**Request for Proposals**

**American Meat Science Association**

**Resource Library**

**Call for Proposals**

The American Meat Science Association (AMSA) is seeking proposals for the development of various informational, technical, and scientific resources to add to a developing resource library. The resources will be available to the public on the AMSA website and/or the AMSA learning management system. This RFP is funded, in part, by Meat and Poultry Processor Expansion Program funding, so resources are requested that address all aspects of the meat business for all sizes of businesses and operations. Resources can be developed for all levels of experience and knowledge from beginning to advanced topics. The resources can include, but are not limited to fact sheets, presentations, videos, bulletins and worksheets. Collaborations among institutions is encouraged.

**Proposal Timeline and Requirements**

Proposals may be submitted to AMSA at any time, with the initial review of proposals taking place on upon receipt of proposal. Typically, a response on funding will be made within 2 weeks of submission. Proposals will continue to be accepted until funding is exhausted. Proposals should not exceed five pages in length (1-inch margins and 12-point font) and must contain the following sections:

1. Project Title
2. Investigator(s) and Affiliation
3. Objective(s) – Objectives should be clearly stated to include expected deliverables.
4. Rationale – To include justification for usefulness of the proposed resource(s) and indicate the capabilities of proposing investigator(s) and institutions to produce the proposed resource.
5. Description – The resource should be described in some detail, including format, and information provided.
6. Project Timeline
7. Project Budget – to include all costs associated with development of the resource. **AMSA does not pay indirect costs or professional salaries.**
8. Investigator Credentials (section not included in five-page limit) – For each investigator, provide a one-to-two-page biographical sketch highlighting the qualifications for work on this project.

Proposals should be emailed to information@meatscience.org

**General Requirements for Deliverables**

The deliverables must demonstrate the ability to ultimately develop resources that will be useful to meat processors including both existing establishments and new businesses. There are no specific topics that are requested, but efforts should be made to ensure that resources are not being replicated from existing information, and that any resources developed are both timely and useful for extended periods. Funding preference will be given to proposals that address specific topics rather than the development of course materials. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

* Business planning
* Employee training
* Understanding regulatory expectations (inspection, labeling, AMS)
* Equipment needs and uses
* Basic slaughter and meat cutting guides
* Basic processing, grinding, stuffing, cooking/smoking
* Meat quality measurements, pH, color
* Translation of existing resources to languages other than English
* Updating of existing resources to modernize and make more easily accessible

Additional examples of materials that could be developed would include specific topics such as:

* Determination of ingoing nitrites/nitrates for brines with varying pump concentrations and uptake methods (injection, tumbling, soaking, etc....), sausage formulations
* Determining Protein-Fat-Free for labeling of products such as ham
* Proper use of a captive bolt for all species
* Formulation, recipe, and process for less common processed products such as liver sausage, kidney pie, tripe, and others

Please note these are examples of the type of projects for which we believe there is a great need. Prior to submitting a proposal, we highly suggest you contact Robert Maddock to discuss your idea.

**Available Funds**

There is no limit to submitted budgets, but funds are limited. Preference will be given to proposals with budgets of less than $**25,000**. Higher budgets will be considered if the proposal meets the needs of the technical assistance library.

**Desired Timeline**

Projects that demonstrate the ability to produce deliverables in less than 18 months will be given the highest priority.

**Contracting and Reporting**

The successful proposal will be contracted with AMSA, and each party will reach agreeable terms on payment, deliverables, and intellectual property (IP) ownership. AMSA will retain at least a portion of the IP for the developed resources, and will reserve the right for production, replication, and distribution of any products. The resources may be also published on university websites and distributed to Extension and other interested personnel.

At minimum, the awardee will provide biannual progress reports and a final report, and AMSA will co-own and possess any tangible products created from this work.

For additional information about the projects contact Robert Maddock (rmaddock@meatscience.org).