

## **AESIG Educational Research Fund: Request for Proposals**

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 15 Annually**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Anatomy Educators Special Interest Group (AESIG) Educational Research Fund is to support scholarship in anatomy education that is conducted by members of the AESIG. The proposed project must be related to issues relevant to teaching human anatomy in a physical therapy or pre-physical therapy curriculum.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible to receive the fund, the investigator must be a member in good standing of the AESIG at the time of application and receipt of the fund. Members may be clinicians, faculty, graduate students, or individuals in the AESIG Partner Programs. Graduate student members must use the fund to directly support the costs associated with their research project (thesis or dissertation). AESIG Board members and members of the SIG Research Committee are not eligible to apply.

**Funding:** The AESIG Research Committee will award up to \$1,000 seed money for a research project. Funds may support expenses such as data collection, statistical analysis, consulting fees, subject compensation, equipment costs, and publication of results. Funds may not be used for indirect costs or for travel to meetings. Funds will be distributed after the Committee receives the awardee's IRB certificate

**Application Process:** All applications must be submitted via the form at the bottom of this page. The proposal should be formatted with 1-inch margins, font size no smaller than 11-point Arial. The proposal should follow the format outlined below.

**Title Page:** Include the project title and the investigators' name, address and email addresses.

**Table of Contents:** Provide page numbers for each subsequent section of the proposal.

**Section 1: Abstract:** Structured format to include Purpose, Design, Methods, Data Analysis, and Significance. Three hundred words maximum, single spaced.

**Section 2: Specific Aims and Hypotheses:** Include what this specific project is to accomplish (1-page maximum, single spaced).

**Section 3: Research Plan:** Include preliminary data (if applicable), subjects, methods, variables, statistics, power analysis (if applicable), limitations, potential problems and risks, and a timeline for project completion (2-page maximum, single spaced).

**Section 4: Literature Cited:** Use AMA format, single spaced within each reference, double spaced between each reference.

### **Section 5: Appendices**

**Appendix A: Proposed Budget and Budget Justification:** AESIG funds should only be for necessary costs that are not available from other sources.

**Appendix B: Abbreviated Biography:** of the principal investigator (3-page maximum). Include: name and position; education and training (institution, location, degree, year, field of study); positions held and honors; publications if any; funding history, if any.

**Appendix C: IRB Informed Consent and Approval Letter,** if approved prior to submission of proposal. If not approved provide a timeline for IRB approval and description of risks and protections for human subjects (1-page maximum). The funds cannot be disbursed without IRB approval or an institutional exemption letter stating why IRB approval is not required for the project.

**Appendix D: Statement of Support (optional):** Provide a letter or statement from a supervisor describing the environment and discussing the time and/or equipment available to the investigator for this scholarly project.

### **Review Process**

**The submission deadline is JANUARY 15 annually.**

Complete applications will be reviewed independently by all three members of the AESIG Research Committee for scientific merit. Upon completing their reviews, the committee members will meet to discuss their reviews and make a final selection. Reviewers will use the following criteria to rate each proposal.

1. **Significance.** Relevance, importance, and potential contribution of the project to anatomy education in physical therapy.
2. **Approach.** Scientific merit, logic and clarity of the project design and methodology; feasibility to complete the project within the projected time and budget.
3. **Innovation.** Novelty of the approach; whether the project generates pilot data which can be used to acquire additional grant funding for a larger project.
4. **Investigators.** Training and experience of the investigators in relation to the proposed project; availability of mentorship as needed.
5. **Environment.** Institutional/clinical support.

**The AESIG Research Committee Chair will notify the recipient no later than MARCH 1. Funds will be released to the recipient by APRIL 1, as long as proof of IRB approval has been provided.**

Responsibilities of Fund Awardees:

Recipients of the research fund are required to complete the following items:

1. A 1-page progress summary must be submitted by APRIL 1 of the year after the award date of the funds.
2. Upon completion of the project, a manuscript/report must be submitted for publication to an appropriate peer reviewed journal.

3. The financial support of the AESIG must be acknowledged in published articles or scientific poster/platform presentations at professional meetings such as Combined Sections.

**Contact Information:**

Please address any questions to:

David Ebaugh, PT, PhD

debaugh@udel.edu

Office: 302-831-3922