



Biotechnology Meeting Grant (BMG)

Application Requirements & Instructions

Deadline

Proposals may be submitted during *any* Program quarter, as long as the agenda is completed and speaker's attendance (if any) confirmed, but will only be considered during the quarter that the meeting occurs along with other proposals received for meetings in that quarter.

IMPORTANT NOTE: In order to obtain a comprehensive review and timely notification of either an award or declination of a proposal, you *must* comply with the following guideline or the proposal will be rejected.

If your meeting falls *within 30 days after* the quarterly deadline for your meeting, your proposal must be submitted *45 days prior to that quarterly deadline*.

For example, if meeting date is *Jan. 11, 2010* – proposal must be submitted no later than *Nov. 27, 2009*.

Following is the timetable for submissions:

Meeting Date	Deadline – <i>Proposal must be received by NOON on:</i>
July – September	June 30
October – December	September 30
January – March	December 31
April – June	March 31

Any proposal received after the deadline dates listed above will be administratively declined.

Proposals must be submitted via the North Carolina Biotechnology Center online application.

⊗ *Proposals sent by fax, email, or hard copy will not be accepted.*

Program Requirements

Purpose

To support national and/or international meetings which advance the understanding or application of biotechnology and focus national and international attention on the North Carolina scientific or business communities. Meetings must promote information sharing and personal interaction focused on biotechnology research, education, or business in North Carolina.

⊗ *Meetings must include attendees from North Carolina as well as a substantial presence of national and/or international participants. For example, a "traveling" meeting held in a different state or country each year and/or an NC-based meeting with a large participation from the national or international biotechnology community.*

Funding and Additional Support Requirements

Applicants may request up to \$7,500. Actual award amounts are based on availability of funds and may be less than amount requested.

- Applicant is expected to obtain significant support in addition to Biotechnology Center funds.
- Awards typically cover costs such as speaker travel expenses, meeting site rental, and publicity.
- All award funds are disbursed directly to the applicant organization and must be used solely to support the meeting outlined in this application.
- All funds will be paid upon receipt of invoice(s) and the Technical Status Report at the end of the meeting.
- ⊗ *This grant does not provide funds to promote a specific product or to benefit one or a few companies or individuals.*

Biotechnology Center

- ⊗ *This grant does not cover food or refreshments for meeting attendees; gifts and/or honoraria for speakers or institutional overhead or facilities and administrative costs.*

Who May Apply

Any non-profit organization planning a national or international meeting in North Carolina that focuses on biotechnology.

- ⊗ *Proposals to fund meetings intended for a local audience only will not be accepted in this program. For local events, see the Biotechnology Event Sponsorship application package.*

Preliminary Consultation

Although not required, a preliminary consultation may be helpful to the applicant. To find out if a meeting that you are planning qualifies for this grant—or to obtain additional information—contact Ginny DeLuca, Core Programs Director at 919-549-8842 or send an e-mail to virginia_deluca@ncbiotech.org.

Review Process

The review process has several parts:

- Administrative review to ensure the proposed meeting relates to biotechnology and meets basic requirements and submission time frame.
- Full proposal review and funding recommendation.
- Final review and approval by the Biotechnology Center's senior management.

Courtesy Acknowledgement and Attendee Passes

Awardees are expected to:

- Appropriately acknowledge the Biotechnology Center in printed materials, signage, and publicity. See BMG website for Center logos file.
- Offer complimentary admissions to Biotechnology Center personnel.

Post-award Reporting

A Technical Status Report is required. More information on reporting requirements will be provided if a grant is awarded, or upon request.

Information Release

It is the policy of the Biotechnology Center to announce its awards through press releases and other publications. Meetings are also advertised on our website calendar. These communications typically include the Project Title and Public Information Summary that are provided by the applicant on the proposal Cover Sheet. No information is released on proposals not funded.

Confidentiality

The Biotechnology Center will endeavor to maintain the confidentiality of all applicants' information. However, the applicant is responsible for not disclosing any information that should not be reviewed outside of the Biotechnology Center.

Application Instructions

Step 1: Read the Requirements & Instructions

Thoroughly read the BMG Program Requirements & Instructions prior to submitting an application. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Ginny DeLuca at 919-549-8842 or virginia_deluca@ncbiotech.org.

Step 2: Prepare the Proposal

Prepare the Proposal as directed below (maximum size limit for the proposal is 1MB):

Proposal Formatting Guidelines

- Use standard font (such as Arial or Times New Roman) no smaller than 12 point.
- Page set-up should be for single-spacing on 8½"x11" paper.
- Number each page.
- Margins should be ¾" to 1".

- Each section should be titled using the header sections listed below and should match the Table of Contents.
- Do **not** use logos or letterhead on **any** proposal pages.
- ⊗ *Applications that do not meet these format requirements will not be considered.*

Proposal Requirements

The proposal **must** include the following sections:

- **Title Page**
Include Meeting Title, Meeting Director(s), and Name of Organization.
- **Table of Contents**
Include page numbers.
- **Proposal and Meeting Details**
Describe the meeting including the following details:
 1. Topic(s) to be the focus of the meeting
 2. Format (symposium, workshop, poster presentations, or other activities)
 3. Meeting Date (start and end dates)
 4. Location
 5. Agenda including presentation titles (tentative agenda acceptable, if full agenda is not available at time of submission)
 6. Information about speaker and other program presenters who have been or will be invited
 - Type (business person, scientist, or other type)
 - Projected number (speakers, guests, participants)
 - Names
 - Selection criteria
 7. Total number of attendees who have been or will be invited
 - Type (business person, scientist, or other type)
 8. How meeting will be publicized and copies of announcement/publicity, if available
 9. Fees to be charged attendees (if any)
 10. If documents will be published, describe how they will be distributed at meeting and subsequently made available to the public
 11. Statement indicating if this is an annual or recurring meeting

12. Statement indicating if the Biotechnology Center has provided prior support for the same or similar meeting

- **Significance**
In one page or less, justify the value of the proposed meeting to the North Carolina biotechnology community.
- **Budget Justification**
Include justification of the need for Biotechnology Center funding and detailed justification for each line item. This justification is in addition to the required Budget Form.
Include the **total cost of the meeting** as planned:
 - Amount requested of the Biotechnology Center by category. For example: speaker per diem expenses (fee, travel, food, lodging), meeting expenses (location, publicity), or other expenses (specify)
 - Justification of expenses in specified budget categories
 - Other funds available or anticipated to support the meeting

Convert your Proposal into a PDF Document

Convert your electronic document directly into a PDF. If you do not have the full version of Adobe Acrobat, the following websites offer free PDF conversion software:

- convert.neevia.com/ (no downloads required; convert to PDF right on the web)
- www.pdf995.com (free downloadable software)
- sourceforge.net/projects/pdfcreator PDFCreator (free downloadable software)
- ⊗ *Do not print and scan the proposal to convert to PDF – this will cause the PDF to be significantly larger (more megabytes). **Total for all documents should be no more than 3MB.***

Step 3: Complete the Budget

Prepare your Budget using the **BMG Budget Sheet** provided. All funds requested on the Budget Sheet must be justified under the Budget Justification section (above) of your proposal. The Budget is provided in Excel format and may be submitted as an Excel or PDF file.

- ⊗ *The title of the project **must** be included in the "Project Title" box at the top of the Budget Sheet.*
- ⊗ *Failure to use the Budget Sheet provided will result in rejection of the proposal.*

Include the **total cost of the meeting** as planned, including other sources of funding.

Allowable budget items to be requested from the Biotechnology Center include:

- Speaker per diem expenses (travel, food, lodging)
- Meeting expenses (location, publicity, materials and supplies)

Unallowable budget items as requested funds from the Biotechnology Center include:

- Food or refreshments for meeting attendees
- Gifts and/or honoraria for speakers
- Institutional overhead or facilities and administrative costs

Step 4: Complete Cover Sheet

See BMG website for link to Cover Sheet.

This Cover Sheet replaces the Institutional Letter of Support previously required and must be signed by an Authorized Organization Official (other than the Meeting Director) and attached to the electronic submission as a PDF.

Step 5: Complete the Online Application Form

Access the BMG Application Form at https://www.GrantRequest.com/SID_466?SA=SNA&FID=35032. Complete all pages of the form. You can stop and save at any time and return to finish later.

Step 6: Attach the Required Documents

Follow the online instructions for attaching the Required Documents. The Proposal, Budget, and Cover Sheet should be attached as three separate files.

Important note: Only **ONE** of each of the above file types may be attached to the application for a **total of three attachments**. Proposals submitted with more than three attachments will be **rejected**.

Step 7: Review and Submit

Review and submit your BMG application in accordance with the deadline schedule.

Submission of your grant application indicates that:

1. You have read and understand the information and directions in this Application Package and agree to be bound by the conditions stated herein.
2. You release the North Carolina Biotechnology Center from any claim for damages caused by:
 - a. Disclosures required under the provisions of any North Carolina or United States law, statute, or regulation,
 - b. Disclosures made in connection with the North Carolina Biotechnology Center's funding review and approval process,
 - c. Disclosures required by rule or order of any court of competent jurisdiction, or
 - d. Any other non-negligent, inadvertent, unintentional, unknowing, or immaterial disclosure.

You will receive a confirmation email notifying you that the Biotechnology Center has received your application.

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919-541-9366 • fax 919-549-8658

See our grant application Web page at www.ncbiotech.org/grants