

Continuing sponsorship for the objectives of FELASA

FELASA unites the European national and regional laboratory animal science associations. It is managed solely by representatives of its constituent associations and combines and coordinates the expertise of its member associations using working groups. All activities of FELASA are in accordance with the "Three 'R's of Russell & Burch (1959)" (Replacement, Reduction, and Refinement). FELASA working groups publish recommendations and best practice guidelines in order to improve the welfare of the animals used for the advancement of science, human and animal health, as well as public and environmental safety. In this context, FELASA recognizes the ongoing need to use animals for the benefit of patients.

FELASA maintains relations with national, international and governmental bodies concerned with laboratory animal science in Europe and continuously seeks collaboration with science associations outside Europe i.e. ILAR and ICLAS. FELASA also organises an international scientific meeting every three years.

Established in 1978, FELASA has grown significantly over the years. It is now well recognised both at European and international levels and is accredited at the Council of Europe and the Commission of the European Union as a NGO. The number of constituent associations continues to grow and there are now 18 representing 24 countries.

Because of this positive development during the last few years, the activities of FELASA increased and with this also the expenses to run these activities. To keep FELASA active as a non-profit making organization, FELASA offers **continuing sponsorship** to all companies and organizations which endorse the objectives of FELASA. The amount is kept low (**EUR 500.- per year**) to allow a lot of companies and organizations to take part in this initiative and to avoid any influence of single sponsors on the activities of FELASA.

All sponsors must endorse the objectives of FELASA in general as laid down in the constitution / Memorandum of Association (see requirements for applicants for continuing sponsorship).

Sponsors are allowed to display (on exhibition booths and on company web sites) that they are Continuing Sponsors using the following phrase:

"We support the objectives of FELASA as a Continuing Sponsor."

Application process:

- Continuing Sponsors must endorse the objectives of FELASA (signed statement / application form).
- Executive Committee of FELASA evaluates whether an applicant fits the FELASA objectives and decides on the suitability of applications.
- The decision is relayed to the applicant. The Executive Committee's decision is final and the Executive Committee is not obliged to explain its reasons for the decision.
- Executive Committee of FELASA reports to the Governing Board on applications and the decisions made.

Requirements for applicants for continuing sponsorship

Continuing sponsorship of FELASA is open to companies, patient organizations, institutes and other research organizations and associations of good standing.

All sponsors endorse the objectives of FELASA in general as laid down in the constitution / Memorandum of Association:

“3. OBJECTS

FELASA is established for the following objects:

- 3.1 As an international body to represent common interests of constituent associations in the furtherance of all aspects of laboratory animal science in Europe, laboratory animal science being that discipline whose objective is to ensure optimal conditions for the humane and appropriate use of animals for scientific purposes for the benefit of mankind and other animals, and to promote further development of those conditions;
- 3.2 To advance and co-ordinate the development of all aspects of laboratory animal science and practice in Europe;
- 3.3 To act as a focus for the exchange of information on laboratory animal science amongst European states;
- 3.4 To establish and maintain appropriate links with national, international or governmental bodies as well as other organisations concerned with laboratory animal science;
- 3.5 To promote the recognition and consultation of FELASA as the specialist European body on laboratory animal science and welfare;
- 3.6 To organise joint scientific meeting of the constituent associations.”

All applicants for continuing sponsorship must complete the Application Form and sign a statement for the endorsement of the objectives of FELASA. The application and endorsement, signed by the authorised representative of the Applicant Company / Organization shall be sent to the Secretary of FELASA (secretariat@felasa.eu), who will submit it to the Executive Committee for decision.