Sponsored Projects: Types of Support and Review Processes for Research and Training Activities

- Non-Government Agencies -

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Course: “Funding and Grantsmanship for Research and Career Development Activities”

http://grantscourse.columbia.edu/
Total support for biomedical research in the U.S. in 2012 = $130.4 billion*

$41.1 billion
Federal Government

$17.8 billion
Other

$2.4 billion
Foundations & Public Grantmaking Charities

$69.2 billion
Industry

*Source: Research!America
HRA AWARD CHARACTERISTICS IN 2012

In 2012, 46 organizations made 3,206 awards to 2,579 investigators totaling $866 million (36% of non-profit sector funding)

Private foundations
- Basic Discovery Research: 53%
- Mechanisms of Disease: 42%
- Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Outcomes: 5%

Public fundraising organizations
- Basic Discovery Research: 32%
- Mechanisms of Disease: 13%
- Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Outcomes: 55%
Award funding covers the broad spectrum of basic discovery and translational and clinical research.

- 61% Translational and Clinical Research
- 38% Basic Discovery Research
- 1% Other

Nearly half of the award dollars were for early career development and training, compared to about 5% of NIH grants.

- 51% Research
- 44% CD&T*
- 5% Other

*CD&T: Career Development and Training
Private Foundations

- Non-government, nonprofit organization with its own funds
- Usually from a single source (e.g. individual, family, corporation)
- Program(s) managed by its trustees and directors
- Established to maintain or aid educational, social, charitable, religious, or other activities serving the common welfare, primarily by making grants to other nonprofit organizations.
- Different types: Independent, Company-Sponsored, Operating, Community Foundation

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Independent Foundation

Private foundation, whose primary function is the making of grants. The assets are derived from the gift of an individual or family. Depending on their range of giving, may be known as ‘general purpose’ or ‘special purpose’ foundations.
Company-Sponsored Foundation

Private foundation deriving its funds from a profit-making company or corporation but independently constituted. Its purpose is to make grants, usually on a broad basis although not without regard for the business interests of the corporation. Company-sponsored foundations are legally distinct from corporate contributions programs administered by the corporation directly from corporate funds.
Operating Foundation

Private foundation, the purpose of which is to operate research, social welfare, or other programs determined by its governing body or charter.

Community Foundation

Charitable organization whose funds are derived from many donors rather than a single source as is the case with private foundations. Usually classified under the tax law as a public charity and therefore subject to different rules and regulations.

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Finding the Right Foundation

Subject
Types of Support
Geographic Location
Foundation Review Process

- Project planning phase
- Initial inquiry to foundation
- Formal proposal submission
- Possible requests for modifications or rewrites
- Staff evaluation and recommendations
- Board decision
Foundation Review Process

-At the Foundation-

- Inquiry letter reviewed by program officer
- Program officer requests full description, but not full-scale proposal
- If program officer still interested, brings description to program staff meeting for discussion and comments
- Site visit and/or request for fully developed proposal with budget information

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If budget is too high, program officer may suggest that foundation will support a portion of the project. May suggest applying to other sources for collaborative project.

Sends proposal to small group of experts for comment.

Depending on comments, possible application revision.
Continues to provide comments on progress at weekly program staff meetings.

If recommends sending proposal to the board, circulates full proposal to colleagues for final comments.

Proposal goes to board with reasons why it is appropriate for foundation.
Private Foundations

- Allen Foundation (human nutrition)
- Burroughs Wellcome Fund (junior investigators)
- Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research
- Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation (chemical sciences)
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (clinical research)
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (global health)
- Greenwall Foundation (bioethics)
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation ("Culture of Health")
- Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation (honorific awards)
- James S. McDonnell Foundation (human cognition)
- David and Lucille Packard Foundation
- Pew Charitable Trusts (junior investigators)
- Stanley J. Sarnoff Endowment for Cardiovascular Science
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

“building a Culture of Health is our central focus... our Culture of Health Action Framework sets a national agenda to improve health, equity and well-being. Informed by rigorous research on the multiple factors which affect health…”

“A critical aspect of a Culture of Health is health equity, which in essence means we all have the basics to be as healthy as possible…”

Focus Areas

- Health Systems
- Healthy Communities
- Healthy Children and Families
- Leadership for Better Health

https://www.rwjf.org/
Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation

“Improving health by advancing the education and training of health professionals”

- Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Belonging
- Increasing Collaboration Among Future Health Professionals
- Preparing Future Health Professionals to Navigate Ethical Dilemmas

Macy Faculty Scholars Program

- “to identify and nurture the careers of promising educational innovators and future leaders in medicine and nursing”

http://macyfoundation.org/

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United Hospital Fund

“working to build a more effective health care system for New Yorkers, one that is affordable and accessible, provides a better patient experience and the highest quality of care, and achieves optimal outcomes - with a special focus on the needs of the most vulnerable”

Key priorities include:

- Supporting comprehensive health insurance coverage and access to services
- Promoting improvements in the quality and efficiency of health care delivery
- Fostering collaborations between the health care delivery system and communities

https://uhfny.org/
Voluntary Health Organizations

- American Cancer Society
- Alzheimer's Association
- American Diabetes Association
- American Heart Association
- American Kidney Fund
- American Lung Association
- Arthritis Foundation
- Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- Lupus Foundation of America
- March of Dimes Foundation

Professional Societies

- American Academy of Allergy and Immunology
- American Academy of Neurology
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- American College of Cardiology
- American College of Rheumatology
- American Gastroenterological Association
- American Society of Hematology
- American Urological Association
- Gerontological Society of America
- Radiol. Soc. of N. America Res. & Educ. Fund
- Society of General Internal Medicine
Individual Fellowships

Non-government, non-profit agencies

- Voluntary Health Organizations
- Professional Societies
- Private Foundations
Post-doc: Individual Fellowship

- Voluntary Health Organizations, Foundations, Professional Societies -

- American Cancer Society
- American Heart Association
- American Liver Foundation
- Daland Fellowships in Clinical Investigation
- Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation
- Helen Hay Whitney Foundation
- Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund
American Heart Association
Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

- AHA’s research program is focused on cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease research
- “embedded in an appropriate research group with the mentorship, support, and relevant scientific guidance of a research supervisor”
- Funding: Stipend, Health insurance, Project support
- Award Duration: 1-2 years, May apply for a second 2-year award
- US citizenship/Permanent Residency not required
Career Transition Awards

- **Burroughs Wellcome Fund:**
  
  **Career Awards for Medical Scientists**
  
  - "Provides support to facilitate the transition from mentored position to independence for the early career physician scientist"
  
  - Candidates with an M.D., D.O., D.D.S., or D.V.M. degree
  
  - 75% effort to research-related activities
  
  - **Funding:** $700,000 over five years
    
    - **Postdoctoral/Fellowship Portion:** Years 1 and 2  
      Annual Total: $95,000
    
    - **Faculty Portion of the Award:** Years 3-5  
      Annual Total: $170,000

https://www.bwfund.org/grant-programs/biomedical-sciences/career-awards-medical-scientists

Research Career Development/Scholar Programs

- **American Heart Association**
  - Career Development Award

- **Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program**
  - “to increase the number of faculty from historically disadvantaged backgrounds who can achieve senior rank in academic medicine, dentistry, or nursing” [“challenges facing individuals because of their race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, or other similar factors”]
  - **Partners:** American Heart Association, American Society of Hematology, American Society of Nephrology

- **Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation**
  - Clinical Investigator Award

- **Doris Duke Charitable Foundation**
  - Clinical Scientist Development Award

Example: Research Interests in Digestive Diseases

Non-government, non-profit agencies

• Voluntary Health Organizations
• Professional Societies
• Private Foundations
Voluntary Health Organizations

- **American Cancer Society**
  - Mentored Research Grants
    - Postdoctoral Fellowships
    - Clinical Scientist Development Grants
  - Research Grants for Independent Investigators
    - Research Scholar Grants
  - Institutional Research Grant
  - Professors
    - Research Professor, Clinical Research Professor
  - Special Initiatives and Requests for Applications

- **American Liver Foundation**
  - Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Award
  - Liver Scholar Award

- **Cancer Research Institute (immunotherapy)**
  - Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship
  - Clinic and Laboratory Integration Program (CLIP)
  - Lloyd J. Old STAR Program
  - Technology Impact Award
  - Impact Grants

- **Lustgarten Foundation (pancreatic cancer)**
  - Research Investigator Program
  - Distinguished Scholars
  - Clinical Translational Research Program
  - Pancreatic Cancer Collective
Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation

- Student Research Fellowships
- Research Fellowships
- Career Development Awards
- Senior Research Awards
- Clinical Research Investigator-Initiated Awards
- Litwin IBD Pioneers Awards
- Clinical Research Networks
- IBD Ventures
Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation

- Damon Runyon Fellowship Award
- Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award
- Damon Runyon Physician-Scientist Training Award
- Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award
- Damon Runyon-Sohn Pediatric Cancer Fellowship Award
- Damon Runyon-Dale F. Frey Award for Breakthrough Scientists
- Damon Runyon Quantitative Biology Fellowship Award
Professional Societies

- American College of Gastroenterology / ACG Institute
  - Junior Faculty Development Award
  - Mid-Career/Senior Clinical Scientist Bridge Funding Award
  - Clinical Research Award
  - Clinical Research Award Pilot Projects
  - “Smaller Programs” Clinical Research Award
  - Resident Clinical Research Award
  - Medical Student Research Award

- American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases/AASLD Foundation
  - Research/ Pilot Research Awards
  - Fellowship Awards
  - Bridge Awards

- American Gastroenterological Association/AGA Research Foundation
  - Research Scholar Awards
  - Research/Pilot Research Awards

- American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy/ASGE Foundation
  - Research Awards
  - Training Awards

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Private Foundations

- **Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation**
  - Inflammatory Bowel Disease
    (via the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America)

- **Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust**
  - Crohn's Disease

- **Kenneth Rainin Foundation**
  - Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
    - Innovator Awards
    - Synergy Awards

Grantseeking from Corporations

- Identify companies that might be interested in your research
- Learn as much as possible about the company (e.g., business activities, past giving history)
- Determine the best method of approach (e.g., formal application, personal contacts)
- Articulate your research objectives so as to be in line with the company's strategic interests and giving rationale

Pharmaceutical/Biotech Companies

- Independent foundations

- Research agreements:
  - Companies support investigators for a specific research project
  - Agreement reviewed/negotiated by Columbia Technology Ventures (e.g., intellectual property protection)

- Clinical trials

- Ongoing nationally competitive research awards

Gifts

- Gifts are not Sponsored Projects
- Although funds may be used to support research efforts, they are not always for a specific research project (e.g., no listing of detailed specific aims)
- Unlike sponsored projects, gift agreements do not always have itemized budgets and do not always have the same programmatic/financial reporting requirements
- Gifts are solicited and managed by a University's development offices, not by the grants office.