Ways to Search for Funding Opportunities

Use the resources on the Finding Funding page of the UNH Research Office web site

The Finding Funding page contains a variety of resources, strategies and search tools. Of special note:

- Read the Research Development and Grant Writing News, a monthly newsletter available to the UNH community that provides timely advice on how to compete successfully for research and education funding from federal agencies and from foundations.

- Use the tools and strategies for identifying and evaluating funding opportunities.

- Special Funding Needs and Programs includes grant programs for Young Investigators/Early Career Faculty, information about grant programs that are particularly well-suited to UNH, and links to resources re: international scholarship and other focused needs.

- Internal (UNH) Funding Opportunities includes campus-wide and college-specific programs available to faculty.

Search the SPIN database and set up automatic notifications

Access information and user support for this funding opportunity database can be found at http://www.unh.edu/research/spin-smarts-genius.

Use the Foundation Directory Online (FDO)

Updated weekly, the Foundation Directory Online (FDO) provides the most comprehensive and accurate information on U.S. grantmakers and their funding activities.

Information about the FDO and how to access the UNH Library’s subscription can be found at http://unh.edu/research/foundation-directory-online.

Use sponsors’ web pages and free electronic mailing lists

Explore potential sponsors’ web sites to learn about their organizational goals, priorities and long-term plans, funding opportunities, and previously-funded projects.

- For sponsor profiles and other tools to find the right sponsor for your project, explore Info About Sponsors on the UNH Research web page.

- To find other sponsors’ web sites, search with Google or other search engine.

Sign up for the sponsors’ email lists to be notified when the sponsor issues announcements of funding opportunities (e.g., NSF Update, NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Funding Alerts, etc.). Procedures to register can be found at the sponsors’ web sites.

Sign up for The Foundation Center’s RFP Bulletin - a free, weekly e-mail service that presents upcoming opportunities from grant-making foundations: http://foundationcenter.org/newsletters/.
**Ways to Search for Funding Opportunities**

**Use grants.gov SEARCH GRANTS**

Use [SEARCH GRANTS](http://www.grants.gov) to search for competitive grant opportunities from all the Federal grant-making agencies. Searches can be done by keyword, category (area of interest), agency, and other identifying parameters.

*Sign-up for the grants.gov RSS feed* to receive listings of funding opportunities by agency or category (area of interest): [http://www.grants.gov/help/rss.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/help/rss.jsp).

**Develop personal contacts**

*Faculty and other research personnel* are great sources of information. Find them in your own department, in your college, across the university, at professional meetings, and at other institutions.

*Participate in professional meetings, consensus conferences, planning groups, and sponsor-hosted meetings.* Program officers and scientific staff from federal agencies and other sponsors often attend scientific meetings to keep up with the field and to meet researchers. If there’s an informal social gathering, attend it and mingle!

*Other researchers’ web sites and c.v.’s* also can yield interesting information — Who has funded them in the past? Where do they have proposals pending now?

**Check professional societies and look in professional journals**

*Many societies have grant programs*, particularly for Young Investigators/Early Career Faculty and to fund dissertation research for Ph.D. students.

*Financial support for the research reported in journal articles* usually is noted as a footnote to the title or in the “Acknowledgements” section at the end, just before the “References Cited” section.

**Use on-line bulletin boards, university web sites, other grants-related search engines**

*Some particularly good ones* can be found on the [Free Search Tools & Bulletin Boards](http://www.unh.edu/research/ways-search-funding-opportunities) page of the UNH Research web site.

A search with Google or other search engine often helps you find these sites.

**Use general-purpose web search engines**

*This type of search casts a broad net, with lots of incidental information to sort through, but often can be useful when other searches aren’t fruitful or to confirm that you’ve found most, if not all, of the viable sponsors for a given topic area.*

*To search for all sponsors*, enter a topic keyword, then semicolon, then “grants.”

*To find local/regional foundation sponsors*, try using the keywords “Philanthropy + State” where “State” is the location of the organization for which you are seeking funding.