Management	Post-Production	Other

Project Description

Two-page responses must be submitted as a separate PDF using a 12-point font. They must include:

- Precise identification of the current and/or potential problem (project objectives).
- Proposed industry impact of the research to the industry.
- Inclusion of preliminary data, which is highly encouraged.
- Development of realistic approaches and timetable to solve the problem.
- Resources available and/or required to carry out the project.
- Citations of pertinent literature.

Total Estimated Cost: (No university overhead or indirect costs will be funded and must not be included). List multiple year requests here. **Multi-year projects must contain budgets for all years.*

Year 1 _____ Year 2 _____ Year 3 _____

Researchers: For projects involving multiple researchers, a “team leader” must be identified to coordinate the implementation and reporting for the project.

Team Leader & Academic Rank	Institution
_____	_____

Other Researchers:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Name & Information of Team Leader Submitting Application:

Name _____ Date: _____

University: _____ Department: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____



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PROPOSED BUDGET

Running Title:			
Year of Application:			
Team Leader:	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
Salaries and Wages			
Graduate Student(s)			
Technical Support Staff			
Post Doctoral			
Equipment *			
Materials and Supplies **			
Travel			
Publication Costs			
Other: (Explain)			
TOTAL REQUESTED PER YEAR			

* Describe any equipment over \$5,000

** Provide list of materials and supplies

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION

PROJECT SCHEDULING & DURATION
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Indicate 12-month period for requested funding (must begin after July) (Mo/Yr) _____ through (Mo/Yr) _____

Certify date when funds are needed for this 12-month period (Mo/Yr) _____

Will project be completed at the end of this 12-month period? Yes No

If no, provide projected completion date (Mo/Yr) _____ (Must not be longer than funded project dates)

OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Reoccurring research funds from Agricultural Experimental Station | _____ |
| 2. Funds from USDA Research Initiative | _____ |
| 3. Other Outside Research Funds | _____ |
| Sources: | |
| a. | _____ |
| b. | _____ |
| c. | _____ |
| d. | _____ |
| e. | _____ |
| f. | _____ |
| TOTAL | _____ |

Please include the below information as the final page(s) of the PDF document.

- 1) Researcher resumes (Limit to 1 page per researcher).
- 2) List of all project personnel (Provide the information listed below for each researcher that is being funding. Limit to one page per researcher).
 - a. Project Leader
 - b. Technician(s)
 - c. Graduate Student(s)
 - d. Post-Doctoral(s)
 - e. Visiting Scientist(s)
 - f. Other Personnel
- 3) List of relevant publications by researchers for the past 2 years