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 for different grant amounts, please visit the About Us page on our Website.

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.

To request an addition to or removal from this notice and for general questions, please contact the CFR staff at cfr@admin.umass.edu. For additional assistance and referrals, contact Jeff Aron, Executive Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations, jaron@umass.edu; Linda Sopp, Senior Director of Foundation Relations, lsopp@admin.umass.edu; Liz Smith, Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations, emsmith@umass.edu. Please share widely.
Try Our New CFR Support Request Form!

Our office recently launched the CFR Support Request Form. We organized the form 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!

I. Science & Medical
II. Nursing & Public Health
III. Education & Humanities
IV. Fellowships

I. Science & Medical

1. **Howard Hughes Medical Institute** - Faculty Scholars Program
   Deadline: July 28, 2015
   Amount: $100,000-$400,000/year for 5 years (non-renewable grant)
   HHMI invests in people, not projects, by identifying talented scientific leaders and supporting them well. We give our scientists the time and freedom to pursue difficult, long-range questions. We encourage creativity, collaboration, and interdisciplinary thinking. In this spirit, we created the Faculty Scholars program. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Simons Foundation have joined forces with HHMI to support the Faculty Scholars program. Through this first-time collaboration, the program partners will augment and secure the pipeline of scientific talent. The Faculty Scholars program seeks to: Provide financial support to faculty at an early career stage; Select awardees based on their vision and potential for unique contributions; and Offer mentoring and career development.

2. **Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation** - Bio Therapeutics Impact Award
   Deadline: June 30, 2015
   Amount: $500,000/year for 3 years
   The ALSF Bio-Therapeutics Impact award provides funding to support investigator-initiated clinical trials using biologic therapies, including but not limited to immunotherapy (including cell therapies), gene therapy and small molecules. This grant category was initiated to accelerate the development of clinical trials for promising biologic approaches to treat childhood cancers.

3. **American Gastroenterological Association** - AGA-Athena Troxel Blackburn Research Scholar Award in Neuroenteric Disease
   Deadline: June 5, 2015
   Amount: $270,000 over 3 years ($90,000 per year)
   The overall objective of the Research Scholar Award (RSA) is to enable young investigators to develop independent and productive research careers in digestive diseases by ensuring that a major proportion of their time is protected for research. This award is for investigators studying neuroenteric disease. The donor is particularly interested in supporting research relevant to irritable bowel syndrome.

4. **American Heart Association** - National Innovative Research Grant
Deadline: July 21, 2015  
Amount: $75,000/year for 2 years  
The main objective is to support highly innovative, high-risk, high-reward research that could ultimately lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate the field of cardiovascular and stroke research. Research deemed innovative may introduce a new paradigm, challenge current paradigms, look at existing problems from new perspectives, or exhibit other uniquely creative qualities. The Innovative Research Grant (IRG) promotes new ideas; therefore, proposals need not include preliminary data. However, a solid rationale for the work must be provided. Proposed work should not be the next logical step of previous work, but should have a high probability of revealing new avenues of investigation, if successful. This program aims to provide pilot or seed funding that should lead to successful competition for additional funding beyond the pilot period.

5. **Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology** - 2015 GRO Program  
Deadline: May 31, 2015  
Amount: Up to $100,000  

6. **Research Corporation for Science Development** - Cottrell Scholars  
Deadline: May 15, 2015  
Amount: $100,000  
The Cottrell Scholar Award develops outstanding teacher-scholars who are recognized by their scientific communities for the quality and innovation of their research programs and their academic leadership skills. The Cottrell Scholar Award provides entry into a national community of outstanding scholar-educators who produce significant research and educational outcomes.

7. **American Thoracic Society** - Tobacco Dependence Research Fund Grant  
Deadline: June 5, 2015  
Amount: $50,000/year for 2 years  
The grant will be targeted for research on basic mechanisms involved in tobacco dependence, including such areas as neurogenetics, pharmacology, neuropharmacology, cell receptors, airway sensory responses, and other basic science areas that enhance understanding of the basic mechanisms causing tobacco dependence. This grant is NOT intended to support studies that examine the adverse consequences of cigarette smoking. The Principal Investigator must be a member of a division of pulmonary and critical care medicine. Trans-disciplinary, cross-department collaboration is encouraged. Preference will be given to projects that, because of their novelty, require bridge funding before becoming competitive for other funding mechanisms.

8. **PhRMA Foundation** - Adherence Improvement Research Starter Grant  
Deadline: September 1, 2015
Amount: $50,000
A growing body of evidence demonstrates that good adherence to recommended medications can yield better clinical outcomes and reduce downstream medical spending for patients with chronic conditions. However, many people do not take their medications as prescribed. Closing the adherence gap is important for improving the quality of health care, encouraging better chronic care management, and promoting better outcomes. Our goal is to support research that will advance knowledge of innovative and effective approaches to improve medication adherence. Relevant research goals may include development or evaluation of policies, interventions, or tools that have potential to improve medication adherence. The proposed research may target one or multiple therapeutic class(es) of medication(s) or condition(s), but not individual products. A focus on priority conditions affecting Medicare and Medicaid is encouraged, e.g. diabetes, cardiovascular disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease/asthma, heart failure, hypertension, dementia, and cancer. Real-world applicability of the intervention and generalizability of the findings to broader populations and settings should be considered.

9. **Research Corporation for Science Development** - SEED Awards
   **Deadline:** March 1, 2016
   **Amount:** $25,000 - $50,000
   The SEED award supports the very first instances of exceptionally creative new research or educational activities with potential high impact. SEED awards offer the opportunity to start new promising activities and test new out-of-the-box ideas. Risky, interdisciplinary and exploratory projects are strongly encouraged. No preliminary data are required.

II. Nursing & Public Health

10. **Grand Challenges in Global Health** - Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
    **Deadline:** May 13, 2015
    **Amount:** Up to $1 million
    Grand Challenges Explorations fosters innovation in global health research. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is committed to encourage scientists worldwide to expand the pipeline of ideas to fight our greatest health challenges. Topics for Grand Challenges Explorations Round 15 are 1) addressing newborn and infant gut health through bacteriophage-mediated microbiome engineering; 2) exploring new ways to measure delivery and use of digital financial services data; 3) surveillance tools, diagnostics, and an artificial diet to support new approaches to vector control; 4) new approaches for addressing outdoor/residual malaria transmission; 5) new ways to reduce childhood pneumonia deaths through delivery of timely effective treatment; 6) enabling merchant acceptance of mobile money payments.

III. Education & Humanities

11. **Russel Sage Foundation** - Future of Work
    **Deadline:** June 1, 2015
    **Amount:** $150,000
    The Russell Sage Foundation's program on the Future of Work supports research on the causes and consequences of changes in the quality of jobs for less- and moderately-skilled workers in the United States. We seek research proposals that will broaden our understanding of the role of changes in employer practices, the nature of
the labor market and public policies on the employment, earnings, and the quality of jobs of American workers. We are especially interested in funding analyses of original qualitative and quantitative data sources, and novel uses of existing sources of data to address important questions about the interplay of market and non-market forces in shaping the wellbeing of workers, today and in the future.

12. Indian Land Tenure Foundation - Land Recovery Efforts
Deadline: August 3, 2015
Amount: $10,000 - $100,000
The Indian Land Tenure Foundation is a national community-based organization serving American Indian nations and people in the recovery and control of their homelands. ILTF works to promote education, increase cultural awareness, create economic opportunity, and reform the legal and administrative systems that prevent Indian people from owning and controlling reservation lands. ILTF is accepting Letters of Inquiry to support various aspects of Native land recovery, with a focus on reacquiring alienated federal lands. Returning lands to Indian ownership and control is important to ensure that Indian people have, at minimum, access to the financial and natural resources within their own reservations. ILTF supports a variety of initiatives to assist tribes in the development of plans to reacquire reservation lands. One approach is the development of land and natural resource management plans that identify the future use and benefits of recovered lands. Such plans are critical as tribes negotiate for the transfer of federal, state, and municipal lands to Indian ownership and control or in seeking loans.

13. Vileck Foundation - The Vileck Prizes for Creative Promise in Theater
Deadline: June 15, 2015
Amount: $50,000
The Vilcek Foundation will award prizes to young theatre professionals who demonstrate outstanding early achievement. Professionals in the following fields are encouraged to apply: Playwright and Book Writer, Director, Actor, Designer for sets, costumes, lights, projections/video, sound, and/or puppetry, Composer and Lyricist, or Choreographer.

14. Aetna Foundation - Local Roots
Deadline: May 6, 2015
Amount: $50,000
The Aetna Foundation is dedicated to promoting wellness, health, and access to high-quality health care for everyone, while supporting the communities it serves. To help advance this mission, the foundation’s Local Roots program supports the creation and expansion of community gardens, urban farms, and farmers’ markets in underserved, low-income, and minority communities. To be eligible, all projects must include nutrition education or cooking classes focused on the health benefits of fresh produce; the growing or distribution of produce that reflects the food traditions of the target area; opportunities to learn job skills or entrepreneurship within the context of community gardens, urban farms, or farmers’ markets; and/or opportunities for community service or volunteer work. Grants will target communities where healthy food can be difficult to buy, and where social and environmental factors may limit people’s ability to be physically active. The foundation is particularly interested in programs that provide nutrition education and help increase the availability of affordable fresh fruits and vegetables in underserved communities and/or programs that provide opportunities for physical activity in such communities.

15. Entertainment Software Association Foundation - Youth Grants
Deadline: May 15, 2015
Amount: $50,000
The ESA Foundation is dedicated to supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the lives of America's youth. The Foundation seeks to harness the collective power of the interactive entertainment industry to create positive social impact in our communities. We support geographically diverse projects and programs that benefit American boys and girls of all races and religions.

IV Fellowships

16. **William T. Grant Foundation** - Scholars for Reducing Inequality
   - **Deadline:** July 8, 2015
   - **Amount:** $350,000 over 5 years
The William T. Grant Scholars Program is for early-career researchers in the social, behavioral, and health sciences. We encourage Scholars to tackle important questions that will advance theory, policy, and practice for youth. Applicants identify new methods, disciplines, or content they want to learn, and propose five-year research plans that foster their growth in those areas. We recognize that early-career researchers are rarely given incentives or support to take such risks, so this award includes a mentoring component. Potential Scholars should have a promising track record of conducting high-quality research, but want to pursue a significant shift in their trajectories as researchers.

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.

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.