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

- 53%
- 42%
- 5%

Public fundraising organizations

- 32%
- 13%
- 55%

- Basic Discovery Research
- Mechanisms of Disease
- Prevention, Diagnosis, Treatment and Outcomes
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
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.

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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.
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
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)
- Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation (Crohn’s disease/ulcerative colitis)
- Burroughs Wellcome Fund (junior investigators)
- Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research (post-doc fellowship)
- Camille and Henry Dreyfuss Foundation, Inc. (chemistry)
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (clinical research)
- Ellison Medical Foundation (aging)
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundations (global health)
- William T. Grant Foundation (child development)
- Greenwall Foundation (bioethics and education)
- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (health policy)
- Sidney Kimmel Foundation for Cancer Research
- Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation (honorific awards)
- James S. McDonnell Foundation
- David and Lucille Packard Foundation
- Pew Charitable Trusts (junior scholars program)
- Donald W. Reynolds Foundation (aging)
- Stanley J. Sarnoff Endowment for Cardiovascular Science
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

“seeks to improve the health and health care of all Americans. Our efforts focus on improving both the health of everyone in America and their health care—how it's delivered, how it's paid for, and how well it does for patients and their families....

We believe that good health and health care are essential to the well-being and stability of our society and the vitality of our families and communities.... Together with our grantees and collaborators, we strive to bring about meaningful, lasting change—with the goal of building a Culture of Health that enables all in our diverse society to lead healthier lives, now and for generations to come.”

http://www.rwjf.org/
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Areas of Focus

- Child and Family Well-Being
- Health Coverage
- Healthy Communities
- Health Leadership and Workforce
- Health System Improvement
- Healthy Communities
- Healthy Weight

“Culture of Health”
Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation

“Dedicated to improving the health of the public by advancing the education and training of health professionals”.

- Interprofessional Education and Teamwork
- New Curriculum Content
- New Models for Clinical Education
- Education for the Care of Underserved Populations
- Career Development in Health Professions Education

New York Community Trust
- Children, Youth, and Families
- Community Development and the Environment
- Education, Arts, and Human Justice
- Health and People with Special Needs

United Hospital Fund
- “nonprofit health services research and philanthropic organization whose primary mission is to shape positive change in health care for the people of New York”

Major Initiatives:
- Health Insurance Project
- Medicaid Institute
- Innovation Strategies
- Quality Improvement
- Aging in Place
- Family Caregiving
- Long-Term Care
Voluntary Health Organizations

- American Cancer Society
- Alzheimer's Association
- American Diabetes Association
- American Heart Association/
  National & Local Affiliates
  - Medical Student Research Program
  - Pre-doc & and Post-doc Fellowships
  - Fellow to Faculty Transition Award
  - Mentored Clinical & Population Research Award
  - Scientist Development Grant
  - Grant-In-Aid
  - Strategically Focused Research Networks

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Voluntary Health Organizations

- American Kidney Fund
- American Lung Association
- Arthritis Foundation
- JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation)
- Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- Lupus Foundation of America, Inc.
- March of Dimes Foundation
Professional Societies

- American Academy of Allergy and Immunology
- American Academy of Neurology
- American College of Cardiology
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- 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 (Founders)
- American Kidney Fund
- American Liver Foundation
- Daland Fellowships in Clinical Investigation
- Helen Hay Whitney Foundation
American Heart Association (Founders Affiliate)  
Postdoctoral Fellowship Program  

- Cardiovascular function and disease and stroke  
- Clinical, basic science, bioengineering, biotechnology, epidemiological, behavioral, community, and public health  

- Funding  
  - Stipend/Salary: $42,850-$56,400;  
  - Health Insurance: $1,000; Project Support: $3,000  

- Award Duration: 2 years  

- Citizenship  
  - U.S. citizen/ Permanent resident/ Pending permanent resident/ Visas (e.g. F1, H1-B, J-1, O-1)  

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American Assoc for the Study of Liver Diseases - Clinical and Translational Research Fellowship

• Support for an investigator from outside North America to perform clinical research in US in a liver-related area
• One one-year award of $75,000 will be funded
• MD or equivalent and/or a PhD
• MD within four years of completing residency or fellowship training, or, if a PhD, within four years of the receipt of the degree
• Student/trainee visa to the US

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The Helen Hay Whitney Foundation

Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

• Supports early postdoctoral research training in all basic biomedical sciences

• Candidates who hold, or are in the final stages of obtaining PhD, MD, or equivalent - candidates who have no more than one year of postdoctoral research experience

• 3-year fellowships (<5% success rate)

• Stipend: $51,000-$53,000;
  Research Allowance: $1,500

• US and foreign citizens

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Career Transition Awards

- **BWF: Career Awards for Medical Scientists**
  - To support physician-scientists during the last years of a mentored postdoctoral/fellowship position and the beginning years of an independent faculty position.
  - Candidates must hold an M.D., 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

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Career Transition Awards

- **American Heart Association (National)**
  Fellow-to-Faculty Transition Award

  - Provides funding for the “period of career development that spans the completion of research training through the early years of the first faculty/staff position”
  - **Training stage:** Maximum of $65,000 per year
  - **Faculty stage:** Maximum of $132,000 per year
  - **Award Duration:** 5 years

Career Transition Awards

**JDRF: Advanced Postdoctoral Fellowships**

- Provides an opportunity to receive full-time research training and to assist awardees in transitioning from a fellowship to an independent (faculty-level) position
- First degree (PhD, MD, DMD, DVM, or equivalent) received no more than 5 years before the fellowship
- $90,000 per year for up to 3 years
- **Transition Award**: Optional transition year in which awardees may request funding support for their first year as a faculty member (up to $110,000 for one year)
Research Career Development/Scholar Programs

- AGA Research Foundation
  - Research Scholar Awards

- American Heart Association
  - Scientist Development Grant

- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
  - Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Program

- Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation
  - Clinical Investigator Award

- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
  - Clinical Scientist Development Grant

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 Training and Career Development Grants
    - Postdoctoral Fellowships
    - Mentored Research Scholar Grant
  - Research Grants for Independent Investigators
    - Research Scholar Grants
  - Health Professional Training Grants
  - Professors
    - Research Professor, Clinical Research Professor
  - New Initiatives and Requests for Applications
American Liver Foundation
- Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Award
- Liver Scholar Award
- Research Award

Cancer Research Institute, Inc.
- Student Training and Research in Tumor Immunology (STaRT) Grants
- Irvington Postdoctoral Fellowship
- Clinic and Laboratory Integration Program (CLIP) Grants
- Investigator Awards
Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America

- Student Research Awards (college/graduate/medical)
- Research Fellowship Awards
- Career Development Awards
- Senior Research Awards
- Scientific Conferences and Workshops

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

Lustgarten Foundation (pancreatic cancer)
Professional Societies

- **American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases**
  - Pinnacle Research Award in Liver Diseases
  - Clinical and Translational Research Fellowship
  - Advanced/Transplant Hepatology Fellowship Program
  - Career Development Award in Liver Transplantation
  - Clinical and Translational Research Awards
American College of Gastroenterology
- Junior Faculty Development Grants
- Clinical Research Awards
- “Smaller Programs” Clinical Research Award

American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
- Endoscopic Research Award
- NYSGE Florence Lefcourt Research Award

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American Gastroenterological Association/AGA Research Foundation

- Student Awards
  - Student Research Fellowships
  - Student Abstract Prizes

- Career Development Awards
  - Research Scholar Award
  - Research and Development Pilot Award in Technology
  - Junior Investigator Research Awards

- Established Investigator Awards
  - Research and Development Pilot Award in Technology
Private Foundations

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

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

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 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

- On going nationally competitive research awards/honorific awards

Clinical Trials

- **Phase I** - Clinical Pharmacology
  - 1 year (range: ½-1½ yrs)
  - 20-50 subjects
  - Emphasis on safety

- **Phase II** - Controlled Clinical Trials
  - 2½ years (range: 1-5 yrs)
  - 100-400 patients
  - Emphasis on safety plus controlled efficacy trials
Phase III - Expanded Clinical Trials
- 3 years (range: 1-5 yrs)
- 500-5000 patients
- Emphasis on efficacy, with continued safety monitoring

Phase IV - Postmarketing Clinical Trials
- Performed after the new drug is approved
- Special safety studies
- Define new dosing regimens
Gifts

- Gifts are not sponsored projects.

- Although funds may be used to support research efforts, they are not for a specific research project (i.e. no listing of specific aims). Unlike sponsored projects, gift agreements do not contain an itemized budget and do have the same university financial reporting requirements.

- Gifts are solicited and managed by the university's development offices, not by the grants office.