



On behalf of the Beef Checkoff, The Foundation for Meat and Poultry Research and Education (Foundation) and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) are soliciting beef safety research proposals based on the priorities below developed by the industry and represent immediate funding needs. Proposals must be submitted in accordance to the Research Proposal Development Guidelines.

Beef Safety Research Priorities

Priority 1: Develop a quantitative microbiological risk assessment model *using currently existing data sources* to assess the impact of *Salmonella* enumeration and virulence evaluation strategies on public health after consumption of contaminated ground beef in the US. Published studies on other commodities indicate levels of contamination and pathogenicity can be even more important to public health than prevalence as they are directly related to the likelihood that the ingested dose exceeds the minimum infectious dose needed for disease development.

Priority 2: Determine the effect of region and season on *Salmonella* prevalence, virulence, and quantity in ground beef and trim. Region is defined as where the live cattle were sourced, not the location of the plant. Proposals utilizing *currently existing data sources* and therefore are more budget conscious will be reviewed more favorably.

Priority 3: Determine the public health risk of *Salmonella* in ground beef. Research may include 1) evaluating the inclusion or removal of the 6-7 lymph nodes known to potentially pose a *Salmonella* risk; 2) increasing preharvest knowledge and impact on finished product; 3) evaluating the relationship between trim and grind *Salmonella* levels; or 4) other considerations. Proposals with immediate industry applicability will be reviewed more favorably.

NCBA and the Foundation will host a Zoom meeting with interested researchers to discuss the priorities and answer questions. The meeting will be on Monday, February 1 at 12 pm ET. You can join the zoom meeting by clicking [here](#).

Proposals with collaborations (i.e. numerous research programs or entities) and/or laboratory partners; interdisciplinary research teams (i.e. microbiologists, statisticians, meat scientists, etc.); and that are budget conscious will be reviewed more favorably.

Please submit the proposals via Microsoft Word e-mail attachment to Shannon Green at sgreen@meatinstitute.org and Paige Smith psmith@beef.org. An acknowledgement receipt will be sent within one business day.

Contact [KatieRose McCullough, Ph.D., MPH](#) and [Mandy Carr, Ph.D.](#) with questions.

The Foundation is a non-profit research, education and information foundation established to study ways the meat and poultry industry can produce better, safer products and operate more efficiently. The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) is a national marketing organization and trade association with a division conducting beef promotion, research, and industry information as a contractor to the Beef Checkoff.

Research Proposal Development Guidelines

Please provide the following outlined elements in the proposal. Proposals must be submitted using the provided template ([Proposal Template.docx](#)). *Proposals should not exceed 5 pages total (excluding CVs and any letters of support)*. The font type, size and document margins should not be altered in the template. The indirect costs policy is available [here](#).

Each proposal should include the elements below.

Title of Proposal

Principle Investigator Names and Affiliations

Project Details

- Introduction – Brief description of historical research in the program area to include any relevant current work by the principle investigator. (250 Word Count Limit)
- Project Hypothesis and Objectives (250 Word Count Limit)
- Experimental Plan – Including description of the methodology, experimental design and statistical analysis plan, pitfalls that may be encountered, limitations to proposed methodology; and
- Proposed Benefit to the Beef Industry
- Project Timeline

Detailed Budget: The budget should include only costs directly associated to the proposed research. Please reference the policy on indirect costs.

Other Sources of Support: including letters of support and investigators CV's (not included in page limit).

Please submit your fully developed proposals as an e-mail attachment by **5 p.m. ET on Friday, February 12** to Shannon Green at sgreen@meatinstitute.org and Paige Smith psmith@beef.org.