

**EYE BANK ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**  
**Scientific Research Award**  
**2008**

**Program Description**

The Eye Bank Association of America announces the availability of EBAA Scientific Research grants to be awarded July 1. These awards are intended to provide support for proposals specifically concerned with issues directly related to eye banking and/or corneal transplantation. Preference is given to pilot projects, well-defined short-term protocols, and initial studies directed toward new research initiatives. Special consideration will be given to the following priority areas: new preservative media to improve epithelial survival during storage, the effects of hemolysis on serological tests and how to avoid them, investigation of the safety of medical examiner tissue, the utility of specular microscopy in donor screening, and the cost/benefit ratio of corneal transplantation.

**Deadline for submission is March 14, 2008**

Awards will be made on the basis of scientific merit according to current funding capabilities.

**Eligibility**

1. Physicians, including corneal surgeons, and other eye care specialists
2. Basic scientists, including biomedical and social scientists
3. Eye-bank technicians, nurses, postgraduate fellows, ophthalmology residents, and medical students who are supervised by a physician or basic scientist associated with an eye bank or academic institution

**Grant Requirements**

1. The research project must be relevant to the mission of the Eye Bank Association of America.
2. The award recipients must provide assurance that research protocols comply with appropriate ethical guidelines for the use of experimental animals and human subjects.
3. The principal investigator will prepare a final report describing the progress and status of the research project at the completion of the one-year award interval.
4. Scientific publication resulting for the research grant shall acknowledge support by the Eye Bank Association of America.
5. Grant recipients are expected to submit an abstract of their research findings for an EBAA scientific meeting.
6. This award may not be used to support a project already funded by another granting agency.

## **Budget**

1. Total budget should be in the range of \$3,000 to \$5,000 per project per year. An investigation of exceptional merit may be funded at a higher level up to \$10,000.
2. Travel, indirect costs, and salary support for the principal investigator must not be included in the budget costs.
3. Financial support is provided for consumable supplies and equipment necessary for the proposed investigation. No more than 50% of the funds, not to exceed \$2,500, may be used for major equipment purchases.
4. Research awards are designated for a one-year interval (July 1-June 30) and are made available in two payments. Unexpended and unobligated funds remaining after the one-year grant period should be returned to the EBAA. Renewal applications will not be accepted, but new applications stemming from prior research are encouraged for competitive consideration.
5. An applicant is not eligible to receive more than one EBAA scientific research grant per year.

## **Application**

The application form describing goals, background, methods and materials, and budgetary analysis must be completed. Applications should be typed and returned to the offices of the Eye Bank Association of America after approval by the appropriate eye bank or other non-profit institution.

**Applicants in training, eye-bank technicians, and nurses must submit a letter from the scientific supervisor regarding the capabilities of carrying out the proposed research study.**

Applicants who are not a Paton Society member or who are not affiliated with an EBAA eye bank must submit a letter of support from a Paton Society member or the medical director of an EBAA eye bank; this letter must address the applicant's capabilities for carrying out the research and the available facilities. A curriculum vitae of the principal investigator and/or scientific supervisor should be enclosed.

Completed applications and questions regarding the grants program should be addressed to:

EBAA Scientific Research Award  
Eye Bank Association of America  
1015 18<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 1010  
Washington, DC 20036

**PLEASE SUBMIT ONE ORIGINAL AND TWELVE (12) COPIES OF COMPLETED APPLICATIONS. FAX COPIES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE. DO NOT EXCEED THE SPACE ALLOWED FOR DESCRIBING THE PROPOSAL, OR YOUR APPLICATION MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING.**

EYE BANK ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
1015 18<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Suite 1010  
Washington, D.C. 20036

APPLICATION FOR EBAA SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AWARD

Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Title of Research Proposal: \_\_\_\_\_  
(56 characters maximum)

2. Principal Investigator: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Scientific Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Needed for applicants-in-training, eye-bank technicians, and nurses)

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Co-investigator(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ATTACH CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH!

5. Organization to which award should be made: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENSURE THAT THIS IS THE PROPER ADDRESS. FUNDS WILL BE SENT TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS ONLY!!**

6. Eye Bank Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Total Budget Request: \_\_\_\_\_

**8. IMPORTANT PLEASE READ**

**If the project is approved for support, I agree to provide a 6 month report and a project report and financial statement at the completion of the one-year award duration. I agree to return to the Eye Bank Association of America any unexpended funds. I agree to acknowledge support of the Eye Bank Association of America in all publications resulting from this grant. I have not applied nor have been awarded governmental or philanthropic funding to carry out this project.**

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal Investigator

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Chairman or Scientific Supervisor (if applicable)

PLEASE USE ONLY THE SPACE PROVIDED. COMPLETE ALL ITEMS. THE ONLY ATTACHMENTS SHOULD BE THE CURRICULUM VITAE FOR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR AND SCIENTIFIC SUPERVISOR(S), IF ANY. ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE TYPED. PLEASE PROVIDE ONE ORIGINAL AND 12 COPIES. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY DISQUALIFY THE APPLICATION FROM CONSIDERATION.

9. State the specific aim(s) of this study.

10. Summarize previous studies related to this project.

11. What is the significance of this study to eye banking and/or corneal transplantation?

12. **Research Plan** - Provide a concise description of the methodology to be used. Relate the research techniques directly to the specific aim(s).



16. Budget: Itemize all proposed expenditures. provide a brief justification for any item for which the need may not be obvious.

(a) Personnel

(b) Equipment (not to exceed \$2,500)

(c) Supplies (including cost per individual item)

(d) Other expenses

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: IT IS THE POLICY OF THE EYE BANK ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA NOT TO PAY INDIRECT COSTS.

17. Research Safeguards (if applicable): It is desirable to submit this form, completed and signed by a designated representative of the appropriate institutional committee with the original application, but submission of this page may be delayed to April 15.

A. Experimental Animals:

It is the policy of the Eye Bank Association of America that institutions and organizations using experimental animals in projects or demonstrations supported with funds from EBAA grants shall assure the EBAA in writing of compliance with the Principles for Use of Laboratory Animals as stated in the regulations of the Department of Health & Human Services.

This is to certify that \_\_\_\_\_ (Institution)  
is in compliance with the principles for use of laboratory animals under the regulations of the Department of Health & Human Services.

This is to certify that the research grant entitled

\_\_\_\_\_

submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
for consideration by the Eye Bank Association of America has been reviewed by the appropriate institutional committee and approved with the respect to compliance with the principles for the care, use and treatment of experimental animals under the regulations of the Department of Health & Human Services.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Institutional Official)

B. Human Subjects:

Safeguarding the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in research supported by the Eye Bank Association of America is the responsibility of the institution to which the support is awarded. It is the policy of the Eye Bank Association that no grant to support research involving human subjects be made unless the research is given initial and continuing review and approval by an appropriate committee of the applicant's institution. This review should assure that (a) the rights and welfare of the individuals involved are adequately protected, (b) the methods used to obtain informed consent are adequate and appropriate, and (c) the risks to the individual are outweighed by the potential benefit of him or her by the importance of the knowledge to be gained.

This is to certify that \_\_\_\_\_  
(Institution)

is in compliance with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service requirements regarding the initial and continuing review of research involving human subjects.

This is to certify that the research grant entitled

\_\_\_\_\_

submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
for consideration by the Eye Bank Association of America has been reviewed by the appropriate institutional committee and approved with the respect to the study of human subjects as adequately protecting the rights and welfare of the individuals involved, employing adequate methods of securing informed consent from these individuals, and not involving undue risk in the light of the potential medical benefits to be derived therefrom.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach copies of the consent form and IRB approval statement.

GRANT REVIEW FORM  
EBAA RESEARCH COMMITTEE

PROJECT TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

BUDGET REQUESTED \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIPT DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Rating (Circle)

<u>Critique Parameters</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>*</u>
1. Scientific, technical, or medical significance (relevance to eye banking)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
2. Originality of proposed research	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
3. Logic of aims and feasibility	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
4. Adequacy of experimental procedures	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
5. Likelihood to produce new concepts and/or to provide basis for further research	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
6. Appropriate protection of human subjects, animals, or environment (if hazardous materials or procedures)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
7. Qualifications of investigator to conduct proposed research	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
8. Availability of essential resources	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA
9. Budget: adequate justification for proposed expenditures	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10			NA

\_\_\_\_\_ (\* NA = not applicable)

Funding Recommendation:                      Approve              Disapprove              Defer

Priority Score (for "Approve" only)                      1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Comments:

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ REVIEW DATE \_\_\_\_\_