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. Cure Alzheimer's Fund

The mission of Cure Alzheimer's Fund is to fund research with the potential to
accelerate a cure or disease-modifying treatment for Alzheimer's disease. Cure Alzheimer's seeks to identify and support investigators who will contribute to the field's knowledge base with bold hypotheses and well-crafted experimental plans.

**Research Grant**

**Deadline:** Rolling  
**Amount:** Average $250,000 over 1 year  
**Number of Grants/Year:** 20  
**Eligibility:** Cure Alzheimer's Fund primarily supports invited proposals as referred by members of the Research Leadership Group (RLG). However, any qualified scientist may submit a one-page letter of inquiry to Cure Alzheimer's Fund for review for fit with our scientific standards and research areas.

Current Areas of investigation that Cure Alzheimer's Fund will support include:

- Alzheimer's Genome Project and Functional Genomics
- Genes to Therapies™/Stem Cell Drug Screening: Translational studies investigating established and newly confirmed AD genes
- Identification: Early detection via biomarkers, imaging, etc.
- Immune System Structures and Processes: Role of inflammation and other responses in Alzheimer's
- Interaction of the Microbiome with Alzheimer's
- Pathological Pathways & Systems
- Therapeutic Strategies and Drug Discovery
- Whole Genome Sequencing and Epigenetics
- Other: Novel approaches, targets, or therapies aligned with the Cure Alzheimer's Fund mission

2. **LuMind Foundation**

**Research Grants**

**Deadline:** Rolling  
**Amount:** $190,000 over 3 years  
**Number of Grants/Year:** 6  
**Eligibility:** Characteristics searched for in applicants include collaboration, use of interdisciplinary approaches, open and prompt sharing of project information, results and reagents with each other and with other qualified researchers.

The grant is awarded to support innovative research to expedite the discovery and development of treatments for cognitive impairment, including the developmental intellectual disability and Alzheimer's disease, in individuals with Down syndrome. Research programs that have substantial promise to advance the field of Down syndrome cognition including research exploring mechanisms of cognitive impairment, identification and validation of potential new therapeutic targets, and resolving roadblocks throughout the pipeline for development of new and effective therapeutic approaches are of special interest to the LuMind Foundation.

3. **Lung Cancer Research Foundation (LCRF)**

**Research Grants**

**Deadline:** July 2, 2018  
**Amount:** $150,000 over 2 Years  
**Number of Grants/Year:** 16-20  
**Eligibility:** Investigators must be affiliated with a non-profit academic or research institution and must be students and fellows, young and mid-career investigators with less than ten years' experience since initial faculty appointment, and/or non-tenure track researchers, staff scientists, and clinicians (any number years of experience). Applicants from US-based and international institutions are eligible to apply. Senior investigators with more than ten years' experience since faculty appointment are generally not eligible for funding and are encouraged to mentor a junior team member through the application process. Please refer to the RFP for full details regarding eligibility requirements.

The grant is for Funding of innovative research focused on the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of lung cancer. The Foundation encourages applications for projects investigating a wide variety of research topics, including:

- Prevention and screening for early detection
- Identification of new biomarkers and the development of targeted therapies
- The development of next-generation chemotherapeutic agents
Supportive measures for people with lung cancer and their families
Quality of care and outcomes research

4. Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)
Development Grant
Deadline: June 15, 2018
Amount: Up to $300,000 over 3 years
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility:
To be eligible to apply for a Discovery Research Grant, applicants must:

- Hold a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D), Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) or equivalent degree (i.e. D.O.)
- Be a professional or faculty member (professor, associate professor or assistant professor) at an appropriate educational, medical, corporate or research institution
- Be qualified to conduct a program of original research within his or her own laboratory
- Assume both administrative and financial responsibility for the grant
- Have access to institutional resources necessary to conduct the proposed research project

Research Grant
Deadline (LOI): June 15, 2018
Amount: Up to $300,000 over 3 years
Number of Grants/Year: N/A
Eligibility:
To be eligible to apply for a Discovery Research Grant, applicants must:

- Hold a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D), Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) or equivalent degree (i.e. D.O.)
- Be a professional or faculty member (professor, associate professor or assistant professor) at an appropriate educational, medical, corporate or research institution
- Be qualified to conduct a program of original research within his or her own laboratory
- Assume both administrative and financial responsibility for the grant
- Have access to institutional resources necessary to conduct the proposed research project

Discovery research includes the search for understanding the causes of disease, unraveling pathways involved in disease, identifying novel drug targets, and testing new strategies to treat disease.

5. National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Barancik Prize for Innovation
Deadline: June 30, 2018
Amount: $100,000
Number of Grants/Year: 1
Eligibility: The award is intended for early to mid-career MS researchers. Nominees should have no more than 20 years of experience as an independent investigator or team leader to be eligible. There are no specific requirements for residency or citizenship. Nominees need not be current or past grantees of the National MS Society.

The Barancik Prize for Innovation in Multiple Sclerosis Research recognizes an exceptional scientist or a team of scientists whose work in MS research has demonstrated outstanding innovation and originality.

6. Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)
PVA Research Foundation Grants
Deadline: July 1, 2018
Amount: $150,000 over two years
Number of Grants/Year: 6-9
Eligibility: Eligible grantee institutions must be located in the United States or Canada. However, investigators and fellows are not required to be U.S. or Canadian citizens. All grant applicants must have a professional degree: Ph.D. or M.D. preferred master's degree acceptable under some circumstances.
From transplanting cells to regenerating damaged nerve fibers to designing adaptive canoe seats, the Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation supports innovative research and fellowships that improve the lives of those with spinal cord injury and disease (SCI/D). The Foundation funds in the following categories:

- Laboratory research in the basic sciences to find a cure for SCI/D
- Clinical and functional studies of the medical, psychosocial and economic effects of SCI/D, and interventions to alleviate these effects
- Design and development of assistive technology for people with SCI/D, which includes improving the identification, selection and utilization of these devices
- Fellowships for postdoctoral scientists, clinicians and engineers to encourage training and specialization in the field of spinal cord research

7. Research to Prevent Blindness
Career Development Award
Deadline: June 15, 2018
Amount: $300,000
Number of Grants/Year: 3-4
Eligibility: Candidates must have, or be recruited to, primary appointments in ophthalmology with academic positions up to and including Assistant Professor. Candidate's first full-time ophthalmology faculty appointment must have been within three (3) years of the application deadline. Ph.D.s must have a secondary appointment in a basic science or other relevant department prior to submission. M.D.s and M.D./Ph.D.s must devote at least 50% of their time to research activities, with 60% desirable. The candidate cannot have or have held an R01 as a Principal Investigator. Grantee chairs may nominate one candidate in each grant review cycle.

The RPB Career Development Award helps recruit young M.D.s or Ph.D.s to eye research and support promising junior ophthalmology faculty.

8. Rheumatology Research Foundation
Innovative Research Grants
Deadline: July 2, 2018
Amount: $400,000 over two years
Number of Grants/Year: 14
Eligibility: To be eligible for this award, the applicant must:
- Be a member of the ACR or ARHP at the time of submission and for the duration of the award; Hold a doctoral-level degree (M.D., Ph.D., D.O., M.B.B.S. or equivalent)
- Have a faculty appointment (instructor, assistant professor, etc.) at an academic center or research institution at the time of application and for the duration of the award
- Must exhibit evidence of research independence, scientific productivity and career accomplishments
- Be able to devote a minimum of 20% full-time professional research effort to the project (see details below)

The Innovative Research Award provides independent academic investigators with the funding they need to pursue ideas that could lead to important breakthroughs in discovering new treatments and, one day, a cure. This award provides essential support for innovative studies focused on generating new insights into the cause, progression, treatment, and outcomes of rheumatic diseases.

Investigator Award
Deadline: July 2, 2018
Amount: $375,000 over three years
Number of Grants/Year: 6
Eligibility: Applicant must be an ACR or ARHP member at the time of submission and for the duration of the award. Applicant must have a faculty appointment (e.g. instructor, assistant professor) at the time of the application, and a firm institutional commitment to support the applicant's academic career for the duration of the award. Applicant must be able to commit a minimum of 75 percent full-time professional effort to research (including at least 50 percent effort to the proposed project), academic career development, and other research related activities. Individuals at the NIH and CDC are
NOT eligible to apply.

The purpose of the award is to provide support for basic science, translational, and clinical investigators engaged in research relevant to the rheumatic diseases for the period between the completion of post-doctorate fellowship training and establishment as an independent investigator. The award is intended to support junior investigators during the period that they are developing a project that will be competitive for NIH funding. It is not intended to be a second postdoctoral fellowship.

II. Nursing & Public Health

9. Brookdale Foundation
Group Respite Program
Deadline: June 27, 2018
Amount: $15,000
Number of Grants/Year: 15
Eligibility: All programs must provide a day program for people affected by Alzheimer's Disease (AD) or other dementia. The program is limited to those who are cognitively impaired. It cannot be a program for frail elders or other populations that includes dementia participants as part of its overall client group. Sponsoring organizations are expected to develop a regularly scheduled, social model day program. Funds may not be used to develop in home or overnight respite programs. While cooperation with and referral to other health and social services is highly encouraged, funds may not be used to establish an adult day health care (medical model) program. Organizations must demonstrate that a concrete fundraising plan, including an established fee structure has been developed to sustain the proposed program when this seed grant is completed.

The goals of the program are to offer opportunities for persons with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia to engage in a program of meaningful social and recreational activity in a secure and supportive setting in order to maximize their cognitive and social abilities, as well as to provide relief and support to family members and other primary caregivers.

10. Patient-Centered Outcome Research Institute (PCORI)
Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards
Deadline (LOI): June 1, 2018
Amount: $250,000 over two years
Number of Grants/Year: 60
Eligibility: Projects selected for an Engagement Award are expected to further PCORI's goals of promoting the relevance of research to target audiences and the uptake of research results by end-users. The information and tools generated by Engagement Award projects must be generalizable; they must be of interest or use not just to the applicant organizations but to others doing related work. The tools and information will be made public so they can have a broader impact.

The Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Awards support projects that encourage active integration of patients, caregivers, clinicians, and other healthcare stakeholders as integral members of the patient-centered outcomes research/clinical effectiveness research (PCOR/CER) enterprise.

11. Ray C. Anderson Foundation
Greenhouse GAS Reduction Programs
Deadline: July 11, 2018
Amount: $90,000
Number of Grants/Year: 1
Eligibility: The NextGen Committee will primarily judge proposals on the amount of estimated offset carbon, the quality of the calculations, and the likelihood of success at achieving the estimated carbon reductions. The Committee will secondarily consider the collateral environmental and social benefits of the project.

Through research and funding, the foundation aims to help create a better world for future generations. These programs are dedicated to help reverse global warming.

12. Rockefeller Foundation
Communities Thrive Challenge
Deadline: June 12, 2018
Amount: $1,000,000
Number of Grants/Year: 10
Eligibility:
We are looking for nonprofit programs; businesses; organizing or advocacy models; technologies; economic development strategies, or other approaches that deliver significant and consistent results in any of the following areas:

- **Better Work:** Improving job quality, pay, and worker benefits, and creating new, well-paying jobs for low-income or otherwise marginalized workers in a rapidly changing economy and labor market
- **Skills Development and Opportunity Matching:** Connecting low-income people with work and the skills necessary to succeed in a changing labor market, possibly through additional skill development, building career pathways from low-wage to higher-paying jobs, or identifying financing solutions to support the development of new skills and job transitions
- **Financial Security:** Enabling underserved and financially insecure workers and their families to better manage unanticipated changes in their income and expenses without experiencing periods of deeper poverty or being forced to rely on predatory debt
- **Economically Vibrant Communities:** Building neighborhoods, cities, or towns that foster economic stability and mobility for residents who have historically been excluded or marginalized, and ensuring that their neighborhoods benefit from a region's economic growth and vibrancy

The Foundation believes in an America where all people can earn enough to support their families, achieve financial security, and provide their children with more opportunities. Every day, local leaders and organizations are working to make this dream possible in their communities. Yet all too often, these community-driven approaches are missed by those who could invest in them and help them reach more people. The Foundation is looking to fund, strengthen, and grow local solutions that expand economic opportunity for low-income and financially insecure people.

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**III. Education, Humanities, and Social & Behavioral Sciences**

**13. Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA)**

*Frontiers of Knowledge Award in the Basic Sciences*

**Deadline:** June 28, 2018  
**Amount:** $429,000  
**Awards:** 1-3

**Eligibility:** Candidates may be one or more natural persons of any nationality, without limitation of number, that have made independent or convergent contributions to a given advance, whether due to a formal collaboration (with the nominees belonging to one or more groups) or parallel working. The awards are also open to scientific or cultural organizations that can be collectively credited with exceptional contributions to scientific knowledge, cultural creation or the fight against climate change.

*Frontiers of Knowledge Award in the Bio medicine*

**Deadline:** June 28, 2018  
**Amount:** $429,000  
**Number of Grants/Year:** 1-3

**Eligibility:** Candidates may be one or more natural persons of any nationality, without limitation of number, that have made independent or convergent contributions to a given advance, whether due to a formal collaboration (with the nominees belonging to one or more groups) or parallel working. The awards are also open to scientific or cultural organizations that can be collectively credited with exceptional contributions to scientific knowledge, cultural creation or the fight against climate change.

The purpose of the award is to recognize and encourage world-class research and artistic creation, prizing contributions of broad impact for their originality and theoretical significance. The name of the scheme is intended to encapsulate both research work that successfully enlarges the scope of our current knowledge - pushing forward the frontiers of the known world - and the meeting and overlap of different disciplinary areas.


**Deadline (LOI):** June 1, 2018

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Amount: Up to $2,500,000  
Number of Grants/Year: N/A  
Eligibility: Preference will be given to applicant organizations that are either institutes of higher education, public entities or nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, but other types of nonprofit and for-profit organizations are eligible to apply. Applicant organizations must be based in the United States or its territories. While the principal investigator is not required to hold an advanced degree, the applicant team must demonstrate the ability to conduct the proposed research. Applicants from any disciplines, diverse geographic areas and first time applicants are encouraged to apply.

The purpose of the program is to improve the foundation’s understanding of the Action Area 1 drivers and outcomes related to health, well-being, and equity, particularly with respect to disadvantaged children and families. To that end, the foundation seeks evidence on the extent to which Action Area 1 drivers - mindsets and expectations, sense of community, and civic engagement - can be changed through intervention at the individual or population levels, resulting in better health, well-being, and equity outcomes.

15. Vilcek Foundation  
Prize for Promise in Culinary Arts  
Deadline: June 11, 2018  
Amount: $50,000  
Number of Grants/Year: 3  
Eligibility:  
To be eligible for the Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise in Culinary Arts, applicants must meet all of the criteria listed below:

- Applicant must have been born outside the United States  
- Applicant must not be more than 38 years old as of December 31, 2018 (born on or after January 1, 1980)  
- Applicant must: be a naturalized citizen or permanent resident (green card holder) of the United States; be a holder of an H1B or O-1 visa and have been living and working in the United States for at least 5 years; or have been granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)  
- Applicant must have at least 5 years of professional experience in culinary arts  
- Applicant must not be enrolled as a full-time student  
- Applicant must intend to pursue a professional career in the United States  
- Applicant must not be a past winner of the Vilcek Prizes for Creative Promise  

The mission of the Vilcek Foundation is to raise public awareness of the outstanding contributions of foreign-born scientists and artists living and working in the United States who demonstrate extraordinary talent, dedication, and potential to advance the field of culinary arts. The prizes are meant to facilitate future discovery and impact for promising food professionals, beverage professionals, and culinary writers at a critical stage in their careers.

IV. Fellowships

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

16. Social Science Research Council (SSRC) and the Japan Center for Global Partnership (CGP)  
Abe Fellowship  
Deadline: September 1, 2018  
Amount: $23,500 over one year  
Number of Grants/Year: 12-18  
Eligibility: This competition is open to citizens of the United States and Japan as well as to nationals of other countries who can demonstrate strong and serious long-term affiliations with research communities in Japan or the United States. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. or the terminal degree in their field, or have attained an equivalent level of professional experience at the time of application. Previous language training is not a prerequisite for this fellowship. However, if the research project requires language ability, the applicant should provide evidence of adequate proficiency to complete the project. Applications from researchers in professions other than academia are encouraged with
the expectation that the product of the fellowship will contribute to the wider body of knowledge on the topic specified. Projects proposing to address key policy issues or seeking to develop a concrete policy proposal must reflect nonpartisan positions.

The Abe Fellowship is designed to encourage international multidisciplinary research on topics of pressing global concern. The program seeks to foster the development of a new generation of researchers who are interested in policy-relevant topics of long-range importance and who are willing to become key members of a bilateral and global research network built around such topics. It strives especially to promote a new level of intellectual cooperation between the Japanese and American academic and professional communities committed to and trained for advancing global understanding and problem solving.

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**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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