

## 2009 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### INDOOR AIR QUALITY ASSOCIATION RESEARCH COMMITTEE

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA), through its Research Committee, respectfully requests submittal of proposals for co-funding of projects which qualify under the requirements of this offering, listed below.

The deadline for submittals is noon, Eastern Time, on the following dates:

February 15, 2009

May 15, 2009

August 15, 2009

November 15, 2009

Proposals should be submitted to: [klee@iestandards.org](mailto:klee@iestandards.org)

While it is not required, interested parties may at any time during the year submit a letter stating their intent to propose and providing a proposed title. This letter may pose questions to the IAQA Research Committee for clarification of what may be proposed, how it will be evaluated, or related questions.

Only proposals seeking co-funding of an existing or proposed governmental or private research project will be considered at this time. Funding may be sought during the RFP period or subsequent to award by another funding organization. IAQA prefers to disperse funds in parallel with or subsequent to funds of the primary funding organization(s), and cannot be used for proposal development or other pre-project activities.

Proposals will be accepted in electronic form only: MS Word or PDF are acceptable, any other format only upon approval of an e-mail request. No oral or paper proposals will be accepted. Brevity is considered a virtue, particularly when accompanied by clarity.

#### BACKGROUND

The Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA) is a non-profit, 501(c)(6) organization incorporated in the state of Florida in 1998. The association's membership includes more than 4,400 professionals, tradespersons and companies whose work affects the indoor environment. Membership is diverse and includes contractors, engineers, industrial hygienists, facilities managers, healthcare professionals, investigators, remediators, manufacturers and persons from other disciplines that affect IAQ. IAQA produces the leading training programs for indoor environment professionals, including the Certified Indoor Environmentalist, Certified Indoor Air

Quality Manager, Certified Microbial Consultant, and Certified Mold Remediator courses. IAQA does not certify individuals; however, most of those who receive IAQA training go on to achieve certification by the American IAQ Council and other certifying bodies. The association has been an active partner in industry standard setting projects, the development of practical guidelines and publications, and the creation of educational conferences and produce expositions.

IAQA has committed to developing a fund for research that receives an annual allocation that rolls into subsequent years if it is unspent. This commitment represents a long term view that IAQ-related businesses and services require continuous advancement of knowledge for the industry to succeed.

The Research Committee at IAQA is comprised of leading academic and industry researchers. The committee was reformulated in 2004 to develop a new strategy for research. Given the youthfulness and size of IAQA, it was agreed that the best investment of volunteer time and limited IAQA resources is in existing IAQ-related research where IAQA funding provides only a small minority of the total funding for a given project.

The strategy of participating only as a co-funding organization in larger projects limits certain aspects of IAQA participation in projects. For example, the IAQA Research Committee does not foresee creating separate demands for participation in intellectual property ownership that might result from research, but rather following the agreements with the major funding organization. Similarly, the IAQA Research Committee does not expect to direct or expand the scope of work for a project in return for funding.

The goal of the Research Committee is to develop a base of experience and a track record of success in co-funding research projects before tackling projects where it is the primary funding agent. This goal will guide the final determination for funding of projects in this funding cycle.

## **RESEARCH PRIORITIES**

The Research Committee believes that its primary concern is the quality of the indoor environment in buildings, reflecting the business, professional, and personal concerns of the membership of IAQA. However, consideration will be given to other indoor environments, such as vehicles, mass transit conveyances, or aircraft. There is no geographical limitation on the location of the research organization or of the research itself, although IAQA is primarily a US-based organization and results must be relevant to the Association membership.

Research priorities are also typically reflected in proposal scoring by reviewers. Proposals submitted for this program will be scored with weighting applied as follows:

- ❑ 50% technical merit of the research
- ❑ 25% benefit to the professional and business interests of IAQA (see [www.iaqa.org](http://www.iaqa.org))
- ❑ 25% benefit to human welfare and well-being

The Research Committee finds that the following topics in IAQ-related research are of particular importance in the current funding cycle and will place priority on them:

- ❑ Determination of baseline conditions in “healthy” buildings that can be replicated and used in the assessment of problem buildings
- ❑ Validation of inspection, sampling, and analytical techniques to improve the certainty of diagnosis of problem buildings
- ❑ Advancement of cost-effective technologies to protect workers engaged in the remediation of indoor environmental problems
- ❑ Advancement and assessment of technologies that measure or purify indoor air, reduce the potential for indoor environmental problems, or prevent moisture intrusion and mold growth in buildings

### **PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. The research organization must be a qualified organization or laboratory capable of the research proposed in the project plan, with appropriate commitment of resources from an authorized officer of the organization
2. The requested funding must represent 20% or less of the total funding for the project, with the majority of funding coming from one or more governmental, foundation, or corporate sources who have reviewed and formally approved the project
3. The proposal must include evidence in the form of an authorization or formal letter supporting the application from one or more of the primary funding organizations, including acceptance of IAQA as part of the review and approval process for reports and publications of the research
4. The proposal must include a statement that IAQA project management teams will have equal access to all researchers, data, analysis, reports, presentations, and other information shared with the primary funding organizations
5. The proposal must include a statement that IAQA may, at its discretion and with its own proposed language, choose to be recognized for its support of the project in any report, presentation, or publication resulting from the research
6. The proposal must include a description of the goals and objectives of the research as well as the overall scope, work plan, budget, and schedule of deliverables; this may be a duplicate of the proposals used for primary funding approvals

### **QUESTIONS**

Please direct questions by e-mail to Kristy M. Lee at [klee@iestandards.org](mailto:klee@iestandards.org)