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 Executive Director Jeff Aron; Director Liz Smith, or Director Michael Stein. Please share widely.

I. Engineering, Science & Medical
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I. Engineering, Science & Medical

1. Harold Hamm Diabetes Center
Harold Hamm International Prize for Biomedical Research in Diabetes
Deadline: August 31, 2016
Amount: $250,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: Eligible nominees include individuals, teams of researchers, or research institutions and are nominated solely for the scientific merit of their work. Although preference is given to scientific breakthroughs with direct or obvious clinical applications, all major accomplishments in type 1 or type 2 research are considered by the Selection Jury. Employees for-profit pharmaceutical or biotechnology companies are not eligible.

The Prize, established in 2012, celebrates the scientific achievements of an outstanding researcher, team of researchers, or research institution selected by a rotating Jury of national and international leaders in the diabetes community.

2. Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)
Basic Science Research
Deadline: September 2, 2016
Amount: $150,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from either principal investigators or post-doctoral fellows.

Cure Spinal Muscular Atrophy wants to encourage applications on novel research that will enhance our understanding of SMA disease pathology at the molecular, cellular, and biochemical level; generate key reagents and tools to facilitate drug development and clinical traits; and identify new therapeutic strategies for SMA, in particular combination approaches.

3. Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation
Research Specific Grant
Deadline: September 13, 2016
Amount: $98,000 over 2 years
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: The principal or co-investigator must be an orthopaedic surgeon. Ph.D.s and D.V.M.s are eligible if affiliated with an orthopaedic department and working with an orthopaedic surgeon.

Encourages new investigators by providing seed and start up funding for promising research projects that address issues related to the treatment of arthritis with an emphasis on arthroplasty.

4. Scleroderma Foundation
Established Investigator Grant
Deadline: September 15, 2016
Amount: $150,000 over 2 years
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: Applicants must have a doctorate degree in medicine, osteopathy, veterinary medicine, or one of the sciences; must have completed a postdoctoral fellowship; and have been principal investigator on grants from the Scleroderma Foundation or other national, private, or government agencies.

The Scleroderma Foundation seeks applications from promising established investigators both inside and outside the field of scleroderma research who wish to propose pilot studies to obtain preliminary data dealing with a highly innovative and/or highly relevant theme related to the disease. This grant will support pilot research that is likely to lead to more substantial unlimited research project grants from federal or non-federal sources.

5. American Gastroenterological Association (AGA)
Research Scholar Award
Deadline: September 23, 2016
Amount: $270,000 over 3 years
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: The award is for investigators studying neuroenteric disease. Applicants must hold a position as an assistant professor.

The program is designed 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. Preference will be given to research relevant to irritable bowel syndrome.

6. Frick Foundation for Research on ALS
Research Grants
Deadline: September 30, 2016
Amount: $110,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: There is no geographical limitation to the recipients of these grants.

The Bruno and Ilse Frick Foundation for Research on ALS is calling for grant applications. The aim of the Foundation is to encourage basic biomedical research related to understanding the cause of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

7. National Psoriasis Foundation
Discovery Grants
Deadline: October 12, 2016
Amount: $75,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: The principal investigator must be personally and actively responsible for the conduct of the proposed research and eligible to apply for research grants under the guidelines of the applicant's host institution. The principal investigator need not be a citizen of the United States.

The National Psoriasis Foundation (NPF) is seeking grant applications that encourage the advancement of innovative research into psoriasis, psoriatic arthritis, and related comorbidities. Discovery Grants fund researchers while they explore preliminary ideas and conduct proof-of-concept experiments. The goal is to stimulate the development of new research programs in the field of psoriatic disease capable of competing for long-term funding from the National Institutes of Health or other agencies in the future.

8. Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation
Psychosocial: Family Impact Grants
Deadline: October 14, 2016, 11:59 pm ET
Amount: $300,000 over 3 years
Number of Grants/Year: 1-2
Eligibility: Applicants should be independent investigators with a full-time faculty appointment at an academic institution, or an equivalent position, and a dedication to pediatric cancer research.

Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation is committed to addressing the psychosocial and behavioral health outcomes for children diagnosed with cancer and their families. Our Psychosocial Grants will fill a direct need for research funding by supporting studies that aim to explain and/or improve psychosocial outcomes of those affected by childhood cancer. These grants are designed to fund researchers who have novel approaches to understanding the psychosocial aspects of pediatric cancer and whose proposals will have clinically significant impact.

9. Angelman Syndrome Foundation
Research Proposals
Deadline: October 15, 2016
Amount: $100,000
Number of Grants/Year: 1-2
Eligibility: Researchers from all countries are encouraged to apply.

Applications in the preclinical, translational and clinical research areas that investigate all aspects of Angelman syndrome will be considered. Highest priority will be given to pilot projects to test new ideas about pathogenesis and therapeutics of Angelman syndrome, translational research and clinical research studies.

10. American Tinnitus Association (ATA)
Research Grants
Deadline: November 15, 2016
Amount: $50,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: American Tinnitus Association will consider funding proposals from scientists, academics and healthcare professionals who are affiliated with non-profit medical and research institutions.

All proposed projects must be directly concerned with tinnitus and contribute to ATA’s goal of finding a tinnitus cure, as outlined in ATA’s Roadmap to a Cure.

11. American College of Gastroenterology (ACG)
ACG Clinical Research Awards program
Deadline: December 9, 2016
Amount: $50,000 or $15,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: At least one of the investigators must be an ACG member or trainee member at the time of submission of the grant proposal. Note that physicians in training (interns, residents, fellows) are eligible to apply provided that the work is conducted under the preceptorship of a more senior or experienced investigator.

ACG is offering Clinical Research Awards of up to $50,000 for original clinical research. For these awards, preliminary data are expected. As part of the ACG Clinical Research Award, the College also supports pilot projects of up to $15,000 to encourage clinical research among trainees and junior faculty. Pilot awards do not require previous work or preliminary data.

12. Restless Leg Syndrome Foundation
Research Grant Program
Deadline: Rolling
Amount: $25,000 - $35,000
Number of Awards/Year: Up to 8
Eligibility: All institutions within the U.S., Canada, and other countries where supervision of grant administration is possible are eligible.

Supports basic and clinical research on restless legs syndrome (RLS).

13. American Fibromyalgia Syndrome Association (AFSA)
Research Grant
Deadline: Rolling
Amount: $50,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: 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.

AFSA’s primary mission is to fund superior quality, scientific studies on fibromyalgia syndrome (FMS).

II. Nursing & Public Health

III. Education, Humanities, and Social & Behavioral Sciences

14. J.M. Kaplan Fund
Furthermore Program
Deadline: September 1, 2016
Amount: $1,500 - $15,000
Number of Awards/Year: ~50
Eligibility: Organizations in the US that have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (and are not private foundations within the meaning of
section 107(c)(1) of the code), and state colleges and universities. Furthermore, Kaplan will also consider grant requests from organizations based outside the US if they have documented equivalent 501(c)(3) status.

The program supports nonfiction book publishing about art, architecture, and design; cultural history, the city, and related public issues; and conservation and preservation.

15. Spencer Foundation
Midcareer Grant Program
Deadline: September 13, 2016, 4:00 p.m. ET
Amount: up to $150,000
Number of Grants/Year: Up to 5
Eligibility: Applicants must be a faculty member or an education research scholar awarded a doctorate within the last seven to 20 years.

The Spencer Foundation is seeking applications from academic midcareer education scholars for its Midcareer Grant Program. This targeted program provides support for those who are interested in advancing their understanding of a compelling problem of education by acquiring new skills, substantive knowledge, theoretical perspectives, or methodological tools. Grants are for one year with budgets of up to $150,000.

The program is not intended to encourage researchers to abandon their existing area of expertise, but rather to build on, enrich, and extend that training with the acquisition of new methodological tools and/or perspectives about a subject to which they have been deeply committed throughout their academic career.

IV. Fellowships

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

16. Simons Fellows Program
Advancing Research in Basic Science and Mathematics
Deadline: September 29, 2016
Amount: $100,000
Eligibility: All applicants must have a teaching or administrative position at college or university in the U.S. or Canada through the term following the leave. In addition, applicant must have a currently active research program.

The Fellows Programs provide funds to faculty for up to a semester long research leave from classroom teaching and administrative obligation.

17. Simons Fellows in Mathematics
Mathematics and Physical Sciences Funding
Deadline: September 29, 2016
Amount: $100,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: A Simons Fellow in Mathematics must have a teaching or administrative tenured position at a 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 division invites applications for the Simons Fellows in Mathematics program, which enables research leaves by providing time away from classroom teaching and academic administration.

18. Simons Fellows in Theoretical Physics
Mathematics and Physical Sciences Funding
Deadline: September 29, 2016
Amount: $100,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: A Simons Fellow in Theoretical Physics must have a teaching or administrative
tenured position at a 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. In addition, a Fellow must have an active current research program. Fellows cannot simultaneously hold a Simons Investigator award.

Research leaves from classroom teaching and administrative obligations can provide strong intellectual stimulation and lead to increased creativity and productivity in research. The Simons Fellows program is intended to make leaves more productive by enabling their extension from one academic term to a full academic year.

19. New York Public Library
Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers
Deadline: September 30, 2016, 5:00 pm ET
Amount: Up to $70,000
Number of Grants/Year: Up to 15
Eligibility: Academics, creative writers, and independent scholars are all eligible.

The Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers offers fellowships to people whose work will benefit directly from access to the research collections at the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building at Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street (formerly the Humanities and Social Sciences Library). Renowned for the extraordinary comprehensiveness of its collections, the Library is one of the world's preeminent resources for study in anthropology, art, geography, history, languages and literature, philosophy, politics, popular culture, psychology, religion, sociology, and sports. The Center looks for top-quality writing from academics as well as from creative writers and independent scholars. It aims to promote dynamic communication about literature and scholarship at the very highest level - within the Center, in public forums throughout the Library, and in the Fellows' published work. Fellows receive a stipend, an office, a computer, and full access to the Library’s physical and electronic resources. Fellows work at the Center for the duration of the fellowship term, which runs from September through May. Each Fellow gives a talk over lunch on current work-in-progress to the other Fellows and to a wide range of invited guests, and may be asked to take part in other programs at The New York Public Library.

20. Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study
Residential Fellowships
Deadline: October 15, 2016, 11:59 pm ET
Amount: $60,000
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility: Members of traditionally under-represented groups are encouraged to apply. There also are no citizenship requirements for fellowships; non-US nationals are welcome to apply.

The Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study (NDIAS) is dedicated to fostering and supporting integrative scholarship addressing ultimate questions at the intersection of the arts, engineering, humanities, law, and formal, natural, and social sciences, especially those that transcend disciplinary boundaries. The institute encourages scholars to include questions of values in their analyses, to integrate diverse disciplines, and to ask how their findings advance civilization. It offers its fellows the opportunity to engage not only in analysis but also in evaluating what should be done, to analyze the world in substantive and collaborative ways, and to think through the implications of present behavior for the future of the world. The NDIAS seeks applicants with excellent records of scholarly, artistic, or research accomplishment in their field(s); projects that touch on normative, integrative, or ultimate questions, especially as they engage the Catholic intellectual tradition; projects characterized by clarity of thought, coherence, and impact; the ability to interact with other fellows and to engage in collegial discussions of research presentations; and a willingness to contribute to a cooperative community of scholars.

Try CFR's Support Request Form!

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."