Intro to Finding External Funding for your Graduate Career

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Today’s Program: What you need to know

- Overview of the Grants Information Collection
- The Basics
- Creating a Personal Funding Plan
  - Articulate your “Plan of Study”
  - Special Circumstances and Affiliations
- Identify Potential Funding Sources
  - Where to look
  - Finding partners
Grants Information Collection

- Funding Information Network Partner of the Foundation Center
- Library Collection (not a research service)
- Memorial Library Room 262 D/E
- Open all library hours
- Our web site: go.wisc.edu/grants
- Print & Online Resources
Grants Information Collection

New website! Please note the new URL: go.wisc.edu/grants

Funding for My Education/Research

New! Grants for your Education Online Workshop

- College/Undergraduates
- **Graduate Students**
- International Students
- Academics/Researchers
- Other Individuals
- Funding for UW-Madison Study, Scholarships & Fellowships

UW Students/Student Orgs

- Student Organizations Fundraising
- ASM Grants (Associated Students of Madison)
- Wisconsin Experience Grants
RECOMMENDED FUNDING DATABASES FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

These resources are helpful to finding educational funding. UW-Madison students, faculty, staff may access these databases on- or off-site using a UW-Madison NetID unless otherwise noted. Anyone may use these databases in the Grants Information Collection at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Memorial Library. Handouts on how to use COS Pivot, Foundation Grants to Individuals, Grant Forward, and SPIN are located under the Workshop Materials tab.

If you are a UW-Madison student, start with RSP Funding for Graduate Students. You will need to create an account with RSP using your UW email address to use the database.

- **COS Pivot**
  Offers up-to-date and complete descriptions private and federal financial aid programs. **Log in Instructions:** Click on Log in to access your Pivot account or click on Sign up to create one. YouTube Video on COS Pivot

- **Foundation Grants to Individuals**
  Funding includes educational support, general welfare, arts and cultural support, awards, prizes, and grants by nomination. **Available in Memorial Library only.**

- **Grants and Awards Available to American Writers**
  Includes, more than 1,000 listings of domestic and foreign grants, literary awards, fellowships, and residencies available to American writers. Searchable by keyword, genre, organization, or deadline.

- **Grant Forward**
  Includes over 8,000 federal and private funding programs for researchers, scholars, faculty and graduate students. Grant programs for institutions are included as well.

- **RSP Funding for Graduate Students**
  RSP (Reference Service Press) Funding for Graduate Students contains up-to-date information on thousands of financial aid programs open to graduate students. The database describes various program types, including fellowships, loans, grants, dissertation/thesis support, internships, and awards.

**Detailed instruction on:**
- **Tues., 2/21 10:00-11:30 a.m.** (Memorial 231)

**Do on your own**
What IS a grant?

- An award for which there is no expectation of repayment or services to be performed
- A Gift of money (or something worth money) to be used for “charitable purposes.”

Types of Grants
- Fellowships
- Scholarships
- Travel
- Research
- Etc.

Note: Not all grantmakers read/follow the official definition of “grant types.”
Most important is: does a specific grantmaker allow you to use the money as you need?

Buff handout: Glossary of Terms (online)
Who Gives Grants?

- Educational Institutions
  - UW–Madison, UW–System...
- Foundations
  - Private, community, corporate
- Businesses
- U.S. Government–sponsored
  - Federal, state, local
- Associations & Societies
  - Rotary Club, Professional organizations
Who is interested in funding...

YOU as a person?

- Level of study completed
- Demographic characteristics (e.g., gender, race/ethnicity, single-parent, returning student, etc.)
- Citizenship/residency
- Long-term goals
- Geographic Location of the activity to be funded
- And more

Your Organization?

- Type of organization (e.g., university, research group, lab, hospital, types of populations served, etc.)
- Geographic location (Wisconsin, Midwest, US, etc.)
- Population served by your organization
What "type(s) of funding" or "grant" will they give? (i.e., how you can spend the money)

**Individual**
- Study
  (scholarship, fellowship, doctoral completion, doctoral planning, stipend, etc.)
- Research
- Travel
- Conference attendance
- Etc.

**Organization**
- Research
- Projects
- Curriculum development
- Conference development
- Equipment
- Use of facility
- Endowments, etc.

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs:
Main web site: [http://www.rsp.wisc.edu/index.html](http://www.rsp.wisc.edu/index.html)
Contact person(s): [http://www.rsp.wisc.edu/cnsrescont.html](http://www.rsp.wisc.edu/cnsrescont.html)
Is Sponsorship an Option?

- Most grant makers give to nonprofits.
- Research or projects are sometimes eligible – speak to your department or the office of Research and Sponsored Programs.
  [http://www.rsp.wisc.edu/](http://www.rsp.wisc.edu/)

- If you can get a “fiscal sponsor” or “institutional affiliation” you may be eligible for many more funding opportunities.
- How to find a fiscal sponsor:
Articulate Your Plan of Study/Research

- What is your major area of study or research?
- Will you study part-time? Full-time? For how long?
- Where do you plan to study? Do you need to travel to conduct your graduate research?
- When will you need the funding?
- How does your plan or project fit into your overall goals?

Blue handout: Worksheets 1 and 1b (online)
Who would be interested in your research/project (i.e., potential stakeholders)?

- Topic/Subject
- Technique/approach/theory/school of thought
- Technology used
- Population/location studied
- Population groups to benefit
- Future applications of understanding, technology, etc.
- Outcomes (immediate and long-term)

Broadly and specifically!
Special Circumstances & Affiliations

- Professional & trade associations
- Religious affiliations
- Community & civic organizations & clubs
- Military

Green handout: Worksheet 2 (online)
Example of questions from the “RSP Funding” database
Where to look:

- Subject or population-specific print directories
- Subscription and free databases
- Foundation & Government Agency Web sites
- Requests for Proposals (RFP) sites
- Journals and the research of others
- Local and association newsletters
- IRS Tax Returns
- Everywhere: talk to your colleagues, listserves
Identify funders in these databases

- **Foundation Directory Online**
  - Contains Grantmaker records and Grants records
  - Memorial Library only

- **Foundation Grants to Individuals**
  - Subset of grantmaker records for individual grant seekers
  - Memorial Library only

- **COS Pivot**
  - Funding opportunities from many sources (gov and nongov)

- **RSP Funding for Graduate Students**
  - Specifically for grad students
  - Good for scholarships, travel, and research

Session 2 will cover databases

Gold handout: Recommended databases (online)
RFP Sites (a sampling)

- General
  - Philanthropy News Digest RFPs
    http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/
  - Grant Award Central
    http://www.petersons.com/graduate-schools/graduate-school-scholarships.aspx

- Subject specific
  - American Psychological Association: Scholarships, Grants and Awards
    http://www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx
  - National Science Foundation: Up–coming Due Dates
    http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_list.jsp?org=NSF&ord=date
  - New York Foundation for the Arts
    http://www.nyfa.org/

More are listed on the graduate student research guide.
Checking Track Records

- **Foundation Giving**
  - Tax returns: 990PF and 990
    - Foundation Directory Online Free: [https://fdo.foundationcenter.org/](https://fdo.foundationcenter.org/)
    - GuideStar: [http://www2.guidestar.org/AdvancedSearch.aspx](http://www2.guidestar.org/AdvancedSearch.aspx)
    - Foundation Directory Online (Memorial Library only)
  - Past grants and track records:
  - Individual grantmaker web sites

- **Government Giving**
  - NEH Budget and Annual Reports [http://www.neh.gov/about/legal/reports](http://www.neh.gov/about/legal/reports)
  - Individual agency web sites
Know Grantmaker’s Requirements

- Eligibility
- Most recent guidelines
- Initial Contact:
  - Email?
  - Phone call?
  - Letter of Inquiry?
- Full Proposal? Or Own Application Form?
- Deadlines, follow-up, expectations, etc.

Remember, the Grants Information Collection also has resources on proposal writing.

Red handout: Tips for the Application Process (Online)
Application Process

1. Firm up your plan of study and specific financial needs
2. Conduct research to identify funders
3. Give yourself plenty of time
4. Follow funders guidelines carefully
5. Submit applications early and to multiple sources
6. Stay determined
7. Talk to others

Red handout: Tips for the Application Process (Online)
Who will help you write a proposal?

We help undergraduate and graduate students in all disciplines become more effective, more confident writers. We believe that writing is a powerful tool not only for communicating existing ideas but also for discovering new ones...

[ more ]
Thank you!

Please visit the table for any further questions.