Finding Funding Opportunities

Office of Grants & Contracts
Villanova University
2018
How do I search for funding opportunities?
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Create a profile in SPIN (Sponsored Projects Information Network) though InfoEd
- Visit the Falvey Library Guide
- Grants.gov Basic Search
- Check sponsor websites and sign up for communications from sponsors
- Consult with your Mentor, Chair, and Dean!
- How are your Peers funded?
- Use Agency specific reporting sites
Create a SPIN profile through InfoEd
SPIN at InfoEd

• Go to OG&C Website: https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/provost/research-administration/grants-contracts.html

• Click on “Find Research Opportunities” on the left

• Click on “go to InfoEd”

• Click on “CLIENT LOGIN TO: SPIN”

• If you are logged into VU's web server, clicking SPIN will bring you to the SPIN grant search engine.
SPIN SAMPLE

• In the search field, type ECONOMICS. Click “Locate Funding”.
  • This will yield over 1,000 opportunities.
  • Scroll through the list to see the opportunities

• To add filters to the search criteria, under the search field, click on “Click here to edit them.”
  • Click on Applicant Type
  • Click the arrow next to Organization Applicant
    • Academic or Educational Organization
    • Higher Education
    • College or University – move this to filter box
  • Click “Save and Exit”

• Click “Back to Previous Page”
  • Search results reduced to just over 700 opportunities.
To add filters to the search criteria, under the search field, click on “Click here to edit them.”
- Click on Application Location
- Click the arrow next to Americas
  - Northern America
  - United States – move this to the filter box
- Click “Save and Exit”

Click “Back to Previous Page”
- Search results reduced to just over 600 opportunities

In the search field, type ECONOMICS and ENVIRONMENT. Click “Locate Funding”.
- Search results reduced to just over 200 opportunities
Find Research Opportunities

SPIN: VU’s Grant Search Engine

The Office of Grants and Contracts grants faculty access to SPIN (Sponsored Projects Information Network), a powerful grant search engine for use by experienced faculty and newcomers alike.

To access SPIN, go to InfoEd and look toward the top of the page where it reads "Client Login." If you are logged into VU’s web server, clicking SPIN will bring you to the SPIN grant search engine.

SPIN works like any other web search engine, using keywords to search a database, in this case a diverse database of grant opportunities pulled from federal/state agencies and private foundations. We recommend using the advanced search options to narrow down to your discipline. Also remember that some grant announcements are presented to a general audience, and may be no more specific than requesting proposals for STEM related projects!

If you require assistance in using this tool, please contact the Office of Grants and Contracts.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPIN ID</th>
<th>Opportunity Title</th>
<th>Sponsor Name</th>
<th>Sponsor Number</th>
<th>Deadline Date</th>
<th>Funding Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>064106</td>
<td>Economic Development Assistance Programs – Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs</td>
<td>Economic Development Administration/Department of Commerce</td>
<td>EDAP2017</td>
<td>Continuous Submission</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
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<td>075305</td>
<td>Research and National Technical Assistance FY19-FY20</td>
<td>Economic Development Administration/Department of Commerce</td>
<td>EDA-HDQ-RNTA-2018-2005669</td>
<td>Continuous Submission</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
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<tr>
<td>014677</td>
<td>Economics Grants</td>
<td>Sloan (Alfred P.) Foundation</td>
<td></td>
<td>Continuous Submission</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
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<tr>
<td>016332</td>
<td>Second Richard and Hinda Rosenthal Award from The Rosenthal Family Foundation</td>
<td>American College of Physicians</td>
<td></td>
<td>01-Jul-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>074866</td>
<td>Strengthening Women's Contribution to the Economy in the Middle East and North Africa</td>
<td>Department of State</td>
<td>SFOP0005119 [Limited Submission]</td>
<td>10-Jul-2018</td>
<td>1,500,000.00 USD</td>
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</table>
Current Settings: Anonymous User

SPIN Category Filters

Category Filters
- Applicant Location
- Applicant Type
- Project Type
- Project Location
- Citizenship
- Sponsor Type

This is used to determine which attributes the sponsor will require of an applicant. There are descriptors for both individuals and organizations. Select all that apply. If nothing is selected, the system will not filter on this field.

Applicant Type Options
- Individual Applicant
- Organization Applicant
  - Academic or Educational Organization
    - Historically Black College or University (HBCU)
    - Minority Institution or Organization
    - Precollegiate Institution
    - State and Local Education Agencies (SEA/LEA)
  - Organization Miscellaneous Attributes
  - Professional Organization

Chosen Applicant Type Restrictions
- Organization Applicant
  - Academic or Educational Organization
    - Higher Education Institution
      - College or University
Current Settings: Anonymous User

Category Filters
- Applicant Location:

- Applicant Type:
  - Organization Applicant, Academic or Educational Organization, Higher Education Institution, College or University

- Project Type:

- Project Location:
- Citizenship:
- Sponsor Types:
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<tr>
<td>017371</td>
<td>Economic Development Initiative</td>
<td>Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario</td>
<td></td>
<td>Continuous Submission</td>
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<td>049063</td>
<td>Building Resilient Economies Grant Programme</td>
<td>Friends Provident Foundation</td>
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Visit the Falvey Library Guide:

Nonprofits and Philanthropies

https://library.villanova.edu/research/subject-guides/graduate-business/nonprofits-and-philanthropies
NONPROFITS AND PHILANTHROPY

BEST PLACES TO START

Chronicle of Philanthropy  The leading trade publication for charitable organizations. Turn to this publication to find job postings, sector statistics and reports and analysis. Read it or search it to find out about trends and developments. Subscription content only available to Villanova community members.

Urban Institute Nonprofits  Nonpartisan research, evaluation and assistance organization.

National Center for Charitable Statistics  Generate statistical tables on public charities and private foundations.
DIRECTORIES

Use these directories to identify sources for grants, identify foundations and verify public charities status.

**Foundation Directory Online Professional**  The key resource for grant seekers and information about foundations. It offers subscribers the best search engine for grants and grantmakers. Non-profit literature is also indexed and many reports written by Foundation Center experts are included. Use it to find out about employment opportunities as well.

**Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance**  Provides detailed information on over 2000 federal assistance programs open to local and state governments, organizations both profit and non-profit as well as individuals.

**State Grant Sites**  Index to state web sites for grants.

**IRS Publication 78, Cumulative List of [Charitable] Organizations**  Use this to find out of an organization is a federal charity qualified to accept tax deductible donation.

**Charity Navigator**  Organization devoted to making balanced evaluations of charitable organizations freely available.

**Grants.gov**  Portal for finding and applying for federal grants.
Foundation funding for Education in Pennsylvania

Search Tutorials and Help
Need a refresher or some help getting started with your searches? The FDO Help section includes brief search tutorials to get you oriented with index menus, Boolean searches, and more. Check these out along with the basic and advanced search guides and video guided tours.

Eye on FDO
Eye on FDO is the official blog of Foundation Directory Online. Visit often to stay current on everything FDO.

Visit Eye on FDO »
Search Grants

Fields of Interest view index

Grantmaker Name view index

Recipient Name view index

Grantmaker Location More location options
e.g. country, state/province, county, city, metro are:

Recipient Location More location options
e.g. country, state/province, county, city, metro

Keyword Search

☑️ Include Government Grants

More search options

SEARCH CLEAR

SORT BY
☑️ Grant Amount
☐ Alphabetical
☐ Year Authorized
☐ Ascending
☐ Descending
Grants.gov Basic Search
Apply Using Workspace

Grants.gov Workspace enables you and your colleagues to fill out webforms and apply together. Create a workspace for an open funding opportunity to begin.

Apply for a Grant Using Workspace »
Check out the Grants Learning Center at Grants.gov!
Check sponsor websites and sign up for communications from sponsors
SPONSORS

Sponsor and Funder websites offer a lot of helpful information about:

• Goals and specific funding priorities
• Eligibility criteria
• Opportunities to apply
• Due dates
• Funding limits
• Guidelines and instructions
• Awards already made
• Contact information

All helpful information when narrowing your search! Contact sponsors to make sure your project aligns with their opportunities.

Search for specific sponsors, check out their websites, and sign up for their listservs.
Some sponsors/funders have very general opportunities AND opportunities for a much more narrowly defined area. When looking at sponsor websites look at both opportunities.

For example:
The National Institutes of Health (NIH) have different types of opportunities:

- **Requests for Applications (RFAs)**
  - **Solicit** applications in a **well-defined scientific area** to accomplish **specific program objectives**
  - Indicate the amount of set-aside funds and anticipated number of awards
- **Program Announcements (PAs)**
  - **Encourages** applications for a **new or ongoing** extramural activity or program
  - Formerly termed “unsolicited” applications
  - PAS - PA with set-aside funds
  - PAR - PA with special receipt, referral and/or review considerations

Your mentor, Chair, Dean can help you determine which might be the most appropriate. Reaching out to the program officer is usually recommended, as well.
Here are some examples of specific funder websites and opportunities to sign up for regular communications:

• National Institutes of Health (NIH)
  • electronic Research Administration (eRA)  
    https://era.nih.gov/about_era/get_connected.cfm
  • NIH Extramural Nexus listserv https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/subscribe/
  • Weekly NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices (Guide TOC – Table of Contents)  
    https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/listserv.htm

• National Science Foundation (NSF)
  • https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNSF/subscriber/new

• US Department of Agriculture

• Environmental Protection Agency
  • https://www.epa.gov/research-grants/research-grants-fellowship-and-sbir-listserv
Talk to your Mentor, Chair, Dean, and Peers!

Check sponsor websites for their funding history!
**University Leadership:**
Schedule time to talk to your Mentor, Chair, and Dean. They have a deeper understanding of your research interests and can guide you towards other resources.

These discussions will help investigators understand the department/college’s research vision and mission so that grant efforts are strategically aligned.

**Searching your Peers’ Activity:**
Identify your peers in your research area and find out how their activities are funded (see funding acknowledgements in publications and poster presentations).

**Agency and Sponsor Websites:**
Some federal funding agencies have sites where you can search for your peers’ funded awards.
Research Spending & Results

Research Spending & Results gives the public, the scientific community, and Congress insight into federally funded research. Research Spending & Results provides information about how federal research dollars are being spent, what research is being performed, and how the outcomes of research are benefiting society as a whole. Anyone can easily access, search, and sort information in new ways through Research.gov. Currently, information is available for NSF and NASA awards.


Search Research Spending & Results

Quick Search | Advanced Search

Search by any of the following fields:

Keyword: [Field] This field searches all award information. Include "Quotes" around phrases for an exact match.

Awardee: [Field] Searches the Awardee Legal Name (i.e., Rector & Visitors of the University of Virginia) and the
Doing Business As Name (i.e., University of Virginia Main Campus) fields. Abbreviations (e.g., UVA), may not return the desired results.

Federal Award ID Number: [Field]

Funds Obligated to Date: $ [Field] To $ [Field] (i.e., 50000 and 100000)

Project Director/Principal Investigator: [Field] (Also searches for co-PDs and co-PIs)

Award Date: [Field] To [Field] (mm/dd/yyyy)
TIPS FROM THE PROS

• Invest the time into finding the right funding source and opportunity.
• Do not artificially force your project/research into a funding opportunity. Make sure it is a good fit for the program objectives.
• More narrowly defined opportunities may be the better option, but make sure your project aligns with the opportunity.
• Follow the instructions! Some proposals go through an administrative review before getting to the reviewers. The proposal may be rejected if it does not conform to the instructions.
• When looking at funders’ websites, look at past awards/awardees to see what kinds of activities they support.
• A key collaboration may open additional funding opportunities for you. Engage your colleagues and collaborators EARLY!
• When reading peers’ publications, check the acknowledgment section. What funding supported this project?
• Look at peers’ websites. What kind of funding do they get?