



**US Lacrosse Sport Science & Safety  
Research Grant  
FY 2021 Request for Proposal**

**Grant Application Information & Instructions**

### **Mission Statement**

The purpose of the Center for Sport Science Research Grant Award is to foster original scientific investigations that strive to improve the health, safety, and performance of lacrosse at all levels of play.

### **Scope of Research**

The Center for Sport Science at US Lacrosse (the “Center”) welcomes research grant proposals that investigate issues within the broad discipline of sports medicine. Topics of interest include (in no particular order) **athlete development, rule implementation, protective equipment, injury/rehabilitation, head injury, and sport performance**. Special consideration will be given to projects that involve the youth population and include subjects from both the boys’ and girls’ games.

### **Scope of Funding**

Grant awards are designed to provide partial support of research projects. Grantee institutions are expected to provide all necessary basic facilities and services that normally would be expected to exist in any institution qualified to undertake such research. Overhead or indirect costs will be supported to a maximum of 10% of direct costs.

The Center expects to fund yearly projects with direct costs of no more than \$35,000 annually (including direct and indirect costs). The Research Grant Review Committee (RGRC) is interested in funding unique investigations ranging anywhere from small/pilot projects, up to significant projects that include well documented prior research and may provide partial salary support for key investigators. Grant proposals may include multi-year studies, however, funding for subsequent years is highly dependent upon performance and available funds.

The principal investigator will assume full administrative, fiscal, ethical, and scientific responsibility for the conduct of the project.

## Grant Application Instructions

- **Letter of Intent:** To receive full consideration, the Center should receive a Letter of Intent by **March 20, 2020**. The Letter of Intent should include the names of principal investigator(s), short biographies of the principal investigators, and the names of supporting institutions/laboratories. If the principal investigator(s) have published prior research related to the impending proposal, that research should be included as well.
- **Deadline:** Completed grant applications should be submitted to the Center no later than **Friday, May 15, 2020**. Incomplete submissions will not be given consideration. Applicants will be notified with a decision in August of 2020. Grant awards for proposals receiving funding will be distributed in early September 2020.
- **Human Subjects:** Human Subjects approval of the proposed research project by an Institutional Review Board or equivalent is required before funds will be disbursed. A copy of the Human Subjects approval should be sent to the Center ([researchassistant@uslacrosse.org](mailto:researchassistant@uslacrosse.org)). It is the sole responsibility of the principal investigator and their institution to ensure the work is carried out within the required guidelines. For any questions regarding Human Subjects research approval, please contact the Center prior to submission.
- **Electronic Submission:** The full grant application should be sent as an email attachment to [researchassistant@uslacrosse.org](mailto:researchassistant@uslacrosse.org).
- **Format:** The complete application should be in PDF format, 12-point font, and double-spaced. Please number all pages beginning with the cover page.

## Complete Proposal

The complete proposal should include the following sections.

See Appendix I: Checklist for Completed Application Prior to Submission.

1. **Cover Page** including the title of the proposed study, principal investigator with complete contact information (name, title, institution, address, phone, and email), and the names, titles and institutions of all co-investigators. At the bottom of the cover page, please also list the start and end dates of the project and the requested funding amount.
2. **Abstract Page** limited to 300 words. The abstract should include the following elements: Title, Investigators, Background, Purpose/Specific Aims, Methods/Study Design, Hypothesis, and Significance of Study.
3. **Table of Contents.**
4. **Detailed Budget.** Provide a detailed budget itemized by expense categories. The term of the proposal is one year. Funds may be used to support supplies and equipment, investigators, technicians, research assistants, study coordinators, or statistical support. Institutional overhead costs may be covered to a maximum of 10% of direct costs minus equipment and tuition. The budget should list the names and roles of all funded personnel to be involved in the project during the twelve-month period. In cases where an individual cannot be identified at the time of submission, providing the proposed position title and role are sufficient. Fringe benefit costs for these personnel may be included. If graduate student

support is included, indicate the amount of tuition and the amount of the stipend. If equipment is purchased, each item of equipment with a unit acquisition cost must be listed. Please give the justification for significant items of equipment, and any unusual costs. A maximum of \$750 is allowable for travel expenses directly related to conducting the project. In addition, existing grants or other funding sources being utilized for the same project should be listed separately by briefly stating the funding agency, amount, and general description of how the funds will be utilized.

5. **Research Proposal** The total research proposal (not including the abstract, budget, biographical sketches, and references) should not exceed 2,500 words (approximately 10 pages double spaced). Please include the following sections:
  - **Background:** Briefly describe the background leading to the present application and evaluate the existing studies relevant to this project.
  - **Preliminary Studies:** Provide an account of preliminary studies conducted by the principal or co-investigators pertinent to this application. This information will also help to establish the experience and competence of the investigators to pursue the proposed project and assist the reviewers in assessing the likelihood of success and completion of the study. (Copies of publications by the investigators pertinent to the proposed research may be included as an appendix.)
  - **Purpose/Specific Aims:** Concisely state the primary objective of the project. List also any other specific aims of the project.
  - **Study Design/Methods:** Describe the research methods, design, and statistical analyses to be used to accomplish the project. Include the setting and predicted sample size, and how the data will be collected and analyzed. Describe any novel approaches, tools, or technologies for the proposed study. A power calculation that justifies the number of subjects, or specimens, or other samples is encouraged in the statistical design. Discuss any potential difficulties and limitations of the proposed procedures.
  - **Hypothesis:** State the study hypothesis and a brief explanation based on the background information or preliminary studies presented.
  - **Significance of Study:** State the importance and relevance of the research described and the potential impact on lacrosse health and safety.
6. **Biographical Sketch** A biographical sketch for each investigator should be submitted. Each biographical sketch should be limited to 2 pages and include the following elements: name, institution, education, relevant past research, prior research funding, and relevant publications. (See Appendix II: Format for Biographical Sketch.)
7. **Time Table:** Provide a tentative timetable for the project including the start and end date (one year term and multiple years, if appropriate).
8. **References:** Please number all references in the order in which they appear in the proposal.
9. **Appendix:** *Title and DOI* of publications by the investigators (no more than three). Should be pertinent to the proposed research.

## Review Process

The review process is modeled after that used by the National Institute of Health and comparable national sports governing bodies. The Research Grant Review Committee (RGRC) may consist of members from the US Lacrosse Foundation, Sport Science and Safety Committee, US Lacrosse Board of Directors, or US Lacrosse at-large. Additional experts from identified fields of sports medicine will be recruited to serve on the committee. RGRC members are not eligible if they have applied for any US Lacrosse Research Grant as a principal investigator or co-investigator during that cycle of review, or if they have any real or perceived conflict of interest.

## Review Criteria

Overall Impact <sup>1</sup>	Criterion
<b>Scored Review Criteria</b> Five criteria will be given individual scores, 1-9. 1 = Poor, 9 = Exceptional. Worth 83% of overall impact score.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Significance (Score, 1-9)</li><li>• Investigator(s) (Score, 1-9)</li><li>• Approach/Methodology (Score, 1-9)</li><li>• Environment (Score, 1-9)</li><li>• Budget/Duration (Score, 1-9)</li></ul>
<b>Additional Review Criteria</b> Given an overall score, ranging 1-9. 1 = Poor, 9 = Exceptional. Worth 17% of overall impact score.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Partnership and Leadership</li><li>• Protections for Human Subjects (IRB Approval)</li><li>• Innovation/Originality</li><li>• Inclusion of Boy's &amp; Girl's Game</li><li>• Multi-year studies/Renewal</li><li>• Resubmission</li></ul>
<b>Comments/Revisions for Applicant</b> Grant applications may undergo one round of revisions at the request of the RGRC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comments/Questions for principal investigators</li><li>• Revisions</li></ul>

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<sup>1</sup> Overall Impact Score: Lowest Score Possible = 6, Highest Score Possible = 54.

### **Renewal/Extension Process**

- No-cost extensions may be requested from the Center for Sport Science **at least thirty days before the conclusion of the first year (July 1, 2020)**
- If the primary investigator is filing for an extension with additional costs, the final due date is **June 1, 2020 (sixty days before the conclusion of the first year)**. Please note that competitive renewals for subsequent year funding should be submitted as a complete Research Grant Application, and significant progress must be demonstrated in order to receive funding for a second year.

### **Presentations and Publications**

The Center for Sport Science encourages publication of research findings by the grantee in peer-reviewed scientific journals. All publications resulting in whole or in part from the grant must include a statement similar to: "Funded in part by a grant from the Center for Sport Science at US Lacrosse. The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of US Lacrosse." All presentations and posters should include a similar acknowledgment. US Lacrosse imposes no restrictions on copyrighting publications by grantees. The Center appreciates grantee's providing notification and sharing of any publications, presentations, and posters resulting from an award.

It is expected that any completed project funded by a Research Grant Award will be submitted for presentation for the US Lacrosse Annual Meeting and will be judged with all other research submissions by guidelines previously established by the Center for Sport Science.

## **Appendix I: Checklist for Completed Application Prior to Submission**

- Letter of Intent: **March 20, 2020** (researchassistant@uslacrosse.org)
- Deadline: **May 15, 2020** (researchassistant@uslacrosse.org)
- Deadline (at-cost extension): **June 1, 2020**
- Cover Page
- Abstract
- Table of Contents
- Budget
- Research Proposal (Background, Preliminary Studies, Purpose/Specific Aims, Study Design/Methods, Hypothesis, Significance of Study)
- Biographical Sketches
- Time Table
- References
- Appendix: Title & DOI of relevant prior publications

## **Appendix II: Format for Biographical Sketch**

- Name, Institution, and Address:
- Education:
- Past Research Experience:
- Prior Research Funding:
- Relevant Publications: