*No purchase necessary to enter or receive the grant. To participate in the AAVLD Innovation in Veterinary Diagnostic Medicine Grant Program (the "Program"), you must submit an online Grant Proposal (the "Proposal") at ikistler@aalvd.org and copy rozuna@aavld.org no later than June 15, 2017 at 11:59 p.m. US Eastern Time. The Program is open only to members of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians ("AAVLD") located in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) and Canada (excluding Quebec). The person submitting the Application (the "Applicant") is entering on behalf of their employer, which will be the recipient of the grant (the "Grant Recipient"). Void where this promotion or acceptance of a grant is prohibited or restricted by law or subject to registration or other procedures with which Sponsor may not have undertaken. Human Healthcare Professionals (term defined in the Official Rules) may not participate in this promotion. Federal or state government employees (excluding state university employees) may not participate in this promotion.

All Applications must be submitted in the English language. Although an individual may be an investigator on more than one Proposal to this Program, an individual can serve as the primary investigator ("PI") on only one Proposal. Other eligibility restrictions apply. A review panel will select two Grant Recipients from all qualifying entries. Each Grant Recipient will receive a grant award of \$25,000 USD.

A panel consisting of five AAVLD members with expertise in different areas of veterinary diagnostic medicine and two Thermo Fisher Scientific representatives with backgrounds in veterinary diagnostics will select two winners based upon the following criteria:

- **1. Significance/Impact:** Does this study address an important problem? If the aims of the Proposal are achieved, how will scientific knowledge be advanced? What will be the effect of these studies in the given field of veterinary diagnostics? (30%)
- 2. Science Approach/Content: Are the conceptual framework, design, methods, and analyses adequately developed, well integrated, well-reasoned, and scientifically sound and appropriate to the aims of the project? (30%)
- **3. Innovation:** Is the project original and innovative? For example, does the project challenge existing paradigms; address an innovative hypothesis or critical barrier to progress in the field? Does the project develop or employ novel concepts, approaches, methodologies, tools, or technologies for this area? (30%)
- 4. Feasibility: Is there a clear plan to complete the work within one year from award of the grant? (10%)

Sponsor reserves the right to cancel this Program if a minimum of 3 qualified Proposals are not received by the submission deadline.

The two winners will be notified on approximately August 1, 2017. The PI of the Grant Recipient, a member of the Grant Recipient team, or their proxy must be present at the AAVLD Annual Conference in San Diego, CA on October 20, 2017 to accept the grant. Each such person will be responsible for their own accommodations and travel to the Conference; no travel assistance or accommodations will be provided.

The Applicant and/or the Applicant's company or institution must certify that they are not prohibited by employment, contract, or law from entering or accepting a grant from Sponsor. The complete Official Rules, including grant proposal requirements, are available on the AAVLD website here. In case of any inconsistency between these abbreviated rules and the complete Official Rules, the complete Official Rules will always prevail.