Identification of Funding Sources Policy

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Issuing Authority: Vice President for Research and Compliance
Responsible Office: Office of Sponsored Programs/Research Administration

Purpose

To assist the research community at Howard University and all related entities, business units, subsidiaries and affiliated organizations including, but not limited to, Howard University Hospital (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Howard University") in identifying the resources available with respect to funding opportunities.

Policy

Faculty members/Researchers have the primary responsibility for identifying funding opportunities. However, the Office of Sponsored Programs/Research Administration (OSP/RA) will assist faculty by providing information about available resources that may be used to identify both externally and internally-sponsored funding opportunities. These resources include, but are not limited to, publications, websites, on-line search engines, and other communications or announcements.

Funding Opportunities

Funding for research and other projects is mainly provided by internal and external programs. Most of the University's internal programs are devoted to providing "seed money" or support for small projects. Accordingly, the research community is strongly encouraged to solicit support from external sponsors.

External Funding Opportunities

There are many external sources of project support, including government agencies (federal, state, and local), foundations, voluntary health associations, social program agencies, and corporations. The most common types of solicited and unsolicited sponsor funding announcements are:

- Program Announcement (PA) (sponsor publication, Federal Register, FedBixxOpps)
- Request for Proposal (RFP)
- Request for Application (RFA)
- Request for Quotation (RFQ)
- Request for Bid (RFB)
- Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)

Information about these announcements can be obtained by accessing each agency's website. The following is a listing of recommended resources for identifying possible funding sources. **(NOTE: This listing is not all-inclusive. Researchers are encouraged to discuss alternative methods for identifying opportunities with colleagues in their respective area of research, both at Howard and at other institutions.)**

- American Cancer Society (ACS) – www.cancer.org
- American Heart Association (AHA) – www.americanheart.org
- Department of Agriculture (USDA) – www.usda.gov
- Department of Commerce (DOC) – www.doc.gov
- National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) – www.nist.gov
- NIST Advanced Technology Program (via comm. of sci - authorization req'd) - http://www.atp.nist.gov/
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) – www.noaa.gov
  - Department of Defense (DoD) aka DefenseLink - www.defenselink.mil
  - Department of Defense (DoD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) http://cdmrp.army.mil
  - Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) – www.afosr.af.mil
  - Army Research Laboratory (ARL) – http://www.arl.army.mil/main/Main/default.htm
  - Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) – www.darpa.mil
  - Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) – http://www.nrl.navy.mil/
  - Naval Command Control & Ocean Surveillance Center RDT&E Division (NRaD) – http://www.nosc.mil/nrad/
  - Office of Naval Research (ONR) – www.onr.navy.mil
  - U.S. Air Force (USAF) – www.af.mil
  - Department of Education (DOEd) – www.ed.gov
  - Department of Energy (DOE) – www.doe.gov
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) – www.os.dhhs.gov
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – www.cdc.gov
- National Institute of Health (NIH) – www.nih.gov
- Health Resources and Services Administration – www.hrsa.gov
- Department of Transportation (DOT) – www.dot.gov
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – www.epa.gov
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – www.faa.gov
- National Academy of Engineering – http://www.nae.edu
- National Academy of Sciences – http://www.nasonline.org/site/PageServer
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) – http://www.neh.gov/National Research Council - http://www.nationalacademies.org/nrc/National Science Foundation (NSF) – www.nsf.gov
- Small Business Administration (SBA) – www.sbaonline.sba.gov

There are also websites and online search engines that can be used to identify opportunities:

- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) - http://www.gsa.gov/fdac/
- Grants.gov – http://www.grants.gov - Most federal agencies post funding opportunities on Grants.gov daily email updates are available through this website.
- Federal Register (FR) - http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/
- Illinois Researcher Information Service (IRIS) - http://www.library.uiuc.edu/iris/ - The OSP/RA subscribes to IRIS which is an online funding service that provides researchers with a powerful tool to do targeted on-line searches for funding opportunities. Please see the IRIS section of this document for additional information.
- Grants Net - http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/funding (a joint venture between the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)) features an extensive database on fellowships, grants and various sources of research

support for researchers in the biomedical sciences. The service also offers links to funders' Web sites, online applications, and comments from recent application reviewers.

- The Foundation Center - http://fdncenter.org/ provides a comprehensive, up-to-date database of foundations and corporate giving programs.
- The Commerce Business Daily - http://cbdnet.gpo.gov/

Other funding information resources are:

- Annual Register of Grant Support
- Carroll's Federal Directory
- Chronicle for Higher Education
- Directory of Biomedical and Health Care Grants
- Directory of Research Grants
- Federal Grants Management Handbook
- Foundation Directory
- Taft Foundation Reporter
- Taft Corporate Giving Directory
- Chronicle of Higher Education

Illinois Researcher Information Service (IRIS)

The OSP/RA subscribes to the on-line funding search mechanism known as the **Illinois Researcher Information Service (IRIS)**. IRIS is a database compiled by the University of Illinois that contains over 7,000 up-to-date descriptions of federal and non-federal funding opportunities. Through this database, members of the Howard community are able to search on-line and identify potential funding sources by using key words. In addition to searches, users are able to establish individual profiles and register to be automatically notified via email listings about all funding opportunities relating to the areas of interest indicated in the profiles. For access to IRIS, please log on to http://www.library.uiuc.edu/iris. Although any member of the University community may access IRIS via any connection to the Web, it is much more convenient from a computer within the Howard network. Howard conducts regular training sessions on how to use and set-up a profile in IRIS. For more information about these trainings please contact OSP/RA.

Internal Funding Opportunities

The University administers a number of internal grant programs. There are:

1. **New Faculty Research Start-up Fund**

   The New Faculty Research Start-up Fund provides support for new faculty. Invitations to apply are expected to be issued in July and awards announced in October. For additional information about the application process, please visit the website at http://ovprc.howard.edu/.

2. **The University-Sponsored Faculty Research Program in the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Education**

   The OSP/RA administers a small grant program for research projects in the social sciences, humanities, and education disciplines. Full-time faculty members of these disciplines, including

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those completing their dissertations, may apply. To be competitive, proposals must have a clear research component, literature search and description of the research methodology. Invitations to apply are issued in March awards are announced in June. For additional information about the application process, please visit the website at http://ovprc.howard.edu/.

3. **Mordecai Wyatt Johnson Awards**

The OSP/RA administers the Mordecai Wyatt Johnson Awards, which is an interdisciplinary grants program for research projects. The two primary aims of these awards are strengthening interdisciplinary research and training future scientists. Further information about the proposal submission process and the applicant eligibility is available at the website http://ovprc.howard.edu/.

4. **Howard University Fund for Academic Excellence Grants Program**

The Office of the Provost initiates the Fund for Academic Excellence and OSP/RA administers the program. The resources from this program are intended to supplement the academic departments for travel and special initiatives with the ultimate objective of improving teaching and learning at Howard University. For additional information about the application process, please visit the website at http://www.provost.howard.edu/provost/v2ffae.asp.

5. **Other**

Schools and colleges within the University may have funds for starter, or "seed money," awards for research.   Researchers are encouraged to call their department, school, or college. Notification of these types of opportunities is typically initiated by department chair and/or dean.

Roles and Responsibilities

Academic Department

- The primary responsibility of identifying funding opportunities lies with the Principal Investigator (PI). The PI should contact OSP/RA with questions related to Howard resources that may be available to assist with identifying funding opportunities.

The Office of Sponsored Programs / Research Administration (OSP/RA)

- Upon request, OSP/RA will provide information on the available resources used to identify funding sources. In addition, OSP/RA will help PI's to determine which resources will provide the best information and provide guidance for obtaining on-line notifications via Grants.gov, IRIS, and other web-based mechanisms.

Related Processes/Events

- Proposal Development, Processing and Submission Policy

Forms and Links

- OVPRC Website – http://ovprc.howard.edu/

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