



- Request for Proposals –

(Effective December 1, 2024)

The California Department of Food and Agriculture’s Pierce’s Disease and Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board (CDFA PD/GWSS Board) is currently accepting proposals for research and outreach projects on the following serious pests and diseases of winegrapes:

- Pierce’s disease and its vectors, especially the glassy-winged sharpshooter
- Brown marmorated stink bug
- Grapevine fanleaf disease
- Grapevine leafroll disease
- Grapevine red blotch disease
- Mealybug pests of winegrapes
- Spotted lanternfly

Proposals are due via electronic submission by **January 31, 2025**. Grants will be awarded for one to three years, beginning with California state fiscal year 2025-26 (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026). For projects awarded two or three years of funding, receipt of a subsequent year of funding will be contingent upon satisfactory progress being made during the prior year and the continuing relevance and importance of the project’s objectives.

Timeline

- Request for Proposals Released December 1, 2024
- Proposals Due January 31, 2025
- Award Notifications approx. May 15, 2025
- Start Date for Grants July 1, 2025

Funding

- The CDFA PD/GWSS Board’s Grape Pest and Disease Research and Outreach Program is funded by a special assessment paid by the California winegrape industry. Prior awards have ranged from \$4,300 per year to \$383,000 per year, with projects ranging from one to three years in duration.

General Information

- Funding preference will be given to projects deemed likely to lead to practical solutions to grape pest and disease problems in California.
- Multi-disciplinary team projects are encouraged.
- Applicants are responsible for obtaining all governmental permits required for conducting their proposed activities. For more information, please visit the following websites:
 - California research permits:
<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/permitsandregs.html>

- Federal research permits:
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/efile>
- Confidential information and materials should not be submitted.
- Periodic progress reports, a comprehensive final report, and a summary final report will be required for each funded project.
- Proposals representing a continuing project currently funded by the PD/GWSS Board must submit a progress report as a separate document by the January 31, 2025 deadline.
- Funded Project Leaders are expected to attend and report on their progress at the Pierce's Disease Research Symposium or other relevant meeting(s) as appropriate to share project progress and outcomes.
- Information on past and currently-funded projects is available at <https://piercesdisease.cdfa.ca.gov/>. Applicants are encouraged to review this information to ensure proposed activities represent new ideas or approaches.
- This RFP document is available online at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/pdcp/grants/>.

Eligibility

- Any individual or group with expertise in winegrape pest and disease research and/or outreach and has affiliation with a non-profit institution is eligible and encouraged to submit proposals.

Format and Content of Proposals

- See "Proposal Format and Guidelines," starting on page 4. Applicants at the University of California and the California State University may submit their proposals in the AB 20 Model Agreement Template format but must include all elements in this RFP (<https://www.ucop.edu/research-policy-analysis-coordination/policies-guidance/state-of-california/cma-templates.html>).

Definitions of Participant Responsibilities

- **Project Leader:** The Project Leader is the person with overall responsibility for the conduct of the project and for expenditure of funds. Each project has only one Project Leader.
- **Co-Project Leader:** A Co-Project Leader is a person who receives support or material of significant value from the project. A project may have more than one Co-Project Leader.
- **Cooperator:** A Cooperator is a person who provides advice, materials, or data to the project, makes arrangements for advancement of project activities, uses results developed in the project, and/or carries out activities in parallel to the project which are mutually beneficial. A Cooperator does not receive support or material of significant value from the project. A project may have more than one Cooperator.

Review Process and Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed by review panels and/or individual reviewers. In addition, the PD/GWSS Board's Research Screening Committee will review and make recommendations to the PD/GWSS Board on the funding of proposals. The PD/GWSS Board will then make funding recommendations to the Cdfa Secretary.

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated in the following areas (100 points):

- **Objectives and Relevance** – Are the objectives clearly stated, justified, worthwhile, and reasonable? Are the proposed objectives likely to contribute significantly to solving the problem? Does the proposed project unproductively overlap with other projects? (15 points)
- **Industry Deliverables** – Is there a clear explanation of how the findings would lead to practical applications in California winegrape production? Is there sufficient description of the further steps beyond the current project that may be necessary to achieve field application? (5 points)
- **Activities to Accomplish Objectives** – Is the workplan reasonable, feasible, and capable of meeting the stated goals and objectives? For research, is the workplan of good scientific merit? For outreach, is the workplan likely to lead to positive change in grower practices? (40 points)
- **Project Leader, Co-Project Leaders, and Others** – Do they have appropriate backgrounds, expertise, experience, and capabilities for the proposed tasks? For multidisciplinary projects dealing with both pathogens and vectors, is expertise sufficiently represented in the research team? Is the team missing any critical capabilities? (10 points)
- **Resources and Likelihood of Accomplishing Objectives** – Assuming the requested funds are awarded, will the Project Leader and associates have the resources, including facilities, to achieve the objectives? (10 points)
- **Project Timetable** – Are the milestones appropriate? Are they achievable? (10 points)
- **Budget** – Is the budget reasonable and appropriate? (10 points)

Due Date for Submissions

- Proposals should be submitted electronically via the internet at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/pdcp/grants>, where a link to an application portal will be posted. The submission due date is **January 31, 2025**. Please do not submit printed copies. Proposals that are incomplete or late may be eliminated from consideration.

Additional Information

- California state law requires that grantees receiving research grants from California state agencies provide for free public access to any publication of a peer-reviewed manuscript describing state-agency-funded knowledge. See California Government Code sections 13989 - 13989.6 for more information.
- California state law requires that any entity that contracts with a state or local entity for the provision of electronic or information technology or for the provision of related services shall agree to respond to, and resolve, any complaint regarding accessibility of its products or services that is brought to the attention of the entity. See California Government Code section 7405 for more information.
- With limited exceptions, the content of proposals may be subject to Public Records Act requests and is not considered confidential.

Questions

Questions about this RFP may be directed to the CDFA Pierce's Disease Control Program at 916-900-5024 or pdresearch@cdfa.ca.gov.

PROPOSAL FORMAT AND GUIDELINES
for submissions to the CDFA PD/GWSS Board

- Proposals should not exceed the maximum page length (15 pages + title page, biographies, citations, budget, and current/planned/pending/recent support for related activities).
- Please use 12-point font and one-inch margins.
- Please spell out all acronyms and abbreviations when first used.
- Submit online via the application portal linked at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/pdcp/grants>, where some of the information requested below can be entered in the corresponding blanks or as checked boxes.
- Submissions are due **no later than January 31, 2025**.
- Applicants from the University of California and the California State University may submit their proposals in the AB 20 Model Agreement Template format but must include all elements outlined below.

Project Title

Please give the title of the proposal. If this is a continuing project and you are changing the title, please explain why.

Project Leader

Indicate the Project Leader, i.e., the person responsible for overall project management, coordination, and execution. Include institutional affiliation, address, phone number, and e-mail address.

Co-Project Leaders

Please include institutional affiliations, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses. Indicate the roles of each Co-Project Leader and make sure that each Co-Project Leader is aware of their proposed participation.

Cooperators

Please indicate the roles of each Cooperator, and make sure they are aware of their proposed participation.

Expected Duration of Project

Please indicate the number of years for which funding is requested (three years maximum).

Budget Summary

Please supply the budget total for each year requested. (Note: more information on the proposed budget, including detail and justification, is requested below.)

Keywords

Please supply important keywords that characterize this project.

Project History

Please indicate if this is a new or continuing project. If a continuing project, a clear description of when it began, the number of years of activity, and the sources of funding must be included. Also, indicate how this project relates to other past, current, and anticipated future projects. Summarize previous work in this area.

Clarification about Progress Reports: Progress reports should not be included as part of your submission. Instead, use the section titled "Project History" to briefly discuss any previous work on your project that is relevant to the present proposal.

Layperson Summary (400 words maximum)

Please include a layperson summary of this project that explains the relevance of the proposed project, the main objectives, and the expected outcomes. This summary should also explain, in non-technical terms, the methodology, anticipated results, and how and when these results can be of benefit to growers and the winegrape industry.

Objectives of Proposed Project and Path to Application

Following sections *a-d* below, please state the aim or broad goal of the proposal, followed by a numbered list of specific objectives. After the specific objectives, provide a summary of the potential impact, relevance, and outcomes of the proposed project. Cite relevant literature.

a. Background and Justification for the Proposed Project

State the aim or broad goal of the project.

b. Main Goals and Specific Objectives

Include a numbered list of specific objectives.

c. Path to Application

Describe how the project's findings will lead to practical applications in California winegrape production and describe the steps that must be taken to achieve field application. Provide an estimate of the timeframe involved. Describe how the overall project and each objective address the fundamental goal of protecting winegrape production in California.

d. Deliverables

Describe any concrete products, outcomes, or activities that will come out of this project. These might include public presentations, field days, research or extension publications, etc. Progress reports to CDFA are required for all funded projects as described above under "General Information" and need not be mentioned here.

Methodology to Accomplish Objectives

Discuss the methodology for each objective. For research, discuss laboratory experiment or plot design, expected results, statistical analyses, methods to be used, parameters of data collection including sampling methods, and potential pitfalls and limitations. For research that has a field component, discuss site selection and how the field component will help accomplish the stated objectives. Cite relevant literature.

Timetable

Please outline the timeline for the project, indicating start dates, periods of activity, and completion dates for each activity and objective, and for the entire project.

Resources and Likelihood of Accomplishing Objectives

Please summarize how the resources of the Project Leader and associates (i.e., dedicated financial sources, computer facilities, laboratory and field resources, and human resources) and previous work make the proposed work feasible and increase the likelihood for accomplishing the stated objectives. Project Leaders conducting field research should indicate who will maintain the field site and include a statement describing how the site will be maintained following standard sustainable farming practices for the viticulture region.

Intellectual Property

Please describe any intellectual property, other than copyrighted publications, that this project is likely to produce, and provide information or a URL describing your institution's policies for managing intellectual property. In addition, Project Leaders should make reasonable efforts to describe any proprietary technologies, including methodologies, that your project will necessarily use or incorporate and the steps, if any, that may be required in order to use these proprietary technologies for practical field applications of the project's results.

Literature Cited

Please include a list of literature cited in the proposal. Provide complete citations (authors, year published, full title, journal or book title, and page numbers). Within the proposal, cite references by author and year.

Current, Planned, Pending, and Recent Support

Please use the following format to identify support for your current, planned, pending, and recent projects that have any component related to the proposed project in your submission.

- Provide information on all current, planned, pending, and recent projects, whether or not there is a specific time commitment by a Project Leader or Co-Project Leader. Where there is a time commitment (with or without a salary provision) indicate the percentage of time on an annual basis. If there are no current, planned, or pending projects, please state "NONE."
- Explain any connections and/or overlaps between existing and/or pending support and this submitted proposal. How will the total support package tie together? If there is overlap, please provide a short narrative describing what activities overlap and the percentage of effort on the proposed project that is to be devoted to the overlapping activities. If no overlap is expected, please state "NONE."

Related current projects:

Name	Supporting agency & project number	Total budget	Effective & expiration dates	Percent of time committed	Project title
(Project Leader & Co-Project Leaders)					

Related projects that are planned (within the next six months) or for which funding is pending, and recent (past five years) projects for which funding was received:

Name	Supporting agency and project number	Total budget	Proposed effective & expiration dates	Percent of time committed	Project title
(Project Leader & Co-Project Leaders)	This proposed project				
(Project Leader & Co-Project Leaders)					

Biographical Sketches

Please include a brief biographical sketch for each Project Leader and Co-Project Leader. List up to 15 of their most recent publications (not just those relating to the current project). Maximum of two pages per Project Leader or Co-Project Leader, excluding the list of publications.

Budget Request

- Please present the budget request on a separate page, in the format provided on the following page. Do not put amounts in shaded areas. Provide a narrative explanation and justification of budget items.
- Indirect cost charges should not be included in submitted proposals. Applicants from the University of California and the California State University institutions may refer to this link for more information about the exclusion of indirect costs: <https://www.ucop.edu/research-policy-analysis-coordination/policies-guidance/indirect-cost-recovery/indirect-costs-and-agriculture-marketing-boards.html>.
- Amounts for student fees, tuition, etc. should not be included unless your organization requires they be included. If such charges are included, please include a statement certifying that these charges are required by your organization.
- CDFA retains the right to claim ownership of any equipment purchased using CDFA PD/GWSS Board funds.
- Services of private subcontractors must be obtained through a competitive bidding process.
- Funded Project Leaders are expected to report on their progress at the Pierce's Disease Research Symposium or other relevant meeting(s) as appropriate to share project progress and outcomes. Project Leaders are advised to include amounts in their budgets to cover registration charges and travel costs to attend meetings.

Budget Request Format for Submissions to the CDFA PD/GWSS Board

	FY 2025-26		FY 2026-27		FY 2027-28		
	% of Time on Project	Amount (\$)	% of Time on Project	Amount (\$)	% of Time on Project	Amount (\$)	TOTAL
Salaries & Wages							
Professional							
SRA/Tech							
Lab Assistant							
Other							
Employee Benefits							
SUBTOTAL (Salaries, Wages, & Benefits)							
Supplies & Expenses							
Equipment							
Travel							
Other							
SUBTOTAL (Supplies, Expenses, Equipment, etc.)							
TOTAL							

Notes to Budget Request Format

- Indirect cost charges should not be included in submitted proposals.
- Amounts for student fees, tuition, etc. should not be included unless your organization requires they be included.