

**2021 Research Grant
Guidelines
and
Application**



Environmental Programs
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

RESEARCH GRANT GUIDELINES	3
<i>PURPOSE</i>	3
<i>QUALIFYING ORGANIZATIONS</i>	3
<i>GRANT ACTIVITIES (GRANTS OFFERED)</i>	3
<i>REQUIREMENTS AND PREFERENCES FOR FUNDING</i>	4
GRANT DETERMINATIONS, FUNDING AMOUNTS, MAXIMUMS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE FEES	5
PROPOSAL SUBMISSION – DUE DATES	5
LETTERS OF SUPPORT OR SUPPORT WITH MATCHING FUNDS – SUBMISSION WITH PROPOSAL	5-6
<i>CHECKLIST</i>	6
PROPOSAL REVIEW – TARGET DATES	6
APPLICATION COVER SHEET	7-8

RESEARCH GRANTS GUIDELINES

1. Purpose.

- 1.1 Providing funding for applied agronomic, environmental, and regulatory research that will benefit golf course superintendents and the golf courses they manage.
- 1.2 Providing funding for basic research for turfgrass or related programs that benefit superintendents and that may provide training for graduate students seeking an advanced degree. **Specific only to the O.J. Noer Grant, 3.1.5 below.**

2. Qualifying organizations shall include:

- 2.1 Universities/Colleges recognized and accredited by U.S. Department of Education (ED) and/or ED recognized higher education accrediting entities.

3. Research Grant Activities

- 3.1 **As funding is available**, GCSAA will provide grant opportunities for qualifying universities/colleges that fit within the following activities: (GCSAA will align the funding sources with the selected applications/projects in any given year.)
 - 3.1.1 Chapter Cooperative Research Program: To cooperate with chapters by providing matching funds for applied agronomic, environmental, or regulatory research that has been identified by the chapter as a significant local issue. The goal is to fund research that is important to superintendents.
 - 3.1.2 Dr. Michael Hurdzan Endowment: To support applied environmental research on golf courses, with the specific goal of reducing requirements for water, fertilizer, pesticides, or fossil fuels in golf course maintenance. The goal is to make golf courses more sustainable through innovative products and practices.
 - 3.1.3 Mark Kizziar Research Grant: To support applied research for optimizing water use on golf courses. The goal is to develop maintenance practices that result in well-conditioned golf courses which minimize the consumption of water resources.
 - 3.1.4 Aquatrol's Robert A. Moore Endowment: To support applied research for optimizing the growing environment for golf course turf, with specific goals for increasing the effectiveness of applied water, fertilizers and pesticides and thereby reducing the total requirements. The goal is to develop maintenance practices that result in beautiful golf courses with minimal impact on the environment and consumption of resources.
 - 3.1.5 O.J. Noer Research Endowment: To support basic research for turfgrass or related programs that benefit superintendents and may provide training for graduate students seeking an advanced degree.

4. Requirements and preferences for research proposals to receive funding:

4.1 The Dr. Michael Hurdzan Endowment, Kizziar Research Grant, O.J. Noer Research Endowment and Aquatrol's Robert A. Moore Endowment grants will be offered as they are available and based upon a single year or maximum two-year cycle. Projects will have a maximum two-year period to complete their objectives.

4.1.1 Projects may be submitted without matching funds, but **preference and priority will be given to those that have secured matching funds.**

4.1.1.1 Letters of Support: Projects without matching funds and with letters of support from local / regional Golf Course Superintendent Associations or related turfgrass foundations will be given **preference** over those applications without letters of support, but not those with matching funds (universities, golf associations or the USGA, section 4.1.2). Matching funds do not include other sources of external funding beyond those listed below.

4.1.2 Project requests with matching funds may be from one or more chapters, turfgrass foundations, golf associations, or participating universities depending upon the type of grant.

4.1.2.1 Letters of Support with Matching Funds: A letter from local / regional Golf Course Superintendent Associations or related turfgrass foundations is **required** for these proposals and must include the amount of matching funds. For universities, golf associations, or the USGA providing match, a letter from the organization's official representative indicating the matching funds is required as well.

4.2 The Chapter Cooperative Research grant will be offered annually. Projects will have a maximum two-year period to complete their objectives.

4.2.1.1 Projects may be submitted without matching funds, but preference and priority will be given to those that have secured matching funds from sources other than GCSAA and their affiliated chapters.

4.2.1.1.1 Letters of Support: A letter from an officer of a GCSAA affiliated chapter who is a superintendent is **required** for Chapter Cooperative Research Program proposals and must indicate the Chapter supports the research project regardless of the chapter's level or support (4.2.1.2).

4.2.1.2 Chapter Cooperative Research grant requests with matching funds must have support from a local affiliated chapter(s), turfgrass association/foundation or golf association only and **does not include the university option** for matching funds.

4.2.1.2.1 Letters of Support with Matching Funds: A letter from an officer of a GCSAA affiliated chapter who is a superintendent is **required** for Chapter Cooperative Research Program proposals and must include the amount of matching funds. For other matching organizations, a letter from the organization's official representative indicating the matching funds is required as well.

5. Final Grant Determination, Funding Amounts, Maximums, and Overhead / Administrative Fees:

- 5.1 Grant applicants will indicate which grant focus/purpose best aligns with their proposal. However, GCSAA will determine the final grant type and funding sources for approved applications / projects.
- 5.2 Projects will be funded up to \$15,000 maximum per year for up to two years for all projects. The maximum project funding total is \$30,000 for the life of the project.
- 5.3 Qualifying organizations that are providing the matching funds may provide more than \$15,000 per year or \$30,000 over two years of the project, but the EIFG and GCSAA will not match additional funds as stated above.
- 5.4 No indirect costs will generally be allowed, but administrative fees will be considered on a case by case basis.
 - 5.4.1 Applications may include administrative fees. However, when administrative or overhead fees are approved the amount will not exceed 16% for projects receiving GCSAA grants (not including matching funds) of \$10,000 or more annually. No overhead or administrative fees are allowed for projects funded less than \$10,000 annually.
 - 5.4.2 Applications' budgets may include salaries for student and graduate student labor, but generally not directly for primary investigators and depending upon overhead fees in part 5.4.1. This does not include direct payment of students' tuition. Tuition is not allowed.

Proposal Submittal Process

6. Proposals along with any supporting letters are due to GCSAA on Sept. 13, 2021.

- 6.1 Proposals may be submitted electronically via email to Mark Johnson, Associate Director, Environmental Programs, mjohnson@gcsaa.org, or in hard copy. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.
 - 6.1.1 If submitted electronically, include the principle investigator's last name in the file name.
- 6.2 Proposals should be typed, single-spaced using a minimum 10-point font.
- 6.3 Proposals must not exceed six total pages including the cover sheet.

Letters of Support and Letters of Support with Matching Funds

7. Letters supporting the project are to accompany the application and are due Sept. 13, 2021

- 7.1 The Research Committee carefully reviews all letters and the information in the letter plays an important role in making funding decisions.
- 7.2 If two or more chapters are cooperating to fund a proposal, each letter submitted in support of the proposal should be unique. It is not helpful to the chapter or the committee to receive duplicate copies of the same letter.

- 7.3 The Research Committee relies on the integrity of the chapter officer writing the letter to express their honest opinion of the value of the proposed research to superintendents.
- 7.4 The letter for chapter cooperative grants should indicate the severity of the problem. As an example, the problem is a minor inconvenience some years or the problem is troublesome and needs special attention most years or this is a devastating problem and needs considerable effort to manage every year.
- 7.5 Describe the benefits superintendents would realize if a solution to the problem is discovered.
- 7.6 If the chapter is providing funding for the project, state the total funding to be provided and the amount of funding to be provided each year if the project will last more than one year.

Checklist

Proposals must include the following to be accepted for review:

- Cover sheet – the cover sheet is available online.
- Proposal, maximum of six pages (including cover sheet), and must include the following:
 - Project title
 - Grant/Endowment that the project aligns with
 - Rationale for research/description of problem
 - Benefits of the research to golf course superintendents
 - Objectives
 - Materials/methods, including the location of the experiments and a list of treatments, if applicable
 - Expected results/outcomes
 - Brief section of literature cited (if desired)
 - Detailed budget showing all sources of funding
- Letters of Support and Support with Matching Funds

Proposal Review Process

Only proposals that are received by Sept. 13, 2021 and contain the required information will be reviewed by the Research Committee. The Research Committee is comprised of golf course superintendents and professional scientists. Notifications to applicants will begin in December after the winter Board of Directors meeting.

Proposals will be evaluated based on:

- Alignment with GCSAA research grant objectives and importance to golf course superintendents
- Well-defined experimental objectives and methodology (including technical merit)
- Demonstrated support from GCSAA chapters (letters) including matching funds
-

Proposals must be received by Sept. 13, 2021.

Submit your proposals electronically to:

mjohnson@gcsaa.org

or

Mail your proposals to:

GCSAA Research Department

1421 Research Park Drive

Lawrence, KS 66049-3859

2021 GCSAA Research Proposal Application Cover Sheet

Cover Sheet

Title of Project:

Principal Investigator(s):

Title(s):

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Amount Requested From GCSAA Each Year:

2022	2023	TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED
\$	\$	\$

Please Select Which Grant Opportunity You Are Applying For (Check One):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Michael Hurdzan Endowment | <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Kizziar Research Grant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatrols' Robert A. Moore Endowment | <input type="checkbox"/> O.J. Noer Research Grant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Cooperative Research Program | |

Please Provide Name(s) and Contact Information of University, Chapter, Foundation or Association Providing Matching Funding and Amount of Funding Requested from Each Organization per Year

(see grant guidelines):

1. Name of Organization:

2022: \$

2023: \$

Total: \$

Contact Person:

Title:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

2021 GCSAA Research Proposal Application Cover Sheet

2. Name of Organization:

2022: \$	2023: \$	Total: \$
Contact Person:		Title:
Address:		
City:		State: Zip:
Phone:		Fax:
Email:		

3. Name of Organization:

2022: \$	2023: \$	Total: \$
Contact Person:		Title:
Address:		
City:		State: Zip:
Phone:		Fax:
Email:		

4. Name of Organization:

2022: \$	2023: \$	Total: \$
Contact Person:		Title:
Address:		
City:		State: Zip:
Phone:		Fax:
Email:		