We're here to assist you!

The Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations (CFR) assists UMass faculty and staff with non-governmental, institutional grant opportunities. For more information on the types of assistance we provide, please visit the Services page on our website.

For all grant opportunities requiring a 501(c)3 submission, we will arrange applying through the University of Massachusetts Foundation. This 501(c)3 process has strict timelines; please contact our office as early as possible to assure that the funder's deadline can be met.

To request an addition to or removal from this notice and for general questions, please contact CFR staff at cfr@admin.umass.edu. For additional assistance and referrals, contact Director Liz Smith, or Director Michael Stein. Please share widely.

I. Engineering, Science & Medical
II. Nursing & Public Health
III. Education, Humanities, and Social & Behavioral Sciences
IV. Fellowships

I. Engineering, Science & Medical
1. The American Fibromyalgia Syndrome Association (AFSA), Inc.

Research Grant
Deadline (LOI): Rolling
Amount: Up to $50,000 over 1 year
Number of Grants/Year: 8
Eligibility: Potential applicants for AFSA funding should meet the following requirements and budget constraints:

1. The Principal Investigator (PI) must be fluent in English and, ideally, published in peer-reviewed English language medical journals. If applicant resides outside the United States, please indicate the budget in U.S. dollars.
2. The PI must be a board certified "M.D.," "D.O.," or "D.D.S." or a Ph.D. with applicable basic science research experience. If the applicant has not previously published in a peer-reviewed medical journal, AFSA strongly recommends that the applicant team up with a co-PI with research experience.
3. An application may be submitted with an institutional review board (IRB) pending, but the IRB must be approved before the project can be funded.
4. All funded projects must be capable of testing your hypothesis without reliance upon another funding source. AFSA is open to funding tag-ons to NIH-funded projects, but the AFSA portion must be clearly defined with a study hypothesis.
5. The methodology used to determine the required sample size for the proposed study must be provided.
6. No institutional overhead or other indirect costs will be paid and should not be included as part of any grant request. A letter to your institution explaining this condition can be requested if needed.
7. Beware that substantive equipment costs or salaries for the PI and co-PI may jeopardize project funding. AFSA awards are intended for the collection of preliminary data needed to assist investigators with obtaining much larger sums of money from the NIH or other financial institutions.
8. AFSA does not fund studies related to behavioral, psychosocial, self-help, or movement therapies. If you are assessing a medication that is commonly prescribed for patients, then your project should provide new insights about the drug's mechanism of action.

Sleep-Related Priorities:

- Identify sleep polysomnography (PSG) characteristics (particularly EEG brain patterns and anomalies in sleep architecture) that may be specific to FMS and/or correlate with symptoms.
- Evaluate the occurrence of sleep disorders, such as upper airway resistance syndrome, obstructive sleep apnea or restless legs syndrome (the latter can be diagnosed with clinical interview; PSG not required). Tag-on proposals to ongoing epidemiologic studies involving larger patient populations or community-based samples are welcomed.
- Test effectiveness of interventions for improving sleep, either pharmacologic agents or therapies designed to enhance airflow, to determine if they lead to improvements in pain, fatigue, dyscognition, function, or other measures.
- Correlate sleep PSG characteristics (including brain wave patterns and sleep architecture) with neuro-endocrine-immune abnormalities or specific physiologic measures in FMS patients.

Other Important Priorities:

- Test therapeutic interventions for FMS pain, particularly medications that are effective with minimal side effects. In particular, evaluate medications approved for other indications or those currently being tested in Phase III clinical trials for other conditions.
- Identify the chronic pain mechanisms in FMS. This includes brain imaging studies that build upon the recent findings of gray matter loss (or altered gray matter densities), as well as therapeutic manipulations that may elucidate the cause of the findings.
- Investigate the role of neuro-endocrine-immune modulators and their receptors in the central nervous system and the peripheral systems. Proposals to test...
medications to alter or correct documented abnormalities in the above neuroendocrine-immune modulators would be of interest to AFSA
- Identify/develop potential lab markers, genetic indicators, or other test measures for use as diagnostic and clinical evaluation purposes
- Explore the physiologic mechanisms responsible for the symptom of fatigue and test pharmacological treatments to alleviate this symptom
- Evaluate neurocognitive deficits (or dyscognition) in people with FMS by correlating it to neuro-endocrine-immune abnormalities, brain imaging findings, or PSG. This symptom is often the most disabling and deserves special attention

2. American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS)

Career Development Award
Deadline: October 1, 2017
Amount: $150,000 over 2 years
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility:
Applicant must:

- Be within 5 years of first full-time faculty appointment in the United States or Canadian government, public or private not-for-profit medical institution
- Be a United States or Canadian citizen having completed an approved colorectal surgery training program; if foreign national, then must have valid working visa at time of application for colorectal department/institution where work is proposed
- Be an ASCRS member
- Not currently have or have previously received a career development award from another external funding source. If the applicant receives the Career Development Award from the Research Foundation of the ASCRS and is subsequently awarded another career development award from another external funding source with overlapping funding period, the applicant must return the residual funds to the Research Foundation of the ASCRS, or decline the funding from another source. The exception is a career development award from the NIH K-series award or funding from the applicants own institution

The goal of the CDA is to provide young surgeons with the support necessary for the initiation and development of an academic career in colorectal surgery. As opposed to the LPG awards, the CDA focuses on career development and mentorship of the individual rather than solely on the research proposal. The award is intended for the academic investigator demonstrating significant creativity in research relevant to the pathophysiology or management of diseases of the small bowel, colon, rectum, or anus.

3. Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation

Beckman-Argyros Award in Vision Research
Deadline: September 29, 2017
Amount: $500,000
Number of Grants/Year: 1
Eligibility:
The Nominee must be:

- A recognized leader in their field of scientific expertise who made a significant transformative breakthrough in vision research;
- Actively engaged in vision research or research which may be applied to vision sciences;
- A tenured M.D., Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. with an appointment in a basic science department, or a similar appointment;
- Conducting research at a U.S. university or research institution with a 501(c)(3), or other similarly qualifying, IRS designation;
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the United States at time of application.

The Beckman-Argyros Award in Vision Research rewards one individual who has made and is continuing to make significant transformative breakthroughs in vision research; particularly through the development of an innovative technology or fundamental scientific breakthrough that has been applied to, aided and/or improved the vision sciences.
4. Baillet Latour Fund
Health Prize
Deadline: September 30, 2017
Amount: $291,487.50 (estimation)
Number of Grants/Year: 1
Eligibility: The Health Prize is awarded to a personality, not an institution. The Prize is open to scientists of all nationalities who have not received an equivalent Prize for their personal use. Exceptionally, the Prize may be shared between two persons who have collaborated over a long period.

The Health Prize is intended to recognize outstanding scientific achievements in biomedical research for the benefit of human health and to encourage the laureate in the pursuit of his/her career. The theme for 2018 is cancer.

5. The Bruno and Ilse Frick Foundation for ALS Research
Research Grants
Deadline: September 30, 2017
Amount: $105,607.78 (estimation) over 2 years
Number of Grants/Year: 2-3
Eligibility: The awards are not directed to clinically related projects for patient care. There is no geographical limitation to the recipients.

The aim of the Foundation is to encourage basic biomedical research related to understanding the cause of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

6. Elsa U. Pardee Foundation
Cancer Research Grant
Deadline: December 31, 2017
Amount: No limit (AVG $100,000-$200,000) for 1 year
Number of Grants/Year: 5-10
Eligibility: Eligible applicants must be investigators working at a United States non-profit institution. Papers verifying nonprofit status and relevant human subject and experimental animal treatment approvals from the recipient institution will be requested prior to project initiation.

The Elsa U. Pardee Foundation funds research to proposing research directed toward identifying new treatments or cures for cancer. The Foundation particularly encourages grant applications for a one year period which will allow establishment of capabilities of new cancer researchers, or new cancer approaches by established cancer researchers. It is anticipated that this early stage funding by the Foundation may lead to subsequent and expanded support using government agency funding. Project relevance to cancer detection, treatment, or cure should be clearly identified.

7. Epilepsy Foundation
Targeted Research Initiative for Research Regarding Cannabinoids and Epilepsy
Deadline: September 15, 2017
Amount: $50,000 over 1 year
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: Investigators must hold a relevant advanced degree (MD, PhD, MS, PharmD), and have completed all research training appropriate to the project proposed. This call for proposals is open to investigators at academic/university settings and others in the public and private sectors. All applications will be judged on a competitive basis, without regard to the academic rank or title of the investigator. Applicants whose research will involve patient care or direct involvement with patients must be licensed to practice their profession at their institution and must obtain Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval. U.S. citizenship is not required; however, research must be conducted in the U.S.

The Epilepsy Foundation supports translational, clinical and behavioral research leading to advances into the diagnosis and care of persons with seizures and epilepsy. The Epilepsy Foundation is pleased to continue its Targeted Research Initiative program on Cannabinoids, in recognition of the critical need for research on cannabidiol and other
cannabinoids and their potential for therapeutic development for treatment of epilepsy. This Request for Proposal (RFP) was developed to generate pilot data that can lead to sponsored research projects in the future. The Foundation invites research grant applications from interested investigators to conduct pilot research in the following areas. Projects should address at least one of the following numbered items:

- Fundamental knowledge of anticonvulsant mechanism(s) of action of cannabidiol or other cannabinoids
- Cannabinoid therapeutics
  - Special interactions among AEDs and cannabidiol
  - Interactions of AEDs with epilepsy-associated, interictal dysfunctions of mood, anxiety and thought in those using cannabinoids as anticonvulsant therapy
- Epidemiologic studies of those individuals using cannabinoids as anticonvulsant therapy.

8. Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Translational Research Program (TRP)
Deadline (LOI): September 29, 2017
Amount: Up to $600,000 over 3 years
Number of Grants/Year: 8-10
Eligibility:

- LLS welcomes applications from both US citizens and non-citizens, as well as applicants who are performing research outside the U.S. Applicants must be appointed to a not-for-profit institution at the time the funding commences.
- Applicants must hold a PhD, MD, DVM or equivalent degree.
- Grants are eligible for an additional two years if they include an approved clinical trial and a fully justified research plan. One of the program’s principal intents is to permit the acquisition of sufficient data to apply to an appropriate agency or sponsor for sustained support.

For accelerating clinical applications of laboratory findings relevant to improved diagnosis and management of leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma and other hematopoietic malignancies.

9. Tang Prize
Biopharmaceutical Science
Deadline: September 30, 2017
Amount: $1,330,000
Number of Grants/Year: 1-3 in each category
Eligibility: The Tang Prize is global in reach, with laureates selected on the basis of the originality of their work along with their contributions to society, irrespective of their nationality or ethnicity.

The Tang Prize in Biopharmaceutical Science recognizes original biopharmaceutical or biomedical research that has led to significant advances towards preventing, diagnosing and/or treating major human diseases to improve human health.

10. UMass Center for Bioactive Delivery
CBD-IALS Seed Grant Program
Deadline: October 1, 2017
Amount: Up to $26,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: For a minimum of 2 PI’s.

The funds for this mechanism are specifically earmarked toward generating preliminary data for multi-PI grant opportunities from any extramural funding agency with the specific aim of catalyzing new collaborations or advance existing unfunded collaborations within CBD. Extramural opportunity to be targeted must be identified in the application. Funding is not limited to large center projects, i.e. any extramural mechanism is accepted. Examples include, but are not limited to, multi-PI NSF submissions to standard calls, e.g. NIH R21s, R01s, and U01s.
11. Vitiligo Research (VR) Foundation (VRF)

Vitiligo Grants
Deadline (LOI): Rolling
Amount: Up to $50,000 over 1 year
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: Teams may be assembled from several institutions and should be comprised of highly experienced investigators capable of providing a solution to significant problem in vitiligo research.

Vitiligo grants support novel projects with great potential to produce breakthroughs in development of novel treatment modalities, drugs and diagnostic tools for vitiligo. VRF supports research projects, which have one of the following goals:

- To experimentally validate the perspective diagnostic methods, tools and treatments in vitiligo,
- To develop technically sound realization of novel diagnostic tools, methods and treatment modalities for vitiligo which are based on firm scientific and experimental ground.

VRF will also support projects with an impact on current management of vitiligo patients.

12. The Wiley Foundation

Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences
Deadline: September 30, 2017
Amount: $35,000 over 1 year
Number of Grants/Year: Up to 5
Eligibility: The Wiley Foundation invites and encourages the nomination of exceptional scientists or research teams whose work has achieved an impressive level of excellence. Each nomination should be submitted by someone other than the nominee. More than one nomination can be made from the same organization and international nominations are encouraged.

The Wiley Prize in Biomedical Sciences is intended to recognize breakthrough research in pure or applied life science research that is distinguished by its excellence, originality, and impact on our understanding of biological systems and processes. The award may recognize a specific contribution or series of contributions that demonstrate the nominee’s significant leadership in the development of research concepts or their clinical application. Particular emphasis will be placed on research which champions novel approaches and challenges accepted thinking in the biomedical sciences.

II. Nursing & Public Health

13. American College of Medical Toxicology Foundation (MTF)

Research and Teaching Awards
Deadline: February 15, 2018
Amount: Up to $20,000 over 1-2 years
Number of Grants/Year: 1-2
Eligibility: All proposals that support the mission of the Foundation will be considered.

The MTF funds innovative projects that support the Foundation's mission of an enriched understanding, enhanced patient care, and improved dissemination of knowledge regarding toxic exposures. Current research and education priorities of the Foundation include:

- Support early-career investigators (fellows and young faculty less than 5 years post-fellowship training) with research projects that advance toxicological knowledge and improve patient care while providing preliminary data to support further grant applications (such as an NIH K-level award).
- Support development of innovative approaches to delivery of medical toxicology education to healthcare providers and lay public.
14. Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism

Family Support Program
Deadline: September 29, 2017
Amount: Up to $20,000
Number of Grants/Year: 30-50
Eligibility: To be eligible, applicants must be recognized as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. In addition, applicant organizations must provide services in one or more of the following geographic regions: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Southern California (San Diego County, Los Angeles County, Orange County), Central Florida (Marion, Volusia, Sumter, Lake, Seminole, Orange, Osceola, Brevard counties), and select Canadian cities (Toronto, Vancouver). The foundation will also consider national educational and advocacy programs.

The priorities of the Foundation are to meet families’ needs along the way by ensuring access to services, active lifestyles, and adult independence.

- Access to services: Funding for community organizations and schools who are providing vital resources and actively assisting children with autism spectrum disorder and their families through education and technology, advocacy programs, diagnostic and clinical services, direct family support, safety equipment, emergency care, respite services and other opportunities that will enhance the quality of life for those affected.
- Active lifestyles: Support for recreational and sports programs, aquatic programs, social skills training, family events and summer camps for all individuals on the autism spectrum.
- Adult independence: Providing opportunities for job training, vocational skills programs, employment, housing, transportation and healthcare delivery for adults on the autism spectrum.

15. National Alliance for Accessible Golf Program

USGA Alliance Grants
Deadline: Rolling
Amount: Up to $20,000 over 1 year
Number of Grants/Year: 5-15
Eligibility: All grant recipients must be tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations as defined under Section 501(c)3 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code or government entities such as public schools or municipalities.

The Alliance is particularly interested in applications that demonstrate focus on inclusion of people with disabilities in programs that involve those without disabilities with the ultimate goal of enhancing their inclusion into the fabric of their community.

Grants support organizations which provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to learn and enjoy the game of golf and its inherent values. The Alliance and the USGA share the belief that the game of golf is exceptionally well suited to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in a recreational or competitive activity with participants who have various types of disabilities as well as those who do not have disabilities. We encourage inclusive programming - opportunities that allow participants with disabilities and participants without disabilities to learn and play the game side by side. The Alliance Grants Committee believes that the values of the game are best learned by playing the game. As such, the Alliance places great emphasis on providing opportunities for participants to experience golf to the fullest extent possible. Programs should offer affordable and accessible opportunities for participants to experience golf both during scheduled programming and after programming is concluded.

III. Education, Humanities, and Social & Behavioral Sciences

16. Constellation
E2 Energy to Educate Grants
Deadline: October 1, 2017
Amount: Up to $50,000
Number of Grants/Year: 10-20
Eligibility: Identify a project that reaches at least 100 students and aligns with the Constellation Energy to Educate Innovation Themes: Energy in Transportation

- What will the future of transportation look like? From electrification to compressed natural gas, new technologies are fueling us into the future
- Sample topics: Electric Vehicles, Electric Charging Infrastructure, Compressed Natural Gas Stations Backyard Generation
- Could your next home improvement project be generating your own energy? More and more, decentralized energy generation is improving efficiency and resilience
- Sample topics: Fuel Cells, Battery Technology, Community Solar, Advanced Nuclear Reactors Zero Waste
- What if we could harness energy that would otherwise be wasted? The recycling movement is catching on in energy thanks to innovative technologies
- Sample topics: Waste to Energy, Combined Cycle, Biomass, Energy Storage

Through the E2 Energy to EducateSM grant program, Constellation offers students in grades 6-12 and college opportunities to experience problem-solving today’s and tomorrow’s energy challenges. Grant funds support projects designed to enhance students’ understanding of science and technology, and inspire them to think differently about energy.

17. The JM Foundation
Grants
Deadline (LOI): Rolling
Amount: $25,000 over 1 year
Number of Grants/Year: 15-30
Eligibility: To be eligible for funding by the Foundation, an organization must be located in the United States and tax-exempt under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation cannot provide grants to individuals. As a general rule, the Foundation does not provide annual funding.

The Foundation’s current priorities include:

- Supporting education and research that fosters market-based policy solutions, especially at state think tanks.
- Developing state and national organizations that promote free enterprise, entrepreneurship, and private initiative
- Identifying and educating young leaders

18. National Geographic Society
Standard Grant
Deadline: October 1, 2017
Amount: Up to $50,000
Number of Grants/Year: 250
Eligibility: National Geographic welcomes applications from around the world, and specifically encourages applicants from outside the United States to apply. Applicants planning to work outside of their home country should include at least one local collaborator on their team. The Committee will not usually consider applications that support strictly laboratory or collections work. Grants are awarded on the basis of merit and exist independent of the Society’s other divisions.

The National Geographic Society awards grants for conservation, education, research, storytelling, and technology through its Committee for Research and Exploration. All proposed projects must be novel and exploratory, and be of broad interest. National Geographic Society grant-funded projects should be bold, innovative, and transformative.

19. Tang Prize
Deadline: September 30, 2017  
Amount: $1,330,000  
Number of Grants/Year: 1-3 in each category  
Eligibility: The Tang Prize is global in reach, with laureates selected on the basis of the originality of their work along with their contributions to society, irrespective of their nationality or ethnicity.

Sustainable Development: The Tang Prize in Sustainable Development recognizes those who have made extraordinary contributions to the sustainable development of human societies, especially through groundbreaking innovations in science and technology.

Sinology: The Tang Prize in Sinology recognizes the study of Sinology in its broadest sense, awarding research on China and its related fields, such as Chinese thought, history, philology, linguistics, archaeology, philosophy, religion, traditional canons, literature, and art (excluding literary and art works). Honoring innovations in the field of Sinology, the Prize showcases Chinese culture and its contributions to the development of human civilization.

Rule of Law: The Tang Prize in the Rule of Law recognizes individual(s) or institution(s) who have made significant contributions to the rule of law, reflected not only in the achievement of the candidate(s) in terms of the advancement of legal theory or practice, but also in the realization of the rule of law in contemporary societies through the influences or inspiration of the work of the candidate(s).

IV. Fellowships

Please note: CFR cannot assist with fellowships that are not funneled through OGCA.

20. Simons Foundation

Simons Fellows in Mathematics

Deadline: September 28, 2017  
Amount: Up to $100,000 over 1 year  
Number of Grants/Year: 40  
Eligibility: A Simons Fellow in Mathematics must have a teaching or administrative tenured position at the same U.S. or Canadian college or university within the mathematics department, at the time of application, throughout the course of the sabbatical and in the term following the leave. This must be the applicant’s primary position. Applied mathematics and statistics disciplines are eligible. In addition, a Fellow must have an active current research program. Fellows cannot simultaneously hold a Simons Investigator award.

The Simons Foundation’s Mathematics and Physical Sciences (MPS) division invites applications for the Simons Fellows in Mathematics program, which is intended to make sabbatical leaves more productive by extending them to a full academic year.

Simons Fellows in Theoretical Physics

Deadline: September 28, 2017  
Amount: Up to $100,000 over 1 year  
Number of Grants/Year: 12  
Eligibility: A Simons Fellow in Theoretical Physics must have a teaching or administrative tenured position at the same U.S. or Canadian college or university within the physics or related department, at the time of application, throughout the course of the sabbatical and in the term following the leave. This must be the applicant’s primary position. Fellows cannot simultaneously hold a Simons Investigator award.

The Simons Foundation’s Mathematics and Physical Sciences (MPS) division invites applications for the Simons Fellows in Theoretical Physics program, which is intended to make sabbatical leaves more productive by extending them to a full academic year.
Request Support from CFR!

The CFR Support Request Form is organized to reflect the order and type of information that most foundations look for in their grant applications. It can help you better frame your ideas and create a more consistent structure for your letter of intent (LOI) or funding request. Follow the link and get started today!

Tips for Grant Writing!

Please read "100 Words That Kill Your Proposal," by Bob Lohfeld. This article will help you avoid some of the most common mistakes that weaken a proposal.

Look at "Why Academics Have a Hard Time Writing Good Grant Proposals" to better understand the contrast between traditional academic writing and grant proposals.

Also check out "How to Fail at Grant Writing," an article in The Chronicle of Higher Education, written by UMass faculty successful at obtaining grants.

For more help, and a step-by-step walk through, read Texas Instruments' "Successful Grant Writing Strategies."

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