Online Helps

Corporate and Foundation Relations (CFR), acting as the Sponsored Research/Projects Office (SRO or SPO), is your one stop shop for applying for external funding.

Online helps include proposal application specifics for these major federal funders:

- National Science Foundation (NSF) helps
- National Institutes of Health (NIH) helps
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) helps

Importantly, we are happy to talk or meet with you!

Significant Changes

Change is certain. Nearly every year—and sometimes more often—federal funders update guidelines, websites, and policies. CFR tracks these updates and provides a summary of recent changes. We can work with you to ensure compliance with guidelines.

For NSF changes:

Read CFR’s NSF Significant or Recent Changes section, to learn of changes effective starting 1/28/19, such as with

- Sexual and Other Forms of Harassment
- Procurement Standards
- Participant Support Costs

Also refer to PAPPG (NSF 19-1) Significant Changes and Clarifications to the PAPPG.

For NIH changes:

Refer to CFR’s NIH Significant or Recent Changes

Also check NIH’s General Application Guide Significant Changes and this Reminder of Policy Changes.

“Without a doubt, I would not apply for external funding without the prompt, knowledgeable, and helpful advice they (CFR) give and the tremendous amount of work they do helping me prepare these applications.”

- Julia Strand
Become Better Acquainted with the Proposal Process

Seek Guidance from a Program Officer

Program officers (PO) welcome contact from prospective applicants. For a successful encounter with a program officer about your project proposal idea, follow these steps:

1. Identify a PO who oversees the grant program whose objectives most closely match the core themes of your research.
   - For NSF, each solicitation lists contact(s).
   - For NIH, use RePORTER's nifty Matchmaker tool.

2. Write a brief pre-abstract summarizing your proposed project.

3. Start with an e-mail that provides the pre-abstract (1-page summary).

4. Make the call: describe your project again, and ask if you might discuss issues the PO raised in the email.

5. Conduct a successful conversation that includes asking
   * Does my project fall within your current priorities?
   * What would you recommend to improve my chances for a favorable review?
   * What are some of the common pitfalls for proposal rejections?

For more, check these resources:

- Can We Talk? article
- What to Say—and Not Say—to Program Officers
- How to get the most Help from your NIH Program Officer

Questions or comments?

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Serve as a Reviewer

Q: Why consider being a reviewer?

A: Advantages include
   - gaining first hand knowledge of the peer review process
   - learning common problems with proposals
   - discovering strategies to write strong proposals
   - meeting colleagues and program officers
   - providing a great service to NSF

For how to become a reviewer, refer to

- Why You Should Volunteer to Serve As An NSF Reviewer
- NIH Center for Scientific Review "Become a Reviewer"

Picture courtesy of the NIH Center for Scientific Review
FUNDING NEWS

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES—Upcoming

**Bringing Theory to Practice (BTtoP)**—due by 2/4/2019: support of multi-institutional collaborations that advance education to the whole student, to equity and inclusion, to creative innovation; up to $7,000. Read more of “Bringing Theory to Practice Multi-Institutional Innovation Grants”

**NEH Public Scholar**—due by 2/6/2019, for scholars writing a book in the humanities: duration of 6 to 12 months; up to $60,000. See details at NEH’s Public Scholar Program page.

**NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes for 2019**—due by 3/1/2019: primarily for faculty who teach undergrad students: duration of 1 to 4 weeks. More at Summer Seminars and Institutes webpage.

**NEH Fellowships**—due by 4/10/2019: for individuals pursuing advanced humanities research, duration of 6 to 12 months; up to $60,000. Refer to NEH Fellowships page, and CFR’s NEH Proposal Specifics page

**NSF Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER),** with 2019 due dates of July 17, 18, or 19 (depending on directorate); for early-career faculty who desire to pursue leadership in integrating education and research; duration 5 years; minimum $400,000. See all of NSF Active Funding Opportunities.

**NIH R15 Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA),** with annual due dates of February 25, June 25, October 25; for faculty and undergraduate researchers in the biomedical and behavioral sciences at educational institutions that have not been major recipients of NIH support; duration of 3 years; up to $300,000 in direct costs. See all of NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices.

RECENT GRANTS

Faculty grants awarded since July 2018, in reverse chrono order

**Gao Hong:** Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) 2019 Folk & Traditional Arts Grant. Hong will record the ten most important Pudong style pipa pieces on video to help pass on Pudong to future generations. Read more.

**Linda Rossi:** Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council (SEMAC) Individual Artist Grant for Advancing Artists. Her project, “Photographic Puzzles of Rice County,” creates a series of photographic puzzles that focus on the landscapes, flora, and fauna of Rice County, fostering exploration of the ways in which we conscript nature in everyday objects. Read more of “SEMAC Individual Artist grant to Linda Rossi”

**Rika Anderson:** NASA funding with U. Washington-Seattle, contributing to NASA’s broader “Nexus for Exoplanet System Science (NExSS)” network. The project, involving a Carleton undergrad researcher, examines early evolution of microbial life on Earth in deep-sea hydrothermal vents, with intent of better recognizing whether an exoplanet can or does support life. Read more of “NASA funding to Rika Anderson” Additionally, Prof. Anderson will contribute to a NASA Exobiology project led by the J. Craig Ventor Institute.

**Jay Tasson:** NSF RUI grant (#1806990) for research that continues efforts to identify and characterize noise in data from the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO). Prof. Tasson, along with undergrad researchers, will help develop tools to perform and interpret multimessenger astrophysics. Read more of “Jay Tasson awarded NSF RUI grant”

**Caroline Turnage-Butterbaugh:** Simons Foundation (administered by the American Mathematical Society) AMS–Simons Travel grant, for research-related travel funds, bringing research collaborators to Carleton, and enhancing the research atmosphere in the Math and Statistics department. Read more about Caroline’s travel grant.