CFR Private Funding Opportunities
December 17, 2015 eNewsletter

Corporate and Foundation Relations (CFR) assists on non-governmental, institutional grant opportunities at the $50,000 level and above. For all grant opportunities requiring a 501c3 submission, we will arrange applying through the University of Massachusetts Foundation. This 501c3 process has strict timelines; please contact our office as early as possible to assure that the funder deadline can be met.

Most funding opportunities below are offered annually. If time does not permit applying now, we encourage you to add them to your proposal schedule for next year. Previous editions of RFP’s and the private foundation limited-submission calendar are available at www.umass.edu/cfr. To request addition to or removal from this notice and for general questions, please contact CFR staff, cfr@admin.umass.edu. For additional assistance and referrals, contact Jeff Aron, Executive Director for Corporation & Foundation Relations, jaron@umass.edu or Elizabeth Smith, Director of Corporation & Foundation Relations, emsmith@umass.edu. Please share widely. Thank you!

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 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 detailed assistance: Texas Instruments offers an informative list of “Successful Grant Writing Strategies.”

1. Engineering, Science & Medical
Vodafone Americas Foundation – Wireless Innovation Prize
Amount: $300,000 (first-place prize), $200,000 (second-place), $100,000 (third-place) over 3 years
Number of Awards/Year: 3
Eligibility: The mobile or wireless solution must address an issue in the areas of access to communication, education, economic development, environment, or health. In addition, the project must be at a stage of research where an advanced prototype or field/market test can occur during the award period; the technology should have the potential for replication and large-scale impact; and teams should have a business plan or a basic framework for financial sustainability and rollout.

The program is designed to recognize the growth taking place in mobile innovation and the potential for mobile and wireless technology to help solve critical social issues around the world. Winners in previous years have received additional funding that has enabled them to further develop and grow their innovations and hire talent.
**Progeria Research Foundation** – Proposals for Research on Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome

**Deadline:** March 22, 2016

**Amount:** Grants are awarded in three categories:

1. **Innovator Awards:** Two-year grants of up to $75,000 per year will be awarded to enable an investigator to embark on new lines of investigation and produce enough preliminary data to be competitive for longer-term funding by NIH and/or other agencies.

2. **Established Investigator Awards:** Three-year grants of up to $100,000 per year are available to senior investigators established either in the field of HGPS or a directly related field with directly application to it.

3. **Specialty Awards:** Grants of up to $50,000 will be awarded to smaller, more technology-driven projects, including sequencing, screening potential drugs, obtaining cell lines (including IPSCs,) and preparation of antibodies. Proposed projects should be no more than a year in duration.

**Number of Awards/Year:** NA

**Eligibility:** PI’s must hold post-doctoral positions or beyond.

PRF is seeking proposals that address the following priorities: 1. Discovery of biological markers of disease in HGPS that can be assessed in human and/or mouse samples. Highest priority will be given to those markers that can be assayed in easily obtainable human samples such as blood, urine, and cheek swabs. In addition, proposals that explore biomarker relevance to disease process and/or change in markers with disease treatment are encouraged. 2. Discovery and/or testing of candidate treatment compounds in both cell based and mouse models of HGPS. Of note, proposals should test compounds in a progerin-producing mouse model as the priority. Comparisons to other mouse models of disease, such as ZMPSTE24 -/- and other non-progerin producing mouse models is acceptable, but only as a comparison to progerin-producing models.

**Rita Allen Foundation** – Award in Pain

**Deadline:** January 18, 2016

**Amount:** $50,000/year for 3 years

**Number of Awards/Year:** 2

**Eligibility:** Candidates will have completed their training and provided persuasive evidence of distinguished achievement or extraordinary promise in basic science research in pain. Candidates should be in the early stages of their career with an appointment at faculty level. Proposed research projects should be directed towards the molecular biology of pain and/or basic science topics related to the development of new analgesics for the management of pain due to terminal illness.

Proposed research projects should be directed towards the molecular biology of pain and/or basic science topics related to the development of new analgesics for the management of pain due to terminal illness.

Must have received committed start-up funds and independent laboratory space from their institution and this information must be clearly indicated in the Chair’s letter of support for the candidate.

- Should be in the first three years of their appointment.
- Should be appointed to tenure track or equivalent position at their respective institution.
- Must conduct the research and be appointed at an institution in the United States or Canada.
- Must indicate if an application has been submitted for another APS research award and the candidate may accept only one concurrent APS research award.
- A senior post-doc should not be an applicant.
- Associate professors should not be an applicant.

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**Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI) – Explorer Award**

**Deadline:** Rolling  
**Amount:** up to $70,000  
**Number of Awards/Year:** 1  
**Eligibility:** All applicants and key collaborators must hold a Ph.D., M.D. or equivalent degree and have a faculty position or the equivalent at a college, university, medical school or other research facility. Applications may be submitted by domestic and foreign nonprofit organizations; public and private institutions, such as colleges, universities, hospitals, laboratories, units of state and local government; and eligible agencies of the federal government. There are no citizenship or country requirements.  

The mission is to improve the understanding, diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) by funding innovative research of the highest quality and relevance. A deeper understanding of the mechanisms underlying autism spectrum disorders or potential therapeutic approaches will require investigation at multiple levels, including but not limited to studies focused on gene discovery, molecular mechanisms, circuits, anatomy, and cognition and behavior.

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**Batten Disease Support and Research Association – Research Grant**

**Deadline (LOI):** January 4, 2016  
**Amount:** up to $60,000 for one year  
**Number of Awards/Year:** 8  
**Eligibility:** NA  

Supports innovative research projects that have the potential to advance therapeutic strategies for all or any of the Neuronal Ceroid Lipofuscinoses.

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**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Five Star & Urban Waters Restoration Program**

**Deadline:** February 3, 2016  
**Amount:** $20,000-$50,000 for 1-2 years  
**Number of Awards/Year:** 40-50  
**Eligibility:** Any public or private entity is eligible. Preference is shown to organizations directly connected to the local community who can monitor and sustain these projects for 5 years or more.  

To develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds and the species and habitats they support. Projects include a variety of ecological improvements including: wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration; wildlife conservation; community tree canopy enhancement; and/or water quality monitoring and storm water management; along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship. A minimum 1:1 non-federal match is required.

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**Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation – Research Grant**

**Deadline:** February 1, 2016  
**Amount:** $15,000-$50,000/year for 2 years  
**Number of Awards/Year:** ~10  
**Eligibility:** Open to basic and clinical scientists holding an advanced degree (MD, DDS, DMD, or PhD) at any U.S. university or research institution. Both junior and senior investigators may apply. For physicians, advanced clinical training in a specialty related to Sjögren’s, such as rheumatology or ophthalmology, is desirable.
Funding decisions for SSF grants will be based on the following priorities:

- Innovative and creative concepts
- Novel diagnostics and relevance to the SSF Breakthrough Goal
- Direct relevance to Sjögren’s
- High quality science
- Preliminary data; probability of SSF seed money leading to an NIH grant
- Potential practical importance through the use of human tissues or blood samples
- Outcome could define new therapeutic target in SS
- Collaborative aspects of project
- Focused and achievable in the time lines
- Author on peer-reviewed articles
- A young investigator who has already displayed a productive commitment to SS research and a potential career in the field
- Letters of recommendation (if required) praise commitment, focus, high standards and excellence Financial support important for the salary support and execution of the research
- Excellent lab environment and mentorship available if young investigator

**American Psychological Association** – Esther Katz Rosen Fund Grants

Deadline: March 1, 2016
Amount: $1,000 – $50,000
Number of Awards/Year: NA

Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with a school or educational institution, hold a doctoral degree from, or be a graduate student at, an accredited university for research proposals. Work related to the psychological understanding of gifted children and youth.

**Organic Farming Research Foundation** – Organic Farming and Food System Research

Deadline: February 8, 2016
Amount: $15,000 for one year OR $20,000 over 2 years for projects addressing priority areas of research (see below)
Number of Awards/Year: NA (historically > 5)

Eligibility: Proposals must be farmer-led OR meaningfully involve farmers or ranchers in project design and implementation and must take place on certified organic land, ideally on working organic farms or ranches.

OFRF encourages grants that address the resiliency of organic systems to challenges like climate change and/or have economic and social considerations to compliment on-farm research. For this funding year, priority for research projects will be related to soil health with emphasis of water management (eg. soil health for drought and flood conditions); creating new organic farmers and ranchers and transition of producers to organic systems; livestock production, especially breeding for organic systems and diseases and pasture management; and small grain production, especially related to creating a diverse rotational system.

**Simons Foundation** – Collaboration Grants for Mathematicians

Deadline: January 28, 2016
Amount: $14,000/year for up to 5 years
Number of Awards/Year: up to 140

Eligibility: Must have: a Ph. D. and a tenure-track or tenured position, or be a professor emeritus, at a U.S. institution of higher education. Have a
current record of active research and publication in high-quality journals. Not hold any other external grants of over $3,000 per year that allow for support for travel or visitors during the collaboration grant award period.

The goal of the program is to support the ‘mathematical marketplace’ by substantially increasing collaborative contacts between mathematicians. Awards will be based on the quality of the applicant’s previous research and on the likely impact that the collaboration grant will have on future research, both for the applicant and the applicant’s graduate students and/or postdoctoral fellows.

Simons Foundation – Targeted Grants in Mathematics and Physical Sciences

Deadline (LOI): Rolling

Amount: No Funding Limit, up to 5 years

Number of Awards/Year: NA

Eligibility: Applications may be submitted by established U.S. and foreign public and private educational institutions and stand-alone research centers. There is no limit per institution or individual. There are no citizenship or department requirements for PIs.

The program is intended to support high-risk projects of exceptional promise and scientific importance on a case-by-case basis.

II. Nursing & Public Health

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network – Research Acceleration Network Grant (RAN)

Deadline: January 15, 2016

Amount: up to $1 million for 1-3 years

Number of Awards/Year: 2

Eligibility: One contact PI and at least one co-PI, must be an independent investigator and hold a doctoral degree in the biomedical sciences or in a field applicable to health science.

For research in pancreatic cancer that includes a clinical project with an endpoint that improves prevention, detection/diagnosis/prognosis, treatment or supportive care. The clinical component must be implemented no later than the beginning of the last year of the grant term. The project must involve at least two institutions and demonstrate strong potential to improve outcomes for pancreatic cancer patients.

Avon Foundation for Women – Breast Cancer Research Program

Deadline (LOI): January 7, 2016

Amount: Up to $300,000 for 2 years

Number of Awards/Year: 30-40

Eligibility: Research project proposals submitted to the Avon must utilize human studies, and researchers are highly encouraged to access the Army of Women to obtain volunteers.

Our Research Grant program funds translational research using clinical studies, human cell culture, epidemiologic and other progressive approaches to understand the causes of breast cancer and develop new treatments.

Research questions we hope to answer to further the development of breast cancer prevention strategies include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Understanding the potential causes of breast cancer and research to develop new preventative strategies
- Understanding metastases and developing new treatments for metastatic breast cancer

American Association for Cancer Research – Neuroendocrine Tumor Research Foundation-AACR Grant

Deadline: January 12, 2016
Amount: $250,000 for 2 years  
Number of Awards/Year: 1  
Eligibility: Applicants must have a doctoral degree (including PhD, MD, DO, DC, ND, DDS, DVM, ScD, DNS, PharmD, or equivalent doctoral degree) in a related field and not be a candidate for a further doctoral or professional degree. AACR membership is required. Nonmembers interested must submit a satisfactory application for AACR Active Membership by Grant deadline (see above).

This grant is available to full time, independent junior and senior investigators to develop and study new ideas and innovative approaches that have direct application and relevance to neuroendocrine tumors. Proposed research may be in any discipline of basic, translational, clinical, or epidemiological cancer research.

**American Association for Cancer Research** – Kure It Research Grant for Immunotherapy in Kidney Cancer  
Deadline: January 12, 2016  
Amount: $250,000 over 2 years  
Number of Awards/Year: 1  
Eligibility: AACR membership required. Nonmembers must submit a satisfactory application for AACR Associate Membership by January 12, 2016. Applicants must have a medical and/or doctoral degree in a related field and not currently be a candidate for a further terminal degree. This grant is available to full time, independent junior and senior investigators to study immunological aspects of, or treatments for, kidney cancer. Research projects should advance the basic knowledge of tumor immunology mechanisms, or develop new concepts in the treatment, control, or prevention of kidney cancer by immunology-based therapeutic approaches. Proposed projects may be basic, translational, clinical, or epidemiological in nature and must focus on cancer immunology including, but not limited to: immune recognition, regulation, tumor escape, and therapeutic manipulation for kidney cancer.

**American Heart Association** – Scientist Development Grant  
Deadline: January 15, 2016  
Amount: $231,000 over 3 years  
Number of Awards/Year: 140  
Eligibility: Awardee must meet American Heart Association citizenship criteria throughout duration of the award. At the time of application, the applicant must hold an M.D., Ph.D., D.O., D.V.M. or equivalent post-baccalaureate doctoral degree. At the time of award activation, the applicant must hold a faculty/staff position up to and including the rank of assistant professor (or equivalent), and have no more than four years since his/her first faculty/staff appointment (after receipt of doctoral degree) at the assistant professor level or its equivalent.

To support highly promising beginning scientists in their research broadly related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts. Proposals are encouraged from all basic, behavioral, epidemiological, and community and clinical investigations that bear on cardiovascular and stroke problems.

**American Society for Microbiology/Center for Disease Control and Prevention** – Program in Infectious Disease and Public Health Microbiology Postdoctoral Research Fellowship  
Deadline: January 15, 2016  
Amount: up to $52,532 for 2 years  
Number of Awards/Year:  
Eligibility: The program is intended for individuals who either earned their doctorate degree or completed a primary residency within three years of their proposed start date. Applicants may not have a faculty position or be enrolled in a graduate degree program during the fellowship.
The goal of ASM/CDC Fellowship is to support the development of new approaches, methodologies and knowledge in infectious disease prevention and control in areas within the public health mission of the CDC. The fellowship allows one to perform research in residence headquartered at a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) location. Eligible fields of study include:

- Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases
- Viral and Rickettsial Infections
- Nosocomial Infections
- HIV/AIDS
- Vector-borne Infectious Diseases
- Parasitic Diseases

III. Education & Humanities

**Laura and John Arnold Foundation** – Criminal Justice Initiative Proposal

**Deadline (LOI):** January 15, 2016  
**Amount:** $12 million budget  
**Number of Awards/Year:** 4-5

**Eligibility:**
This RFP is soliciting research and evaluation project proposals. First, we are seeking proposals to conduct randomized controlled trials (RCTs) that are designed to build policy-important evidence about “what works” across all areas of criminal justice (see attachment 1). Second, recognizing that many innovative ideas will not be ready for RCTs until they can be successfully piloted in real community settings, we are also soliciting proposals to faithfully implement and study small scale criminal justice interventions that are supported by compelling logic (see attachment 2). We are particularly interested in RCTs and innovations involving policing, prosecution, alternatives to arrest, and diversion programs – i.e., the front end of the criminal justice system (from arrest through sentencing) – as well as juvenile justice and medication-assisted treatment. However, proposals in all areas of criminal justice are welcome. Applicants should specify the amount requested.

**Environmental Research and Education Foundation** – Research in Sustainable Solid Waste Management

**Deadline:** January 6, 2016  
**Amount:** $15,000 - $500,000, average gift of $160,000 over 2 years  
**Number of Awards/Year:** 3

**Eligibility:** Full-time faculty at academic institutions, post-doctoral employees, and principals or senior personnel at non-academic institutions. Graduate students are not eligible to be principal investigators.  

Pre-proposal topics must relate to sustainable solid waste management practices and pertain to the following topic areas:

1. Waste minimization
2. Recycling
3. Waste conversion to energy, biofuels, chemicals or other useful products. This includes, but is not limited to, the following technologies:
   - Waste-to-energy
   - Anaerobic digestion
   - Composting
   - Other thermal or biological conversion technologies
4. Strategies to promote diversion to higher and better uses (e.g. organics diversion, market analysis, optimized material management, logistics, etc.)
5. Landfilling

Desirable aspects of the above topics, in addition to or as part of hypothesis driven applied research, also include: economic or cost/benefit analyses, feasibility studies for untested technologies or management strategies, life cycle analysis or inventory, and analyses of policies that relate to the above.

Spencer Foundation – Conference Grants
Deadline: January 11
Amount: up to $50,000
Number of Awards/Year: NA
Eligibility: The PI must have earned doctorate in an academic discipline or professional field, or appropriate experience in an education research-related profession; and must be affiliated with a college, university, school district, non-profit research facility, or non-profit cultural institution that is willing to serve as the fiscal agent if the grant is awarded.

Another possibility could involve bringing together teaching and learning researchers who explore classroom discourse with scholars who investigate youth participation in additional communities where face-to-face, online, or blended forms of communication take place. Finally, we wish to emphasize our interest in supporting conferences that explore advancements in our substantive knowledge about teaching and learning, our capacity to build theory around teaching and learning, or our methodological approaches for investigating teaching and learning in classroom spaces or informal learning environments.

IV. Fellowships

American Cancer Society – Research Professor Grants
Deadline (LOI): February 1
Amount: up to $400,000/5 years (renewable)
Number of Awards/Year: up to 2
Eligibility:
Awarded to outstanding mid-career investigators who have made seminal contributions that have changed the direction of cancer research. In general, applicants will recently have attained the rank of full professor. The awards are for 5 years in the total amount of $400,000, and may be renewed once.

The Klingenstein Third Generation Foundation – Fellowship Programs
Deadline: January 8, 2016
Amount: $30,000 for 2 years
Number of Awards/Year: 5
Eligibility: The Foundation expects institutions to nominate post-doctoral investigators holding a Ph.D. and/or M.D. who have also completed all clinical training. As a general rule, nominated candidates should be at the junior faculty level or on a trajectory for attaining faculty status. The Foundation accepts nominations only from the Chair of Departments of Psychiatry.

For research relating to child and adolescent ADHD and Depression, and access to care for mental healthcare for children and families.

University of Massachusetts – Office of Technology Commercialization and Ventures Tech Development Fund Phase 1
Deadline: January 15, 2016
Amount: $25,000  
Number of Awards/Year: 8  
Eligibility:

1. The technology must have been developed primarily at UMass.
2. Researchers must be UMass employees.
3. The technology has to have been previously disclosed to the campus OTCV with an OTCV Invention Disclosure form.
4. Technologies from all disciplines will be considered.
5. The technology must have significant commercial potential.
6. The funding must be meaningful for the success of this technology and make the technology more attractive for commercialization.
7. Adequate funding from other sources is not readily available.
8. Technologies cannot already be commercialized or covered by a license or subject to an already licensed disclosure.

The purpose of the Fund is to assist faculty and the OTCV offices with the commercial development of important technologies discovered on our campuses. Awarded to researchers who have invented or developed concepts, goods or services that have commercial potential. The grant is intended to move technologies to the proof of concept stage or to allow the investigator to take other critical steps to make the technology attractive for licensing or other forms of commercialization. The Fund is NOT intended to support basic research, but rather close the gap between the research discovery and proven technology.

Posen Foundation – Society of Fellows Program  
Deadline: January 15, 2016  
Amount: $20,000/year for 2 years  
Number of Awards/Year: 12  
Eligibility: Applicants must have met all of their university requirements to be Ph.D candidate and have approved dissertation topics before April 1, 2016. Applicants who have already begun writing their dissertation must anticipate at least two years to completion. Applicants may not hold other concurrent fellowships and/or academic awards in excess of $10,000 per year. Participants must have a valid USA visa and be able to travel to the US and present and discuss their own and colleagues’ work in English.

Awarded to support emerging scholars working on modernization processes in Jewish history, society, and culture.

American Association of University Women – Selected Professions Fellowships  
Deadline: January 10, 2016  
Amount: $5,000-$18,000  
Number of Awards/Year: 1  
Eligibility: For women who intend to pursue a full-time course of study at accredited U.S. institutions during the fellowship year in one of the designated degree programs where women’s participation traditionally has been low (see list below). Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

Selected Professions Fellowships are awarded for the following master’s programs:

- Architecture
- Computer/information sciences
Fellowships in the following degree programs are restricted to women of color, who have been underrepresented in these fields:

- Master’s in business administration — applicants may apply for second year of study only
- Law — applicants may apply for third year of study only
- Doctorate in medicine — applicants may apply for third or fourth year of study only