



Guidelines for 2008-09 CAT Grants

Applications for the July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 period are due

May 15, 2008.

Application forms are available on the CAT web page www.cat.columbia.edu

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1. Overview

General eligibility criteria for projects co-supported with CAT funds:

- scientific merit, topical relevancy (to CAT technical area*) and need
- commercial potential
- reasonableness of budget and project time frame
- commitment of matching funds (see Sections 3 and 5)
- significant documented economic impact to a New York State company
- historical results of PI from previous CAT grants, if any
- an industry partner in New York State that provides matching funds and required documentation (letters of support, etc.) for CAT reports to NYSTAR

* Generally biomedical informatics, bioinformatics/genomics/computational biology, biomedical imaging, computer science

2. How to Apply

To submit a grant application for 2008-09 –

- Complete the CAT Grant Application, 2008-09
- Complete the CAT Project Budget Form, 2008-09
- Submit application, signed by PI and supervisor (email application form; fax/mail original with signatures by May 15, 2008.
- Include signed (original) letter (on letterhead) from company confirming matching funds and anticipated economic impact.

3. Awards

Applicants may request grants of up to \$50,000 for 2008-09. Larger budget requests with significant match and potential economic impact will be considered. Addition of in-kind match from company sponsor can help rating, but is not a substitute for cash.

4. Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by an internal group – the CAT Management Team.

5. Matching Funds (see also Paragraph 6)

- Only projects with committed matching funds will be accepted for review. Committed means a letter from a company senior manager clearly stating the type and level of match. Committed matching funds must be completely spent by the end of the project year - June 30, 2009.
- There are two categories of matching funds accepted by NYSTAR:
 1. Cash from NYS companies
 2. Cash from non-NYS and in-kind from both NYS and non-NYS companies, including federal grant fundsProof of cash payment is required.
- The target match ratio of NYS cash to CAT funds is 4:1. Preferred applications will have NYS cash match in excess of this minimum.

- ❑ Applications for projects with less than the 4:1 ratio or no NYS cash match will be considered, and may be funded, if the overall CAT match threshold for 2008-09 is achieved, and the allowable annual expenditure limit has not been reached.

6. Definitions

Economic Impact (to company resulting from the CAT project) consists of one or more of the following items:

- ❑ Number of new jobs created at company partner
- ❑ Number of saved jobs at company partner
- ❑ Revenue received by company
- ❑ Savings realized by company partner
- ❑ Capital expenditures by company partner
- ❑ Financing (e.g., angel, venture, other) received by company partner

Impact must be documented at year end by a letter from a senior company manager.

Matching funds includes cash and in-kind [equipment, materials, software, company labor on campus (with restrictions)] donations from industry client. Cash from a NYS company is the preferred type of matching funds.

7. Activities to Be Supported With NYSTAR Funds

The purpose of NYSTAR's investment in the CAT is to enhance its ability to contribute to economic growth in New York State. NYSTAR funds may only be used to support collaborative applied research with industry and industry-oriented education and training.

1. USES OF NYSTAR FUNDS

- ❑ Employment of faculty and support staff;
- ❑ Employment of graduate and undergraduate students, including fellowships;
- ❑ Purchase of equipment and/or fixtures;
- ❑ Purchase of materials and supplies;
- ❑ Travel to a company location for project-related activities;
- ❑ Other purposes explicitly approved by NYSTAR prior to being incurred.

2. LIMITATIONS:

Indirect Costs are limited to 15% of direct personnel costs (salaries plus fringe benefits). This Indirect Cost limit may also apply to industry matching funds.

NYSTAR funds cannot -

- ❑ be provided to any for-profit organization.
- ❑ be used for rent or capital construction; rehabilitation, renovation, or upgrading of existing space or infrastructure; or for telecommunications or utility costs.
- ❑ be expended on basic research or research projects that do not receive matching funds support from a company.