Our Co-Publisher & Editors

Mike Cronan
Mike Cronan, PE, has 23 years of experience developing and writing successful team proposals at Texas A&M University. He was named a Texas A&M University System Regents Fellow (2001-2010) for developing and writing A&M System-wide grants funded at over $100 million by NSF and other funding agencies. He developed and directed two research development and grant writing offices, one for Texas A&M’s VPR and the other for the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (15 research divisions state-wide), including the Texas A&M College of Engineering.

Lucy Deckard
Lucy Deckard (BS/MS Materials) worked in research development and grant writing at Texas A&M University and across the A&M System for nine years. She directed A&M’s New Faculty Research Initiative (2004-09), helping junior faculty System-wide jumpstart their research careers with federal agency funding. She served as associate director of two research development and grant writing offices. She founded ARFS in 2010.

Katherine E. Kelly
Katherine E. Kelly, Ph.D., a retired English professor from Texas A&M University, is the author of several books and numerous articles supported by research grants and served as a contributing editor for an academic journal for five years. She provides ARFS clients editorial services on proposals, journal articles, and manuscripts and presents seminars on grant writing and funding in the humanities.

About Us

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Katherine E. Kelly

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Emily Creasy, head of ELC Design, is our graphics partner. In addition to redesigning our newsletter, she provides graphics services on proposals, presentations, books and papers. Subscribe Online

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Topics of Interest URLs

**User Note:** URL links are active on date of publication, but if a URL link breaks or changes a Google search on the key words or titles, as below, will typically take you to a working link.

**FY2023 Federal Research Funding Agency & Miscellaneous**

- Monkeypox: The State of the Science
- White House Releases Disclosure Template for Grant Applications
- National Park Service Awards $2.1 Million for the Return of Native American Remains and Sacred Objects
- When AI asks dumb questions, it gets smart fast
- DOE $7 Billion H2Hubs
- National Clean Hydrogen Strategy and Roadmap
- ACLS Announces Informational Webinars for 2022-23 Fellowships
- Research Infrastructure Initiatives in the CHIPS and Science Act
- White House Moves to Make Federally Funded Research Free Upon Publication
- Workforce Diversity Initiatives in the CHIPS and Science Act
- Roadmap to Advance Heliostat Technologies for Concentrating Solar-Thermal Power
- AHRQ Challenge on Integrating Healthcare System Data with Systematic Review Findings

**National Science Foundation & Related**

- Major Research Instrumentation Program: (MRI) Instrument Acquisition or Development
- DCL: Planning Proposals to Catalyze Innovative and Inclusive Wildland Fire Science through Diverse Collaborations
- DCL: Directorate for Geosciences (GEO) Call for High Priority GEO-Themed IUCRCs (Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers)
- DCL: Seafloor Geodesy 2022
- DCL: Supplemental Funding for Space-Related Preparation and Awareness for Career Equity
- DCL: Enhancing Engineering Technology and Advanced Semiconductor Manufacturing Technician Education (ETSTE)
- DCL: Submission of Proposals to NSF Programs that Address the Interdisciplinary Topics of Theoretical Physics Approaches to Aging, Cancer Biology, and Neurodegenerative Disorders
- DCL: Research Coordination Networks for Semiconductors (RCN-SC)
- DCL: Provisioning Advanced Cyberinfrastructure to Further Research on Monkeypox Virus
- A new way to fund your research at NSF
- NSF Strategic Plan
- Leading the World in Discovery and Innovation, STEM Talent Development and the Delivery of Benefits from Research - NSF Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2022 - 2026
- NSF’s Broad Agency Announcement Management
- Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI)
NIH Health Sciences & Related

- Center for Scientific Review 2022-2027 Strategic Plan
- NIH initiative to systematically investigate and establish function of every human gene
- Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H)
- Advanced Research Project Agency for Health (ARPA-H): Concept Paper
- Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) Fact Sheet
- ARPA-H Frequently Asked Questions
- Listening Sessions for ARPA-H: Summary Report
- ARPHA-H News and Publications
- Grant Writing Webinar Series for Institutions Building Research and Research Training Capacity: Webinar 1 - Before Writing: Faculty Readiness & Submission Considerations
- Top 5 eRA Resources You Should Know
- NIH All About Grants Podcast Mini-Series: Inclusion Plans - From Application to Post-Award
- It’s a Great Time to Explore Resources at the NIH Grants Conference Exhibit Hall
- NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
- Parent Announcements (For Unsolicited or Investigator-Initiated Applications)
- NIH Research Training and Career Development Programs
- NIH Funding Strategies
- AHRQ Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award (K01)
- NIH Funding Guide: Index of All Years

National Academies and Other Scientific Associations

- You’ve spotted a flaw in a top journal’s paper. Good luck getting your critique published
- Standing Committee on Emerging Infectious Diseases and 21st Century Health Threats: Annual Report 2021
- Review U.S. Global Change Research Program’s Draft Decadal Strategic Plan, 2022-2031
- Supporting Cross-Sector Partnerships for Food Security and Sustainability: Proceedings of a Workshop-in Brief
- Climate Resources at the National Academies
- Growing the Impacts of Climate-Smart Agriculture

Miscellaneous Federal Agency and Foundation News & Funding

- Forensic Science Strategic Research Plan 2022-2026
- Toxic Exposures Research Program
- NOAA Notice of Funding Opportunity Title: FY 2021 - 2023 - Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) Announcement

Federal Agency Research Funding Links

- AFRL: https://www.afrl.af.mil/AFOSR/
- ARL: https://www.arl.army.mil/
- CDMRP: https://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/prgdefault
- IARPA: https://www.iarpa.gov/
• DHS: https://www.dhs.gov/how-do-i/find-and-apply-grants
• DOJ: https://www.justice.gov/grants
• NASA: https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/
• NEH: https://www.neh.gov/
• NEA: https://www.arts.gov/
• NIH: https://grants.nih.gov/funding/index.htm
• HHS: http://www.hhs.gov/asrt/og/aboutog/grantsnet.html
• NSF: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/index.jsp
• DOC: https://www.commerce.gov/work-with-us/grants-and-contract-opportunities
• NIST: https://www.nist.gov/oaaam/grants-management-division/nist-nofo-information
• NOAA: https://www.noaa.gov/organization/acquisition-grants
• DoED: https://www2.ed.gov/fund/grants-apply.html?src=go
• DOE/OS: https://www.energy.gov/science/office-science-funding/office-science-funding-opportunities
• EERE: https://www.energy.gov/eere/funding/eere-funding
• DOE: https://www.energy.gov/energy-economy/funding-financing
• USDA: https://www.nal.usda.gov/waic/funding
• NIFA: https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants
• EPA: http://www.epa.gov/ogd/competition/open_awards.htm
• NCER: http://epa.gov/ncer/listserv/
• FBO/BETA SAM: https://fbohome.sam.gov/
• Federal Register: https://www.federalregister.gov/
• Grants.gov: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html
• CFDA: https://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/catalog-of-federal-domestic-assistance-cfda.asp
### October 2022 Select List of Humanities, HSS, and Arts Opportunities & News

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by Katherine E. Kelly, PhD

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Check with organizations’ websites for most current information

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<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Opportunity</th>
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<tr>
<td>There are no deadlines. Proposals are accepted year-round through the Hearst Foundations’ online application portal.</td>
<td>How do I know if my organization is qualified for funding from the Hearst Foundations? Please thoroughly review the <a href="https://www.hearstfdn.org/faq">Funding Limitations</a>, Funding Areas (Culture, Education, Health and Social Service) and <a href="https://www.hearstfdn.org/faq">Grant Recipients Database</a> to evaluate organizational eligibility and grant request alignment with Hearst Foundations’ priorities. <a href="https://www.hearstfdn.org/general-overview">https://www.hearstfdn.org/general-overview</a> <a href="https://www.hearstfdn.org/faq">https://www.hearstfdn.org/faq</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various due dates.</td>
<td>A list of funding opportunities for graduate students and faculty interested in American Foreign Relations offered by SHAFR and other sources. <a href="https://www.shafr.org/research/funding">https://www.shafr.org/research/funding</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships for 4 to 9 months; applications due by November 1.</td>
<td>The Newberry. We are now accepting applications for the 2023-24 academic year. The Newberry’s long-standing fellowship program provides outstanding scholars with the time, space, and community required to pursue innovative and ground-breaking scholarship. Fellows have access to the Newberry’s wide-ranging and rare archival materials as well as to a lively, interdisciplinary community of researchers, curators, and librarians. We expect recipients to advance scholarship in various fields, develop new interpretations, and expand our understandings of the past. Detailed information on available fellowships may be found by following the links below. For more information about the application process, visit How to Apply: <a href="http://www.newberry.org/how-apply">http://www.newberry.org/how-apply</a> <a href="http://www.newberry.org/fellowships">http://www.newberry.org/fellowships</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships for 1 to 2 months due by December 15.</td>
<td>Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies. Short-term fellowships are awarded for one or more months, and open to academics from any country, subject to selection by committee. Successful applicants will be working on Jefferson-related projects. Priority is given to Jefferson-related projects using the <a href="http://www.newberry.org/fellowships">Digital Archeological Archive of Comparative</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>awarded for the following calendar year.</strong></td>
<td>Slavery or Getting Word. Fellows are expected to be in residence at the Robert H. Smith International Center for Jefferson Studies (ICJS), where they will have access to Monticello’s expert staff and research holdings at the Jefferson Library as well as those of the University of Virginia. During their residencies, fellows hold a 45 minute forum on their research projects. <a href="https://www.monticello.org/research-education/for-scholars/fellowships/short-term-fellowships/">https://www.monticello.org/research-education/for-scholars/fellowships/short-term-fellowships/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline: Nov. 2</td>
<td>Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowship. ACLS invites applications for Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowships, which provide a year of support for doctoral students preparing to embark on innovative dissertation research projects. This program is made possible by a grant from the Mellon Foundation. Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowships support graduate students in the humanities and social sciences who show promise of leading their fields in important new directions. The fellowships are designed to intervene at the formative stage of dissertation development, before research and writing are advanced. The program seeks to expand the range of research methodologies, formats, and areas of inquiry traditionally considered suitable for the dissertation, with a particular focus on supporting scholars who can build a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable academy. <a href="https://www.acls.org/competitions/mellon-acls-dissertation-innovation-fellowship/">https://www.acls.org/competitions/mellon-acls-dissertation-innovation-fellowship/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requests received between November 11th (12:00am EST) and May 10th (11:59pm EST) are considered for funding during the Fall Award Round.</td>
<td>The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation will consider grants for IRS-qualified non-profit organizations located within the United States. The Foundation aims to support organizations and programs for which a relatively small amount of funding might make a large difference. The Foundation will consider requests to support museums, cultural and performing arts programs; schools and hospitals; educational, skills-training and other programs for youth, seniors, and persons with disabilities; environmental and wildlife protection activities; and other community-based organizations and programs. Awards typically range from $1,000 to $20,000. The Foundation cannot make grants to individuals. <a href="https://www.mvdreyfusfoundation.org/application-guidelines">https://www.mvdreyfusfoundation.org/application-guidelines</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit through Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. U.S. Eastern Time on November 15, 2021.</td>
<td>Museums For America FY 2022 Notice Of Funding Opportunity. The Museums for America program supports museums of all sizes and disciplines to undertake projects that strengthen their ability to serve their public. Project activities may include exhibitions, educational or interpretive programs, digital learning resources, professional development, community debate and dialogue, audience-focused studies, and/or collections management, curation, care, and conservation. <a href="https://imls.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/fy22-oms-mfa-nofo.pdf">https://imls.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/fy22-oms-mfa-nofo.pdf</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**15 November 2022**

**IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) Inspire! Grants for Small Museums.** This is a special initiative of the Museums for America program. It’s designed to support small museums of all disciplines in project-based efforts to serve the public through exhibitions, educational/interpretive programs, digital learning resources, policy development and institutional planning, technology enhancements, professional development, community outreach, audience development, and/or collections management, curation, care, and conservation. Inspire! has three project categories: Lifelong Learning, Institutional Capacity, and Collections Stewardship and Access. Potential applicants are invited to view two webinars: (1) “Choosing a Funding Opportunity for FY 2023” is a general presentation on IMLS museum grant programs. We recommend that you view this presentation for an overview before considering a specific grant program. (2) FY 2023 “Inspire! Grants for Small Museums” provides detailed information about the goals of this specific grant program and how to apply. This webinar will be posted in September 2022. [https://www.imls.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08/fy23-oms-igsm-nofo.pdf](https://www.imls.gov/sites/default/files/2022-08/fy23-oms-igsm-nofo.pdf)

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**15 November 2022 Professional Development Opportunities for Museum Staff**

**IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) Museums Empowered:** Cost Share Requirement: Applicants must provide funds from non-federal sources in an amount equal to or greater than the amount of the IMLS request. This is a special initiative of the Museums for America grant program designed to support projects that use the transformative power of professional development and training to generate systemic change within museums of all types and sizes. Museums Empowered has four project categories: Digital Technology: Provide museum staff with the skills to integrate digital technology into museum operations. Diversity and Inclusion: Support museum staff in providing inclusive services to people of diverse geographic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds and to individuals with disabilities. Evaluation: Strengthen the ability of museum staff to use evaluation as a tool to shape museum programs and improve outcomes. Organizational Management: Strengthen and support museum staff as the essential part of a resilient organizational culture. View two webinars for more information: (1) “Choosing a Funding Opportunity for FY 2023”– a general presentation on IMLS museum grant programs. We recommend that you view this presentation for an overview before considering a specific grant program. (2) “FY 2023 Museums Empowered” provides detailed information about the goals of this specific grant program and how to apply. This webinar will be posted in September 2022.

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**15 November 2022**

**IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) National Leadership Grant for Museums.** These grants support projects that address critical needs of the museum field and that have the potential to advance practice in the profession to strengthen museum services for the American public. Cost Share Requirement: You must provide funds from non-federal sources in an...
amount that is equal to or greater than the amount of the request, unless otherwise indicated in the FY 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity. We invite you to view two pre-recorded webinars: (1) “Choosing a Funding Opportunity for FY 2023” is a general presentation on IMLS museum grant programs. (2) “FY 2023 National Leadership Grants for Museums” provides detailed information about the goals of this specific grant program and how to apply. This webinar will be posted in September 2022.

https://www.imls.gov/grants/available/national-leadership-grants-museums

**15 Nov. 2022**

**ACES Awards Six Student Scholarships** for excellence in editing. Amounts range from $1,500 to $3,500. The Bill Walsh scholarship awards excellence in news editing ($3,500); 5 additional scholarships are awarded to students who excel in critical thinking about written materials in any field and aspire to a career involving editing.

https://aceseditors.org/awards/scholarships?e=1abb65b33249e15daa67ac1812c367ecca909863e96c580cb873671a43435d2d

**16 Nov. 2022**

**The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Dissertation Fellowships in Buddhist Studies.** Stipend: $30,000. The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Dissertation Fellowships in Buddhist Studies provide stipends to PhD candidates for full time preparation of dissertations. The ten-month fellowship period may be used for fieldwork, archival research, analysis of findings, or for writing after research is complete. [https://www.acls.org/competitions/the-robert-h-n-ho-family-foundation-dissertation-fellowships-in-buddhist-studies/](https://www.acls.org/competitions/the-robert-h-n-ho-family-foundation-dissertation-fellowships-in-buddhist-studies/)

**16 Nov. 2022**

**The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Early Career Research Fellowships in Buddhist Studies.** Early Career Research Fellowships offer support for research and writing in Buddhist studies for pre-tenure scholars who hold the PhD degree, with priority given to those teaching full time. These fellowships provide scholars time free from teaching and other responsibilities to concentrate on research and writing for the project proposed. Priority will be given to unemployed or underemployed scholars; emeriti are not eligible. The fellowship period may last up to nine months, during which time no teaching, commissioned research on other topics, or administrative duties are allowed. The fellowship may be separated into two periods, each of which must be a minimum of three months. If the duration is less than nine months (minimum of six months), the stipend will be prorated. [https://www.acls.org/competitions/the-robert-h-n-ho-family-foundation-translation-grants-in-buddhist-studies/](https://www.acls.org/competitions/the-robert-h-n-ho-family-foundation-translation-grants-in-buddhist-studies/)

**16 Nov. 2022**

**The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation Translation Grants in Buddhist Studies.** These grants support translations of important Buddhist texts for the benefit of contemporary audiences who currently do not have access to them in their own languages. Applicants may propose work including, but not limited to, translation of canonical texts into modern vernaculars or the
A translation of scholarly works on Buddhism from one modern language into another. Collaborative projects are welcome. Award funds can be used as stipends for work performed (e.g., to secure release time or to pay assistants), for travel, and for related office costs, including reproduction or digitization of images. A budget is required. There are no restrictions as to the language of the final product prepared for publication.


**30 Nov. 2022**  
**The NEH Collaborative Research program** aims to advance humanistic knowledge by fostering rich scholarship that a single researcher could not perform alone. The program supports sustained collaboration by teams of two or more scholars. Teams may propose research in a single field of study or interdisciplinary work. NEH encourages projects that incorporate multiple points of view and pursue new avenues of inquiry in the humanities. Collaborators may come from one or more institutions. NEH encourages partnerships with researchers from the natural and social sciences, but projects must address humanistic questions and employ humanistic methods. International collaboration is welcome, but scholars at U.S. institutions must contribute significantly to the project. Collaboration among different types of institutions is welcome.  
https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/collaborative-research-grants

**30 Nov. 2022**  
**NEH Public Scholars Program.** This program offers grants to individual authors for research, writing, travel, and other activities leading to the creation and publication of well-researched nonfiction books in the humanities written for the broad public. Writers with or without an academic affiliation may apply, and no advanced degree is required. The program encourages non-academic writers to deepen their engagement with the humanities by strengthening the research underlying their books, and it encourages academic writers in the humanities to communicate the significance of their research to the broadest possible range of readers. NEH especially encourages applications from independent writers, researchers, scholars, and journalists. For new features of this program, go to:  
https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/public-scholar-program

**1 Dec. 2022**  
**Summer Institute for the Study of East Central and Southeastern Europe.** The Summer Institute for the Study of East Central and Southeastern Europe (SISECSE) is a two-week residential fellowship, that provides scholars of Eastern Europe the opportunity to undertake local fieldwork in Bulgaria. ACLS in partnership with the Centre for Advanced Study Sofia (CAS) will convene leading scholars from Eastern Europe and North America for a two-week residency in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria from June 1, 2023 to June 15, 2023. SISECSE will provide participating scholars with two weeks to dedicate to their own research and writing in a collaborative and interdisciplinary setting.
Participants will be able to undertake local fieldwork, including archival research, work in museum collections, interviews, site surveys, or other forms of data collection. [https://www.acls.org/competitions/summer-institute-east-central-southeastern-europe/](https://www.acls.org/competitions/summer-institute-east-central-southeastern-europe/)

### 2 December 2022

**ICS (formerly Woodrow Wilson Foundation) & the Mellon Foundation**

**The MMUF Advancement Program (Dissertation).** The MMUF Dissertation Grants are available to graduate students who participated in the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program. The awards provide graduate students at the critical juncture of completing their graduate degrees with support to spend a year finishing the writing of the dissertation. [https://citizensandscholars.org/fellowships/for-scholars-education-leaders/mellon-programs-grants/mmuf-dissertation-grant/?utm_source=websignup&utm_medium=email&utm_content=dissertation](https://citizensandscholars.org/fellowships/for-scholars-education-leaders/mellon-programs-grants/mmuf-dissertation-grant/?utm_source=websignup&utm_medium=email&utm_content=dissertation)

The **Kress grantmaking portal** will accept LOIs for 15 days at the beginning of the Foundation’s three grant cycles. Institutions must submit an LOI by the deadlines below in order to apply for a grant in that cycle: Sept. 1, Dec. 15, March 1.

**The Samuel H. Kress Foundation** invites grant applications for projects that illuminate European works of art and architecture from antiquity to the early 19th century. Please review the specific guidelines for the program of interest. Eligible organizations will use the Kress Foundation’s online grantmaking portal to complete their Letter of Inquiry (LOI) and subsequent grant application. Organizations whose representatives do not already have access to the grantmaking portal must register for access. The first step in the grant application process is the submission of a Letter of Inquiry (LOI). Organizations submitting an LOI through the portal will be asked to provide:

- a brief summary of the proposed project
- the total budget of the project
- the amount requested from the Foundation

[https://www.kressfoundation.org/Programs/How-to-Apply](https://www.kressfoundation.org/Programs/How-to-Apply)

**The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Office of Digital Humanities** is accepting applications for the Digital Humanities Advancement Grants program. The program supports innovative, experimental, and/or computationally challenging digital projects leading to work that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching, and public programming in the humanities. The DHAG program supports projects at different phases of their lifecycles that respond to one or more of these programmatic priorities: • research and refinement of innovative, experimental, or computationally challenging methods and techniques • enhancement or design of digital infrastructure that contributes to and supports the humanities, such as open-source code, tools, or platforms • evaluative studies that investigate the practices and the impact of digital scholarship on research, pedagogy, scholarly communication, and public

**Application Deadline:** Jan. 12, 2023; June 15, 2023.

**Optional Draft Deadlines:** November 14, 2022, April 17, 2023

**Level I:** up to $75,000
Engagement. The DHAG program values experimentation, reuse, and extensibility, leading to work that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching, and public programs in the humanities. DHAG recipients contribute to humanities scholarship by serving carefully identified audiences, addressing issues of accessibility and usability, and designing equitable, open, replicable, and sustainable projects. If your project is funded, you must analyze your workflow and publish your results in a white paper that NEH will share widely. This body of work contributes to the digital humanities’ research base.


12 January 2023

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Translation Projects. Through fellowships to published translators, the National Endowment for the Arts supports projects for the translation of specific works of prose, poetry, or drama from other languages into English. Grants are up to $25,000 with amounts determined by the National Endowment for the Arts. Direct questions concerning the Literature Fellowships to the Literature Fellowship Hotline at 202-682-5034 or email LitFellowships@arts.gov.

https://www.arts.gov/grants/translation-projects

Optional draft due December 1, 2022

Deadline January 12, 2023

The National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress (LC) to create a national digital resource of historically significant newspapers published between 1690 and 1963, from all the states and U.S. jurisdictions. This searchable database will be permanently maintained at LC and will be freely accessible online (see the Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers website). The accompanying US Newspaper Directory of bibliographic and holdings information on the website directs users to newspaper titles available in all types of formats. During the course of its partnership with NEH, LC will also digitize and contribute to the NDNP database a significant number of newspaper pages drawn from its own collections.


February 02, 2023

February 2, Annually Thereafter

Approximately $6,200,000 will be made available in FY 2023 to support an

Science and Technology Studies (STS). STS is an interdisciplinary field that investigates the conceptual foundations, historical developments and social contexts of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), including medical science. The STS program supports proposals across a broad spectrum of research that uses historical, philosophical and social scientific methods to investigate STEM theory and practice. STS research may be empirical or conceptual; specifically, it may focus on the intellectual, material or social facets of STEM including interdisciplinary studies of ethics, equity, governance and policy issues. The STS program description has been streamlined and clarified considerably and it now includes guidelines for developing an effective STS proposal. The STS program encourages
research on complex socio-technical and techno-scientific problems that are best confronted using a distributed approach by multiple collaborative teams. The STS program has updated the funding caps for most types of grants that are supported by the program. One grant type, the Professional Development Grant, is no longer supported. Subfields of STS are now specified as those recognized by the primary STS professional societies, and these societies are listed in the solicitation. A new section has been added on "Guidelines for Developing Effective STS Proposals."


<table>
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<th>Grants are awarded twice a year with application deadlines of March 15 and September 15</th>
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<td><strong>Gerald R. Ford Library.</strong> Two programs are available to support research in the holdings of the Gerald R. Ford Library. These holdings focus on Federal policies, U.S. foreign relations, and national politics in the 1960s and 1970s. There are earlier and later materials depending upon your topic. The programs are:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>Gerald R. Ford Scholar Award (Dissertation Award) in Honor of Robert Teeter</strong> in the amount of $5,000 is given annually to one individual to support dissertation research on an aspect of the U.S. political process during the latter part of the twentieth century. See details about the award.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation awards several Research Travel Grants</strong> of up to $2,200 each in support of research in the holdings of the Gerald R. Ford Library. A grant defrays travel and living expenses of a research trip to the Ford Library. See details about the grants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>National Archives Foundation offers the Cokie Roberts Research Fund for Women’s History</strong> to support one to three annual fellowships for graduate students, journalists, historians or authors who perform new research to elevate women’s history using the records held by the National Archives.</td>
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https://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/hpgrants.asp

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<th>Draft (optional): April 1, 2023</th>
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<td>Final Deadline: June 7, 2023</td>
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<td><strong>NHPRC-Mellon Planning Grants for Collaborative Digital Editions in African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American History and Ethnic Studies.</strong> FY 2024 Grant Announcement (Initial): The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) of the National Archives supports projects that promote access to America’s historical records to encourage understanding of our democracy, history, and culture. The following grant application information is for NHPRC-Mellon Planning Grants for Collaborative Digital Editions in African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American History and Ethnic Studies.</td>
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https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/digitaleditions
NEWS

Registration is now open for the 2022 National Humanities Conference

This year’s conference will include virtual programming on November 3-4 and an in-person conference in Los Angeles November 10-13. The National Humanities Conference brings together humanities scholars with representatives from state humanities councils, museums, libraries, and community-based organizations to explore the public humanities.


ACLS Announces Informational Webinars for 2022-23 Fellowships

The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) is pleased to offer information sessions for potential applicants to our fellowship and grant programs, hosted by ACLS program officers. Register for upcoming webinars focusing on programs with September and October deadlines below.


President Biden Issues Proclamation on National Arts and Humanities Month, Includes Executive Order to Promote the Arts, the Humanities, and Museum and Library Services
What Is a Humanities Program Officer and When Should You Contact Them?

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by Katherine E. Kelly, PhD
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As with so much else in the world of Humanities and Humanities-related Social Science funding, the role of the Program Officer (P.O.) depends upon whether the funder is a federal or a private organization. Federal agency P. O.s (sometimes known as Program Directors) manage proposal reviews from the receipt of proposals to the submission of review panel decisions to senior agency officials for final judgments. They often have earned advanced degrees and are subject experts in a particular field, such as Digital Humanities. Federal P.O.s do not solicit proposals or show favor to any individual or group over another. They are taxed with maintaining fairness within the funding guidelines, and Federal P. O.s see to it that a summary of reviewer comments is directed to all applicants for a particular award. Finally, in some cases, funding guidelines may encourage geographic, racial, institutional, gender, and faculty rank diversity among the grantees, which Federal P. O.s will communicate to review panel members.

P. O.s at private foundations, on the other hand, may solicit proposals from academics who they know are working in areas of central interest to the mission of their organization. While the review criteria for federal programs are public and widely known, the criteria at private foundations may be less clear but will, in all cases, be closely related to their mission. The panel of reviewers at private foundations may or may not hold advanced degrees and academic positions at research universities. They are often composed of those who serve on the foundation’s board or its committees. P. O.s at private foundations may be given greater discretion over the outcome of proposal reviews than similar Officers at federal agencies. But, as Walker and Unruh have noted in their 2018 book, Funding Your Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, there are exceptions among private organizations: “The Mellon Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Social Science Research Council . . . use a proposal submission and review process . . . very much like those at federal agencies” (20).

In all cases, the P. O. is a knowledgeable person with influence over funding decisions. But under what circumstances should an applicant contact them? There are three situations in which contacting a P.O. is warranted: (1) For information: Some funders (e.g., NEH) invite applicants to contact them for information after thoroughly reading their funding website and viewing any webinars posted to the website, including Q & A sections and sample proposals. If, for example, an applicant questions whether their proposal is suited to a particular agency or program within that agency, and a careful reading of the agency’s website does not answer this question, they are advised to ask a P. O. assigned to their topic. (Contact the email address for the correct program and NEH will request that the appropriate P. O. reply.) Another good reason to contact a P. O. can be found in cases where (2) expected reviewers’ comments are either absent or summarized very briefly. This applies only to those agencies that agree to provide such a summary of reviewers’ comments. This situation requires tact on the part of the applicant. In cases where panel members unanimously ranked a proposal highly but the proposal did not succeed, the applicant can infer that other proposals were even more meritorious, or that their failed proposal was “solid” but not “outstanding.” (3) Finally, in some circumstances, NEH or another funder may invite especially first-time applicants to confer with a P. O. to make sure the applicant is given a fair chance to compete for an award. But in this case, also, the
applicant is expected to have thoroughly read the website and viewed any webinars on the application process before speaking to the P.O.

Under what circumstances should an applicant avoid contacting a P.O.? Rejection of a proposal is not grounds for contacting a P.O. Read the statistics for each award and adjust your expectations accordingly. Another reason to avoid contacting a P.O. is to ask them to give a preliminary judgement about the likely success of a proposal, or to vent about what the applicant believes to be an unfair assessment of their proposal.

Of course, it's also a mistake to shrink from contacting a P.O. simply because doing so is embarrassing or imagined to be an imposition. Funders wish to be transparent, helpful, and fair. Carefully reading websites before contacting a P.O. will ensure that both the funder and the applicant respect each other's limits. As far as federal funders are concerned, “getting to know” a P.O. runs counter to their mandate to treat all applicants equally and fairly. However, if an applicant suspects that, given their mission statement and funding history, a private funder might have an interest in their project, they should contact the P.O. and provide them with a candid and brief description of their project to gauge their interest.
NIH Expands Role of AI in Funding Solicitations

NIH will invest $130 million over four years to accelerate the use of AI in biomedical and behavioral research (Data Generation Projects for the NIH Bridge to Artificial Intelligence (Bridge2AI) Program). The NIH Common Fund’s Bridge to Artificial Intelligence (Bridge2AI) program is assembling team members from diverse disciplines and backgrounds to generate tools, resources, and richly detailed data that are responsive to AI approaches. Through collaboration across projects, Bridge2AI researchers will create guidance and standards for the development of state-of-the-art, AI-ready data sets with the potential to help solve some of the most pressing challenges in human health — such as uncovering how genetic, behavioral, and environmental factors influence a person’s physical condition throughout their life (see Funded Projects).

Understanding the vision and scope of this NIH AI direction will be an important part of what research offices do to assist faculty in understanding the future funding directions at NIH and positioning themselves to be successful in what will be a very broad based funding domain over the coming years. Moreover, it is important to keep in mind that AI research and education are increasingly major programmatic funding area across federal agencies.

In particular, NSF has invested $220 million in National Artificial Intelligence Research Institutes in a total of 40 states and the District of Columbia. The institutes are focused on AI-based technologies that will bring about a range of advances: helping older adults lead more independent lives and improving the quality of their care; transforming AI into a more accessible “plug-and-play” technology; creating solutions to improve agriculture and food supply chains; enhancing adult online learning by introducing AI as a foundational element; and supporting underrepresented students in elementary to post-doctoral STEM education to improve equity and representation in AI research.

The take away here is that Bridge2AI is focused on diverse disciplinary partnerships and research team formation. In looking at future proposals to NIH in the AI/Machine Learning area, existing institutional capacities in the AI/ML domain, e.g., NSF funding, have the potential to offer additional competitive advantages to the NIH proposing team. (See NSF invests in bio-inspired and bioengineered systems for artificial intelligence, infrastructure and health.)

In 2018, members of the AI/ML and computational biomedicine research communities held a workshop, and in 2019 the AI Working Group of the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director developed a final report to propel progress of AI/ML methods in biomedical and behavioral research. The NIH Common Fund’s Bridge2AI program was created in response to these recommendations. It aims to harness the power of AI/ML models for human health, beginning with an ‘analysis-first’ approach that values the machine-understandability of data and incorporates ethical principles surrounding data collection and use.

The goal of the Bridge2AI program will be accomplished by:

- Generating new flagship biomedical and behavioral data sets that are ethically sourced, trustworthy, well-defined, and accessible.
- Developing software and standards to unify data attributes across multiple data sources and across data types
- Creating automated tools to accelerate the creation of FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) and ethically sourced data sets
- Providing resources to disseminate data, ethical principles, tools, and best practices
- Creating training materials and activities for workforce development that bridges the AI, biomedical, and behavioral research communities

The Bridge2AI program plans to support interdisciplinary Data Generation Projects (OTA-21-008) and a complementary cross-cutting Integration, Dissemination, and Evaluation (BRIDGE) Center (RFA-RM-21-023). Teams funded through these two planned opportunities will be expected to interact and collaborate regularly to complete cross-cutting Bridge2AI program goals. NIH has a number of initiatives to advance AI for biomedical research, each focused on a unique aspect or challenge, including generating new flagship data and developing best practices (Bridge2AI), addressing workforce gaps and improving AI-readiness of existing data (ODSS), and advancing health equity and researcher diversity (AIM-AHEAD). See the ODSS Artificial Intelligence at NIH webpage:

- **NIH Common Fund’s Bridge2AI program**: working to facilitate widespread adoption of AI by generating new flagship data sets and best practices through the collection and preparation of ethically-sourced AI/ML-ready data to address biomedical and behavioral research grand challenges. The generation of ethically-sourced data will require diverse teams and expertise.
- **Office of Data Science Strategy (ODSS) initiatives**: (1) Addressing the Workforce Gap in Data Governance for AI in Biomedicine, (2) Ethics, Bias, and Transparency for People and Machines, and (3) Improving the AI-readiness of Existing, IC-supported Data
- **AIM-AHEAD (Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Consortium to Advance Health Equity and Researcher Diversity)**: establishing mutually beneficial and coordinated partnerships to increase the participation and representation of researchers and communities currently underrepresented in the development of AI/ML models
- **Institute- and Center-Funded Initiatives**: a number of NIH institutes and centers are developing AI/ML technologies and strategies

The Bridge2AI program will support the formation of teams richly diverse in perspectives, backgrounds, and academic and technical disciplines. A Plan for Enhancing Diverse Perspectives (PEDP) is a key component of the Bridge2AI program’s research opportunity, Data Generation Projects for the NIH Bridge to Artificial Intelligence (Bridge2AI) Program (OT2) (OTA-21-008) and funding opportunity, Integration, Dissemination, and Evaluation (BRIDGE) Center for the NIH Bridge to Artificial Intelligence (Bridge2A) Program (US4) (RFA-RM-21-023).

Visit the Bridge2AI program’s Building Diverse Teams page for additional information about team building and PEDP key elements and examples. Applications submitted without a PEDP will be considered incomplete and will be withdrawn prior to peer review. Evaluation of the applicant’s PEDP will be made during the peer review stage as part of the scorable criteria and during programmatic reviews, and will be used to inform funding decisions. Visit the Bridge2AI IMAG Wiki page for
additional resources for Teaming Activities, as well as information on ethics, standards, tools, data acquisition, sharing, and management.

In conclusion, this AI direction at NIH represents a **major future investment in research**. The bottom line for success in this new funding environment will be a **strategic plan for team formation** in a way that is fully responsive to the Bridge2AI goals. As noted by NIH, **“The solutions to long-standing challenges in human health are at our fingertips, and now is the time to connect researchers and AI technologies to tackle our most difficult research questions and ultimately help improve human health.”**

Additional Links:

- [NIH AI Resources](#)
- [Bridge to Artificial Intelligence (Bridge2AI) Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Report of the ACD AI WG](#)
- [Artificial Intelligence at NIH](#)
- [Biomedical Data Repositories and Knowledgebases](#)
- [Research and Training Funding](#)
**ARPA-H: A New Funding Agency is Born!**

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By Lucy Deckard, co-publisher

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It’s not often that a new federal funding agency is formed, and as with any newborn, it will be fascinating to see how it develops. The Advanced Research Project Agency for Health (ARPA-H) was proposed in the federal fiscal year 2022 budget, with $6.3 billion in funding over the first 3 years. (The actual appropriation for FY2022 was $1 billion.) It will be housed in NIH, and its mission is “to revolutionize how we prevent, treat, or cure a range of diseases,” which sounds a lot like NIH’s mission, but don’t be fooled – this is not just a new component of NIH.

When trying to understand what the Biden administration is going for with ARPA-H, imagine that NIH and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) had a baby, which inherited the mission of NIH but the culture of DARPA. ARPA-H will focus on disease-related research, but it will be tasked with taking bold risks, funding risky projects that, if successful, have the potential to be game changers. Researchers who typically apply to NIH for funding are the natural pool of applicants for ARPA-H, but in order to be successful, they will need to adjust to a dramatically different culture and process. ARPA-H is not yet funding projects, so if you’re a biomedical researcher, or if you advise them, this is a good time to get up to speed on how ARPA-H will work and start the process of positioning your team to be competitive.

**What is the DARPA model?**

ARPA-H is not the first new funding agency to be modeled on DARPA. Other such agencies include ARPA-E (in the Department of Energy), BARDA (biomedical, focusing on vaccines and tools) and I-ARPA (under the Director of Intelligence). The DARPA model has gained currency among policymakers and politicians because it has yielded the big transformative results that leaders want from spending large amounts of taxpayer dollars on research. Those who have heard of DARPA have probably also heard that it was instrumental in creating the internet, stealth technology, the graphical user interface and mouse, and a number of advanced weapons that seem like science fiction, such as exoskeletons for soldiers and laser weapons. But what about the DARPA model allows those kinds of game-changing innovations? The DARPA model allows those kinds of game-changing innovations? The DARPA model differs from NIH in a number of ways:

- **Highly autonomous Program Managers:** In contrast to most funding agencies, which rely on peer reviewers to evaluate proposals, DARPA invests in powerful and relatively autonomous Program Managers, who assemble a portfolio of projects. These Program Managers (P Ms) are typically highly respected researchers in their fields (from industry or academia) who are recruited for 3-to-5-year stints at DARPA, with the possibility of renewal. A PM is empowered to make funding decisions and provide relatively explicit direction to proposers (for example, telling two teams to partner with each other). This allows DARPA to be more nimble, making funding decisions quickly. It also allows for more mercurial decisions, with funding being yanked from a team if the PM feels progress is not being made. PIs used to the steady (if sometimes plodding) culture of NIH should prepare for a much wilder ride if they pursue funding from ARPA-H!

- **A culture that courts risk:** Many proposal to DARPA are declined because they aren’t risky enough. Obviously, risk must be accompanied by the potential for big payoffs, but DARPA wants to make big bets. The philosophy is that if most of the projects funded aren’t failing, they...
aren’t being ambitious enough. Needless to say, this attitude is diametrically opposed to the conservative culture of NIH, where reviewers consider the possibility of failure to be grounds for denying funding. Applying for ARPA-H funding will require a big change in mindset related to risk for researchers used to applying to NIH. Playing it safe is not rewarded, but risks must be justified by a big potential payoff, which brings us to the next item...

- **Revolution, not evolution:** For funders like NIH and NSF, projects are expected to advance the frontiers of knowledge but are generally the next logical step, building on the current state of the art and strong preliminary data. DARPA has no interest in this kind of slow-but-steady progress, which DARPA terms “evolution.” Instead, DARPA is looking for fundamentally different, “outside-the-box” ideas that have the potential to disrupt the entire field (what DARPA calls “disruptioneering.”) Again, this attitude stands in stark contrast to NIH, where an applicant saying “this is crazy, but it just might work” is a recipe for failure. PIs approaching ARPA-H will need to jettison the cautious language they would use with NIH and go all-in when describing the potential payoffs of their research and contrasting it to current approaches.

- **Fail fast:** While DARPA aims to fund risky ideas, they also don’t want to waste money. If most projects are likely to fail, they want that failure to occur quickly so that they can avoid throwing good money after bad. That means that projects tend to be short (typically 18-24 months in contrast to NIH’s 5-year R01s), and they expect some kind of proof-of-concept test early in the project. If your PM decides your idea isn’t working, expect to have your funding yanked by the PM to fund another project that looks more promising. This means that ARPA-H PIs will need to structure their projects differently, with multiple gates coming quickly to allow them to generate evidence to convince the PM that continued investment is warranted. It also means that PIs need to be at peace with a fair amount of uncertainty and pressure regarding funding.

**What does all this mean about the expected culture of ARPA-H?**

If ARPA-H’s advocates have their way, ARPA-H will be “flat, lean and nimble.” Following the DARPA model described above, PMs will have a lot of power, rather than funding decisions having to go through multiple layers of bureaucracy (flat and lean), and decisions will be made quickly, rather than taking years to release FOAs, review proposals, and then fund them (nimble). Another aspect of being nimble is that PMs will have the discretion to decide to change direction and choose winning and losing ideas based on the latest developments.

A result of all of this is that when approaching ARPA-H, it’s all about the PM. While it’s always a good idea to talk to your program officer/director/manager at a funding agency, for ARPA-H it will be crucial! Don’t expect formal FOAs from ARPA-H, at least not at first. The path to funding will most likely start with conversations with the appropriate PM. Also, listening to what the PM wants will be as important as pitching your idea. New funders often take a while to solidify their agendas, so developing a relationship with the PM will help you to navigate that ambiguity, and perhaps even influence the direction of the program.

The permanent director of ARPA-H (Dr. Renee Wgrzyn, who previously served as a DARPA PM) was named only recently, and its physical location has not yet been selected, so PMs have not yet been hired. Investigators considering pursuing funding from ARPA-H should keep an eye on this process. In fact, if you’re well established in your field, you might even consider whether you might want to apply to be a PM for a few years. It would certainly be a fascinating experience.
How will ARPA-H likely differ from DARPA?
ARPA-H’s mission and scientific focus are different from DARPA’s, which will naturally lead to differences in process and culture. According to a commentary in *Science* authored by Eric Lander (White House OSTP Director) and Francis Collins (former NIH director) advocating for its establishment, ARPA-H will “focus on time-limited projects with goals, benchmarks, and accountability to revolutionize how we prevent, treat, or cure a range of diseases, including cancer, infectious diseases, Alzheimer’s disease, and others. Projects supported by ARPA-H would focus on solving practical problems that foster breakthroughs to serve patients equitably – at levels ranging from the molecular to the societal – and drive them to the point of adoption.”

Clearly, testing new therapies is different from testing a laser, so details regarding time frames for projects, and expectations regarding milestones and outcomes will have to be different. However, at least according to the *concept paper* outlining the vision for ARPA-H, it will not take NIH’s approach of funding “incremental, hypothesis-driven research.” (That word, “incremental,” must have hurt a bit!)

One big question will be how successful ARPA-H will be in moving away from the NIH culture and approach. Many advocates in Congress felt strongly that ARPA-H should be housed in DHHS but outside NIH for this very reason. Nonetheless, the decision was made to place ARPA-H within NIH because of the alignment of ARPA-H’s mission with that of NIH and the need to share resources. However, ARPA-H will be located at a physically separate location, and the temporary director and the new inaugural director both have histories at DARPA. It’s likely that many PMs will be recruited from outside the NIH sphere in order to guard against encroachment of the cautious NIH culture. It will be interesting to see how things will be develop.

Below are more resources to understand the vision for ARPA-H and track new developments.

**More Resources to Understand ARPA-H**
- [ARPA-H Vision Statement](#)
- [ARPA-H Concept Paper](#)
- [ARPA-H FAQs](#)
- [ARPA-H Fact Sheet](#)
- [ARPA-H News and Publications](#)
- [ARPA-H Events](#)
- [ARPA-H: Congressional Action and Selected Policy Issues (Congressional Research Service)](#)
- [Ezra Klein’s opinion piece on ARPA-H (NY Times)](#)
The Most Important First Decision in Grant Writing

By Mike Cronan, PE, co-publisher

The decision to submit or not to submit a proposal may not get adequately discussed until second thoughts arise during the proposal development process. One tell-tale sign that submitting a research project for funding may be premature is when writing a strong proposal becomes increasingly challenging. In this instance the writing team may struggle against various headwinds that seem to stall progress.

One common impediment to a competitive proposal is the inability of the research team to articulate a compelling vision for the project. Another is proposing a research project that is not a good match for the goals and objectives of the funding solicitation. This requires a narrative attempt to force a fit where none exists between the proposed research and the agency's mission driven solicitation.

In other cases the institutional enthusiasm for submitting a proposal may exceed the enthusiasm of the research team being encouraged to develop, write and submit a proposal to a high-visibility, high-dollar, and prestigious program. In other cases research teams may not be sufficiently experienced to fully assess what is required to plan, develop, and write a successful proposal.

In yet other cases the decision to submit may come when there is insufficient time remaining to submit a competitive proposal. Sometimes the decision to submit is followed by a period of inactivity. When the research team finally begins to seriously focus on writing the research narrative, the submission timeline is so compressed that multiple draft iterations and internal reviews are not possible in the time remaining.

Multiple revisions and reviews of narrative drafts are the bedrock of successful proposals.

To address these issues in a compelling way, the authors must develop a thoughtfully constructed proposal development plan biased in favor of narrative perfection. Lack of realistic and timely planning of key proposal development waypoints may result a flurry of poorly prepared proposals in a matter of several months. These proposals will be biased in favor of failure. Who has not been surprised to learn that someone who submitted multiple proposals in a 9 to 12 month period received funding for none of them?

Given the above, research offices can provide a real service to faculty by holding an informed discussion about the differences between a realistic proposal workload and narrative production timeline plan and an overly ambitious and overly optimistic commitment to multiple concurrent proposals or to a series of sequential proposals. Proposal success is driven by the quality and not the quantity of proposal submissions.

It is also in the interests of research offices to commit time and personnel to proposal efforts that are most competitive for funding. Time, experience, and a long corporate memory are three of the most valuable resources research offices have to offer faculty in support of their proposal aspirations, particularly as they related to what constitutes a successful proposal at specific funding agencies. It is therefore self-defeating for all involved when these resources are squandered or spread too thinly.
on multiple efforts, by on one overly ambitious and overly optimistic proposal with no real chance of success.

For faculty who may feel that they haven’t yet attained the funding success needed for their promotion and tenure, research offices can design a more balanced and less frantic funding path by ensuring that the proposals submitted are well planned with a realistic timeline for narrative production. It is important long term that poorly planned proposals do not cannibalize proposals with a higher probability of success by consuming resources unwisely. After all, research office professionals have gained a significant advantage in biasing a proposal in favor of funding. The team’s “corporate memory,” gained over time, gives them an experience base well-grounded on best planning practices that ensure proposals optimize their competitiveness.
NIH Faculty Readiness & Submission Considerations

The goal of NIH’s ongoing three part series (Grant Writing Webinar Series for Institutions Building Research and Research Training Capacity) is to share strategies for how to navigate the NIH funding process, considerations for determining research and grant writing readiness, and thoughts on effective writing strategies.

The presentations dates of the linked series are August 16 (Before Writing: Faculty Readiness and Submission Considerations, or YouTube), September 26 (Determining Whether a Funding Opportunity is Right for You) and November 1 (Writing a Competitive Application). If you have any questions or would like more information on the webinars, contact Dr. Sydella Blatch.

The below are brief selections of key some information, but are not comprehensive in terms of representing the important information contained in the >150 PowerPoint slides of these three linked webinars.

Topics covered for Webinar 1, August 16

- Factors for determining research idea and grant writing readiness and timing
- Managing expectations around the timing of grant writing and submitting
- Understanding funding opportunity announcements and NIH forms and instructions
- Common pitfalls that result from insufficient time or planning or when applying to a funding opportunity that is not a good fit

Topics covered for Webinar 2, September 26

- Considering where your NIH application will go: institute and study section selection
- Identifying and contacting NIH program officers: what to ask and how
- How to write an effective Specific Aims page

Topics to be covered for Webinar 3, November 1

- How to acquire and structure the feedback needed to develop a strong application
- Effective practices for grant writing and revising
- The NIH funding decision process: review panels, scoring, summary statements, and funding decisions.

SUMMARY OVERVIEWS of Webinars 1&2 are provided below. These represent an excellent proposal planning and development checklist, not only for NIH but in a more generic sense across all federal research agencies, particularly for basic and fundamental research. Moreover, this is critical information to distribute new faculty. It will help them organize their proposal development efforts in a way that will make them more competitive for funding sooner in their research careers.

Moreover, these three PowerPoint slides and the accompanying YouTube video of each webinar provide an excellent framework for more comprehensive workshops and seminars. These might be developed and presented by research offices and thereby gain additional benefit from discussions.
WEBINAR 1 - Before Writing: Faculty Readiness & Submission Considerations (emphasis added)

Research Idea Readiness:
- Great ideas + expertise sometimes ≠ fundable research idea
- Most often, development or refinement of research aims and plans are needed. Often iteratively!
- It helps to allow time to get feedback from people early and multiple times--
- Best to start with just a one-page overview, or even just a conversation!
- More on feedback teams in Webinar 3: Writing a Competitive Application
- It is helpful to get feedback from others in order to refine plans, including those that do not work directly in the same specific research area.
- Examples of questions to ask for immediate feedback:
  - Are there fatal flaws in your research or project aims?
  - Are these seen as important and interesting questions or plans?
  - Are the methods up-to-date?
  - Does the experimental or program design address what you say it will?
  - If these are not addressed early, it is possible to write an entire grant application with a significant weakness--
- And insufficient time to appropriately change it before submission!

Considerations for Planning Time
- Are multiple due dates an option for you?
- If applicable, when does individual and/or institutional eligibility expire?
- If not funded at first, will you be able to resubmit for a future due date?
- A common mistake is to not allow sufficient time for the entire process--
- Which begins before the actual grant writing starts!

Time is needed to
- Keep up with the current research or program findings in the field
- Find an appropriate funding opportunity
- Read and re-read funding opportunity announcements and instructions
- Contact the program officer
- Gather a team to provide feedback
- Develop and re-develop research or program ideas (with feedback
  Team), and write application and REVISE AND REVISE AND REVISE...
- Write additional application components (e.g. Biosketch, facilities,...)
- Obtain letters, complete institutional processes and other external tasks

WEBINAR 2 - Determining Whether a Funding Opportunity is Right for You (emphasis added)
The goal of the entire series is to share strategies for how to navigate the NIH funding process, considerations for determining research and grant writing readiness, and thoughts on effective writing strategies.

**PART 1: Finding Relevant ICs, Study Sections, and Program Officers:** Learn the basics of using NIH websites and databases to find potential ICs to consider your work and relevant study sections and program officers.

**Which IC is a Good Fit for Your Application?**

- You could start with advice from investigators in your field (mentors, collaborators, etc.), but then consult a Program Officer, as the final word comes from NIH

- **NIH Website:** Each IC has its own mission and funding policy [https://www.nih.gov/institutes.nih/list-institutes-centers](https://www.nih.gov/institutes.nih/list-institutes-centers)

- Use **NIH RePORTER** to identify relevant ICs [https://reporter.nih.gov/]
  - The NIH RePORTER “Matchmaker” function allows you to search for the most likely study section based on a key word search. Open the Matchmaker window, enter one or more keywords, up to 15,000 characters (your entire Abstract, if you want) and press the “Similar Projects” link. [https://reporter.nih.gov/matchmaker](https://reporter.nih.gov/matchmaker)

**Contacting a Program Officer (PO)**

- Contact relevant POs listed on FOAs, IC websites, or in NIH RePORTER Matchmaker. **Most POs prefer to be contacted by email rather than a “cold call”**. It is okay to email again if you do not hear back initially

- **Share your Specific Aims/brief project description in advance.** It helps PO assess “mission-relevance” and fit with FOA

- **Initiate contact early in the application process**

- You may end up contacting several POs (contact one person at a time) before deciding where to submit.

**Writing Specific Aims/Project Descriptions: Become familiar with potential ways to organize a Specific Aims Page or Project Description.**

**The Specific Aims Page: A Master Plan for the Research Application:**

- A vital part of many NIH research grant applications
  - Reminder: NIGMS MIRA applications do not have a Specific Aims page

- **Often the basis of the first impression the reviewers will have**

- Should capture an essence of your entire application

**SPECIFIC AIMS/PROJECT DESCRIPTION: OVERALL TIPS**

- Start by setting the context, funnel down to the problem, and solution

- Create a solid hypothesis with a strong scientific premise
• The aims should collectively test the central hypothesis or accomplish the objective
• Use 2-4 realistic aims over 2-to-5-year funding period, with the resources available
• Discuss your Specific Aims with colleagues
• Write, discuss, revise, write (repeat) • Avoid “over-ambitious” or “incremental” aims
• Conclude with an impact statement or expected outcome
• Use italics, bold, underline to emphasize key points in the Specific Aims page (in moderation) and be consistent throughout the application
• Gain the reviewers’ confidence while convincing them that your proposal is important to support

COMMON WEAKNESSES OF SPECIFIC AIMS/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

• **Aim/Goal 1**: Does A cause B? *It can be problematic if a major aim depends on specific outcomes of a prior aim*

• **Aim/Goal 2**: To use models of process A to predict markers of condition B. This aim/goal is descriptive. Suggested revision: To predict markers of condition B using models of process A and determine what role X plays in the progression of B

• **Aim 3/Goal**: We will measure levels of X in 1000 samples of Y to characterize the pattern of expression of X. Some descriptive findings may be too detailed for a specific aims page or project description

WEBSINA R 3:

In conclusion, the third presentation in this three part series will be available **November 1 (Writing a Competitive Application)**. If you have any questions or would like more information on the webinars, contact Dr. Sydella Blatch. Keep in mind these are brief selections from much close to 100 PowerPoint slides that contain very helpful information URLs about funding success at NIH. These slides warrant a complete and detailed review.
In Proposals, Less is Often More

When we discuss how to write a strong proposal, we usually focus on what to include in your proposal; however, it's also important to understand what not to include, and why. PIs often strive to include as much information as possible in their proposals, worrying about leaving out some key citation, fact, or argument that might make the difference between a recommendation to fund and a recommendation to decline. However, it can be useful to consider the reviewer’s experience.

Consider a reviewer, making their way through a stack of proposals for a range of projects related to a funding opportunity. When that reviewer starts reading your proposal, they are trying to quickly understand the line of logic that connects what you’re proposing to do, why it’s important, how you’ll do it, and what the outcomes and impacts will be. Superfluous or irrelevant information can obscure that line of logic.

A speaker at a recent NIH conference put it this way. Think of your topic area as a forest, with the trees representing various bits of information. Your job as a PI is to guide your reviewer along the path in that forest that represents your project, pointing out the relevant trees, not to describe the entire forest. Thinking of your proposal in this way emphasizes the importance of knowing what to leave out so that the path is clear.

Here are some common ways that PIs often obscure that path, or even lead reviewers off in the wrong direction.

**Discussing challenges and gaps that the project will not address.** In discussing the problem, motivation or state of the art, in an effort to be thorough, many PIs will describe several current challenges or gaps in detail, and then they will state that this project will address only one of those gaps. This can be confusing to the reviewer. Including a paragraph (and sometimes an entire subsection) on a problem or challenge that is, in effect, irrelevant to the project being proposed is tantamount to leading your reviewer onto a side trail and then announcing that you expect them to fly back to the main trail in the next paragraph.

If you need to mention challenges that may be relevant to the topic but are irrelevant to the project you are currently proposing in order to put your project in context, do so briefly, and then quickly explain which challenge this proposal will address. If you’re concerned that reviewers will question why your project isn’t addressing a challenge, state early in the paragraph that you will not address that challenge in this project, and explain why.

**Making the background section a tutorial on the topic.** It may be tempting to provide an educational discussion of the broad topic of the proposal, particularly if you suspect that reviewers may not be experts in the field. However, remember that, especially in cases where reviewers are not experts in your topic, it is very easy for them to become confused by too much information. You may need to educate your reviewers, but that education should be carefully curated. Give them only the information they need to understand your project and its importance. Don’t go into “professor mode” and provide the equivalent of a class lecture on the topic. By very carefully focusing on the background that’s relevant to your project, you’ll help your reviewers stay on the logical path.
Making the background section a literature review. Similarly, it can be tempting to discuss all literature related to the broad topic of your proposal. This is especially common in the phenomenon that we call “defensive citing,” where a PI worries that the reviewer will criticize them for leaving out a citation (often for a paper written by the reviewer), even if it’s only tangentially related to the project proposed. While it’s extremely important to demonstrate that you know the relevant literature, and it’s a good idea to cite publications by likely reviewers if they are relevant, discussing irrelevant literature can distract the reviewer from your message.

You can avoid this mistake by focusing specifically on literature that is relevant to your project’s motivation, research questions, hypotheses, methods, and the gaps you’ll address. Avoid providing a literature review of everything that’s been done on the topic of your proposal. This will bore reviewers who are experts in the topic, confuse reviewers who are not, take up too much space, and obscure the line of logic of your project.

Discussing preliminary results that are not directly relevant to the proposed project. While it’s a good idea to establish your expertise, if you discuss details of your prior work that aren’t directly relevant to the project, you can confuse and distract your reviewer. If you feel it’s important to discuss your track record, state explicitly why you’re mentioning it, and don’t call that work “preliminary results.” Instead, you can briefly mention and cite previous work in a few sentences; for example, “The PI has conducted considerable research on A, B, and C [12 – 17]. In this work, she used X methods to understand Y phenomena.”

Burying the research questions, challenges, or hypotheses. If you don’t state explicitly and early in the proposal what you’re trying to find out or what challenges you’re trying to overcome, it can be difficult for the reviewer to understand what the ultimate purpose of the project is. The new knowledge or capabilities to be generated constitute the core organizing principle of most research proposals; if that’s missing or buried, reviewers can lose the logical path.

Discussing the work plan or experimental methods in unnecessary detail. It’s important to describe what you will actually do in enough detail that reviewers feel confident that you have a strong plan and haven’t overlooked any important issues. However, if you include a lot of unnecessary detail, such as detailed procedures for performing standard tests, the manufacturers and model numbers of your relatively standard lab equipment, and long forays into background material, your reviewer will lose the thread of your work plan. If you need to provide additional commentary or background on a particular task (for example, discussing in some depth why a particular step is not as risky as it might appear), it’s better to include a separate, labeled subsection that makes it clear that you are now taking them off the path for a short while, but you’ll return them to the path shortly.

Finally, consider the first section of your proposal (e.g., your Specific Aims page or your Introduction and Overview section) to be the map showing the entire logical route of your proposal. This will help your reviewer to situate him/herself before diving into your proposal. By providing the reviewer with an easy-to-follow logical route they are more likely to make it to the destination to which you’re trying to guide them: the conclusion that the proposed project is important, likely to succeed, and worthy of funding.
What is the Significance of Your Proposed Humanities Project?

Katherine E. Kelly is a retired English professor from Texas A&M University. She is the author of several books and numerous articles supported by research grants and served as a contributing editor for an academic journal for five years. She provides editorial services to ARFS clients on proposals, journal articles, and manuscripts and presents seminars on grant writing and funding in the humanities and humanistic social sciences.

One of the most challenging criteria used to rank the merits of a humanities (or any) proposal is the first one mentioned by most funders: what is its intellectual significance? In other words, why should reviewers favor your proposal for funding over the dozens of additional meritorious proposals before them?

It often seems to those of us in the humanistic disciplines that science and technology projects are given nearly a free pass on this criterion; that is, their work is presumed to have use value. Even in the case of NSF’s funding of “pure” research, theoretical discoveries are presumed eventually to find real-world application in the broad realm of practical problem solving. But how could poetry ever be imagined to contribute to the gross national product? How might a study of Egyptian tomb-making extend human life? Why should it matter that an historian creates a more complete understanding of C18th geographical boundaries in the Americas?

Establishing the significance of a particular humanistic study will vary by field, but we can ask a couple of generic questions of any project to help us explain its promise to a potential funder. (1) What are the specifics (data) of our study (verbal phrases, historical battles, political elections, theatrical performances) and do they differ from those used in prior studies? Is there new, previously unknown or unacknowledged data? Is it more valid data? And (2) How might the application of a theoretical model broaden the implications of our data across disciplinary fields?

In his delightful 2019 book, How to Get Grant Money in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Raphael Folsom writes, “(S)ome (modest) portion of your grant application should focus on the big ideas that guide your thinking about what you study.” If, for example, you find yourself curious about references to painting in Virginia Woolf’s novels, you would soon find yourself reading about Woolf’s membership in the Bloomsbury Circle, which would, in turn, take you to scholarship about the Circle’s aesthetic, social, and political ideas and practices. What kind of question would you formulate to guide your further research? You could study what made the coterie called “Bloomsbury” distinct, describing in historical detail its particular social, aesthetic, and political ideas and practices; or, you could study its similarities to other artistic coteries of the period, including the ideas and practices it shared with similar groups in western Europe and the U.S.

Or, more to the point, you could adopt social history as your theoretical model, combining these two emphases by accounting for the widespread forming of artistic coteries early in the twentieth century west and revealing the uniqueness of Bloomsbury within these groups. What began as a narrow curiosity about references to visual art in Woolf’s novels ends with placing Woolf’s coterie in the context of many coteries during the same historical period. In structuring a project along these lines,
the author avoids the over specificity of historical study and the over generality of sociological methods, as explained by Peter Burke in his 1992 survey of theoretical models, *History and Social Theory*. The wider context invites an exchange of ideas with allied fields and broadens the “significance” of the proposed project.

To the end of strengthening a project’s significance, a theory developed to explain events in one historical period or geographical location may be judiciously adapted to explain them in another. Raphael Folsom describes an author adapting from David Nirenberg’s book about the Medieval world, *Communities of Violence*, the notion that “violence can be a useful tool for communities to employ, particularly in areas where no single . . . group has a monopoly on its use, such as borderlands.” The author applied the concept to his study of violence in C17th-C19th Southwestern U.S. Borderlands.

Compelling statements of significance declare the purpose of the proposed project and explain how it will contribute by adding to, revising, or correcting an existing field of knowledge. Consider this example from an NEH proposal: “My history of Mexicans and Mexican Americans in the U.S. South . . . ‘recovers’ tens of thousands of immigrants . . . lost to the historical record, revealing the origins of the contemporary wave of immigration. It also joins typically discrete subfields of U.S. history—Southern and Mexican American—and conceptualizes a transnational history of racial formation between the United States and Mexico. In so doing, the book shifts the terrain on which these historiographies rest.” New data and a new concept of transnational racial formation give this proposal an intellectual vigor, legitimacy, and excitement needed to set it apart from hundreds of like applications.

*Intellectual significance does not reveal itself to reviewers. It’s created by the carefully written claims an author makes in the first few paragraphs of a proposal.* Expect to rewrite these opening statements many times to achieve the clarity and persuasiveness you will need to set your proposal apart from others.
Writing a Successful White Paper to NEH

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By Mike Cronan, co-publisher
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“How to Write a Successful White Paper: Tips from the ODH

Last updated April 2022

INTRODUCTION

The White Paper is one of two forms of documentation required of awardees from several programs at NEH, including the Digital Humanities Advancement Grant (DHAG) and Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities (IATDH). This resource was written for IATDH and DHAG awardees, but may be useful for others as well.

Interim or Annual Performance Reports and Final Performance Reports are internal documents read by NEH staff. We use these reports to confirm that you are in compliance with the grant program expectations. We also use them to keep track of all the projects we support and to evaluate our grant programs.

White Papers, in contrast, serve as the public record of your project after its completion. They are made available publicly through the NEH Funded Projects Query Form, and sometimes hosted on project websites. White Papers are a resource for future applicants and digital humanities project designers, as well as students, researchers, and a general public interested in learning about digital humanities at the NEH.

White papers are the responsibility of the Project Directors, but anyone involved in the project can serve as a co-author.

These guidelines are designed to help you think about how to write a white paper that documents your project in a way that will continue to serve the field. They are not program requirements. Please also refer to the Performance Reporting Requirements document in the Grants Management section of the NEH website for additional guidance.

AUDIENCE

Depending on your project, the audience of your white paper may include:

- Future grant applicants interested in learning about NEH awards.
- Digital Humanities project managers looking for insight into project design.
- Digital Humanities researchers interested in learning from your project and its outcomes.
- Digital Humanities project teams seeking collaborators on a new project.
- Undergraduate or graduate students learning about the digital humanities.
- Prospective attendees of Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
- University administrators, community members, or other project stakeholders
- Staff at funding agencies like the NEH, NHPRC, and the IMLS

**LENGTH AND STYLE**

Your white paper should be written in a style and tone appropriate to the audiences you have identified. In general, this will mean a simpler and more conversational style than a scholarly article.

We find that short paragraphs, subheadings, and limited jargon is helpful. Sometimes, applicants like to produce stylish reports like this one written by a team at the University of Pittsburgh.

Many applicants organize the outcomes of their projects using bulleted lists, figures, tables, and diagrams. We encourage you to think carefully about how you are using data visualization to communicate outcomes. Annotating or captioning visuals may help.

When referring to other projects or research, make sure to provide attributions through citations, embedded links, or a bibliography. You may use whatever citation style you prefer.

When using links, we recommend that you include the full URL (perhaps in a footnote) as well as embedded links. The conversion to PDF occasionally corrupts link embeddings.

Be sure to think about accessibility when producing your white paper. Here are some resources for learning about accessible design:

- Adobe’s guidelines to accessible PDFs.
- Microsoft’s guidelines to making accessible Word documents
- The Diagram Center’s guidelines for accessible design

White papers are generally 5-15 pages in length, depending on the type of project. For example, a white paper from a Level I convening might be short, while a technically complex Level 3 DHAG could be extensive. IATDH white papers tend to be longer, because they often include the full curriculum, biographies of participants, and results of pre-, concurrent, and post-institute evaluations. The length might also increase if you are including numerous screenshots in an appendix.

Unlike grant applications, there are no requirements for the length of a white paper.

**CONTENT**

What follows is an outline that we recommend you use when organizing your white paper. The guiding questions are designed to help you think about what you want to write. Because ODH projects vary so widely, we expect that most awardees will need to modify this outline to meet the specifics of their project. Not every guiding question will apply to your project.

When writing the white paper, it can help to return to your original application as you reflect on what you proposed and how your project has changed. In fact, you are welcome to include content from your grant application in your white paper, especially if you conducted preliminary research when writing your proposal. This allows you to share the work you did in your initial application with a wider audience.

1. Project Summary
Begin with a brief 1-2 paragraph introduction that summarizes your project’s goals, outcomes, and primary collaborators. Include links to the project or institute website and any other key content available online.

You may wish to include a Table of Contents.

2. Project Origins and Goals
3. Project Activities, Team, & Participants
4. Project Outcomes
5. Project Evaluation and Impact
6. Project Continuation and Long-Term Impact

WHITE PAPER EXAMPLES

The ODH first introduced guidelines for writing white papers in 2020. These examples come from before that time, so they may not follow the guidelines described here.

**DHAG Level 1**

[HAA-266562-19](Shift Design) Redesigning History pin for Open-Source Digital Humanities

[HAA-256175-17](University of Virginia) The Development of Digital Documentary Editing Platforms.

**DHAG Level 2**


[HAA-255990-17](Cleveland State University) Curating East Africa: A Platform and Process for Location-Based Storytelling in the Developing World.

[HAA-255999-17](University of Pennsylvania) The Philadelphia Playbills Project.

**DHAG Level 3 (and the former Digital Humanities Implementation Grants program)**

[HAA-263825-19](Adler Planetarium & Astronomy Museum), Advancing Access to Transcribed Text in Citizen Humanities

[HK-250641-16](Carnegie Mellon University) Six Degrees of Francis Bacon: Reassembling the Early Modern Social Network.

[HK-50181-14](Old Dominion University) Archive What I See Now: Bringing Institutional Web Archiving Tools to the Individual Researcher

**IATDH**

[HT-267268-19](University of Central Florida), Understanding Digital Culture: Humanist Lenses for Internet Research

[HT-231816-15](George Mason University) Doing Digital History 2016: An Institute for Mid-Career American Historians.”
Understand the Fiscal Year Calendar to Sync Your Timing

It’s nearly New Year’s Day, October 1, if you’re going by our fiscal year calendar. Although you may not observe it as a holiday, recognizing how NIH deadlines correspond to the fiscal year can help you understand when and why NIAID undertakes certain actions and processes. Moreover, familiarity with NIH’s review and award cycles can help you determine a research project’s likely start date given the application’s submission date. For the sake of ensuring continuity of research funding, knowing how early you ought to apply is an important skill.

NIH has three Review and Award Cycles, called simply Cycle I, Cycle II, and Cycle III. Each award cycle links a set of investigator-initiated application due dates to an Advisory Council round that follows. For most award types, the quickest possible timeline from application submission to project start date is 8 to 10 months. For example, if you submitted an investigator-initiated, AIDS-related R01 application in time for today’s deadline, September 7, 2022, your application would be part of Cycle II. It would undergo peer review in October or November, proceed to the January meeting of NIAID’s Advisory Council, and your earliest project start date would be April 2023.

Now, suppose you already have an R01 award with a 5-year project period, set to end in July 2024. If you want to renew the grant, what’s the latest you should submit a competing renewal application so that, if successful, you’ll receive a renewed award before the current award expires? The answer is November 25, 2023—applications sent for that Cycle III deadline for R01 renewal applications would undergo peer review in February or March 2024, then proceed to the May 2024 Advisory Council round, and have a start date in July 2024.

Alignment with Fiscal Year: Think of Cycle I as being the first review and award cycle not because the January 25 due date for new R01 applications is near the start of the calendar year, but instead because Cycle I awards are paid at the start of our fiscal year. Cycle II and Cycle III awards are paid within that same fiscal year. The timeline is such that most applications are submitted in the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year in which they receive funding. Consider the illustration below and read Overview of R01 Process and Due Dates for a longer explanation.

Parent Announcements (For NIH Unsolicited or Investigator-Initiated Applications)

Parent announcements are broad funding opportunity announcements allowing applicants to submit investigator-initiated applications for specific activity codes. They are open for up to 3 years and use standard due dates. Not all NIH Institutes and Centers participate on all parent announcements. Before submitting your application, make sure the NIH Institute or Center that might be interested in your research is listed as a participating organization in the announcement. 
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/parent_announcements.htm

Unsolicited, Investigator-Initiated Research

Investigator-initiated means you create an application in any area of science NIH supports. Most of the applications researchers submit—and most of the research NIAID funds—is investigator-initiated.
Program announcements (PAs) are investigator-initiated funding opportunities.

Investigator-Initiated Applications
How does this work? Here’s an example. To apply for an investigator-initiated R01—a standard independent grant—you don’t have to wait for NIH to publish a special funding opportunity in your area of science.

Instead, you use the R01 parent program announcement to submit an application in a topic of your choice. If your application’s topic does fall within the NIAID mission, it will be assigned to us, and we will fund the application if its overall impact score is within the NIAID Paylines.

That example was for R01, but NIH offers Parent Program Announcements for many other activity codes as well. NIH Institutes also offer other program announcements as described below at Find Program Announcements (PA).

**Advantages of Investigator-Initiated Applications**

The big advantage of going this route is that you have leeway to generate your own ideas and center your research within your own interests and expertise. Staying grounded in what you know best is a critical ingredient of success, especially if you are a relatively new investigator with an unknown track record.

You can also control when you apply. Most program announcements (PAs) have multiple receipt dates, so you have more flexibility to apply when it’s best for you. Check the specific PA for submission dates, which often follow NIH Standard Due Dates.

Though you have the most latitude to generate your own ideas, you will have to convince peer reviewers that your topic can make an impact worthy of NIH investment.

Also keep in mind these features of investigator-initiated R01 applications:

- New investigators are given a slightly higher payline than established investigators. RFAs do not have a differential payline based on new investigator status.
- NIAID allows program officers to nominate meritorious applications for selective pay and R56-Bridge awards, which creates additional flexibility for investigator-initiated applications to be funded beyond the payline.

**Get Advice**

Your first step in determining the best fit for your proposed research and the viability of your project idea is to speak with a program officer.

Your program officer can also help you identify other priorities that do not appear on our published lists but are still programmatically important. Read more at Understand NIAID Research Priorities.

**Find Program Announcements (PA)**

Both parent and institute-specific PAs support investigator-initiated research.

A Parent Program Announcement FOA is simply a vehicle for you to submit an investigator-initiated application for a given activity code. For example, you can apply for an R01 in any topic within the NIH mission using the R01 parent FOA.

In contrast, Institute-specific announcements reflect Institute initiatives, each with their own requirements.

- To find NIAID announcements, go to our Opportunities List and follow all instructions in the FOA carefully.
• For other Institutes, go to the Guide’s Funding Opportunities and Notices.

Because applications are investigator-initiated, you typically apply using NIH Standard Due Dates for Competing Applications. Check the due date listed in the FOA to be sure.

Usually, applications are reviewed in the NIH Center for Scientific Review (CSR); some are reviewed by Institute scientific review groups. You can find the review location in the FOA.

Use Our Concepts List for Investigator-Initiated Application Ideas

Here’s a tactic seasoned investigators often use: look at our Concepts: Potential Opportunities closely to see whether your expertise lends itself to any of these emerging priorities, then instead of waiting for a possible initiative, apply with an investigator-initiated application in one of those priority areas.

While not every concept becomes an initiative, concepts highlight NIAID research interests and are good resources for investigator-initiated topics.

You don’t need to wait for NIAID to publish an initiative to apply in a topic covered by a concept—the earliest planning stage of an initiative. Savvy investigators look at concepts closely to see whether their expertise lends itself to any of these emerging priorities.

We do not guarantee that a concept will ever become a published initiative. But whether it does or not makes no difference because concepts give you a sneak preview of research areas in which NIAID would like to receive applications, including for investigator-initiated research.

Glimpse future initiatives. We publish concepts online so you can get a head start.

• You can get started writing an application for a future RFA or PA before we publish it.

• Even if we don't publish an initiative or your application is ready before we do so, you can submit an investigator-initiated application in the area.

Use concepts for ideas. Along those lines, use our concepts simply to get ideas for topics for an investigator-initiated application.

• This powerful strategy lets you both meet our priorities and stay in your area of expertise (assuming the areas align), boosting your chances of succeeding.

• If the application misses the payline, it may have a better chance of getting an R56-Bridge or selective pay award than it would otherwise. Those options are possibilities—not promises—but any edge can be critical to success.

When we post new concepts, you can get the news right away, usually within a month of a Council meeting. To receive notification of new concepts and initiatives, go to Subscribe to Email Alerts and select the appropriate interest category.

Examine Your Likely Review Committee

If you are submitting an investigator-initiated application, you’ll be well served by taking the time to learn about the review committees that are most likely to receive your application.

To find review committees and serving members, look at CSR Integrated Review Groups. Find roster links at the top of the study section pages.

After homing in on a few study sections, speak with that committee’s Scientific Review Officer (SRO) in order to assess whether that committee typically reviews applications in the same general scientific
area as your proposal and would appreciate the significance of your field and project. Not every fit is perfect and SROs frequently bring in ad hoc reviewers to provide additional technical expertise.

Program officers can also serve as a resource on whether your proposed study section choice is a good fit.

You should never contact a reviewer directly. Instead, learn more about the committee members by visiting their websites or using the NIH database searches described at See Funded Projects Using RePORTER.

Though you can't know for certain whom your reviewers will be, learning about review committees, speaking with the SRO, and researching committee members can help you request the study section that's right for you. For more on requesting assignment, go to Use the PHS Assignment Request Form.
The Pathway to STEM Convergence Education

The five-year Federal STEM Strategic Plan recommended that STEM education should move through a pathway where disciplines “converge” and that STEM teaching and learning move from disciplinary to transdisciplinary. Members of the Federal Coordination in STEM Education (FC-STEM) Convergence Interagency Working Group, led a session titled “Convergence Education: A Framework to Help K-12 STEAM Educators Teach about Real-World Transdisciplinary Problems and Phenomena” during the Smithsonian National Education Summit. During the session, expert teachers presented their examples of “convergence education.” Driven by complex real-world transdisciplinary problems and phenomena, learners apply knowledge and skills in a blended approach integrated across multiple disciplines to create and innovate new solutions. This Smithsonian blog also describes Convergence Education. Feel free to share these resources with your colleagues.

Opportunities for Peer Reviewers at the U.S. Department of Education

Requests to serve as a peer reviewer will be accepted on an ongoing basis aligned with this year’s grant competition schedule. The Department’s peer review began in January 2020 and will continue through the end of the calendar year. A list of grant programs with expected competitions during this timeframe is posted on the Department’s website under “Forecast of Funding Opportunities” at https://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html. Although the list in this link is inclusive of all Department grant competitions for which peer reviewers are needed, this notice highlights the specific needs of the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE—Chart 2), the Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE—Chart 3), and the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS—Charts 4 and 4b). The Department will accept submissions throughout the year on a rolling basis. Requests to serve as a peer reviewer should be submitted four weeks prior to the program’s application deadline noted on the forecast page.

Requests to serve as a peer reviewer should be submitted four weeks prior to the program’s application deadline, noted on the forecast page, to provide program offices with sufficient time to review resumes and determine an individual’s suitability to serve as a peer reviewer for a specific competition. If you are selected to serve as a peer reviewer, the program office will contact you. A toolkit that includes helpful information on how to be considered as a peer reviewer for programs administered by the Department can be found at https://www2.ed.gov/documents/peer-review/peer-reviewer-toolkit.pptx.

How to Be Considered as a Peer Reviewer [PowerPoint, 936KB]

Getting Started with DOE Discretionary Grant Applications

The Department of Education administers grant funding programs that fulfill the Department’s mission to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness, to foster educational excellence, and to ensure equal access. Discretionary grant funds are awarded through a COMPETITIVE PROCESS based on program eligibility to: State Educational Agencies, Local Educational Agencies (e.g., school districts, including public charter schools that operate as a local educational agency), Tribes and Tribal organizations, Institutions of Higher Education (including Tribal
colleges and universities), Non-profit organizations, Other entities (e.g., community-based organizations, public agencies, etc.).

**HOW TO APPLY**

1. Watch the Department's [training webinar](#) for an introduction to the discretionary grant application process.

2. Register your organization with the [System for Award Management](#) (SAM.gov) and obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). The SAM registration process usually takes approximately 7 to 10 business days, but can take longer, depending on the completeness and accuracy of the data provided. SAM.gov will issue a UEI when you complete the registration process. You must continue to maintain an active SAM registration while the Department reviews your application and if you receive a grant award.

3. Register for an account on [Grants.gov](#), a clearinghouse for grant seekers to find and apply for federal funding opportunities. To complete your registration, you must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) from SAM.gov, a [Taxpayer Identification Number](#) (TIN) from the Internal Revenue Service and designate an [E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC)](#) and [Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)](#).

4. [Search for Grant Opportunities](#), including signing up for alerts announcing new competitions.

5. Read the [Notice Inviting Applications (NIA)](#), which provides information about a grant competition's program purpose, application requirements and deadlines, competition priorities, and selection criteria. Review the [Applicants Resources](#) section provided on this webpage and on the competition's [Program Office website](#).

6. Submit your application package electronically using [Grants.gov](#). Applicants generally have between 30 to 60 days to apply. A competition’s closing date can be found on the NIA.

**SEARCH FOR GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Department’s grant competitions open roughly between November and April. The number of discretionary grant opportunities depends on available funding from Congress, program competition cycles, and other program-specific factors. Grant competitions are not guaranteed to run annually.

- [Explore the Department’s open grant competitions](#)
- [Check the Department’s Grants Forecast Tool](#) for upcoming grant opportunities
- [Find and apply for grant competitions across the federal government on Grants.gov](#)
- Sign-up for notifications of new [Notices Inviting Applications](#) (NIAs) published in the Federal Register.

**APPLICANT RESOURCES**
• **Understanding NIAs:** Review a [glossary of key terms](#) found in a Notice Inviting Applications (NIA), including information on competition priorities, evidence, performance measures, and selection criteria.

• **Grantmaking at ED:** Read a [non-technical summary of ED’s discretionary grant lifecycle](#) with detailed answers to frequently asked questions.

• **Check Program Office Websites:** Some program offices host pre-application webinars and post competition resources on their program webpages. Please note: Program offices do not provide substantive guidance on an individual application that would give an unfair advantage over other applicants in the competition.

• **Previous Successful Proposals:** Examples of successful abstracts, applications, and technical review forms can be found on some program webpages, such as the Education Innovation Research program page and the Perkins Collaborative Resource Network program page. Note: application requirements and competition priorities may change annually. Refer to the most recent Notice Inviting Application (NIA) for current competition information.

• **Grants.gov Support:** Refer to the Grants.gov [How to Apply for Grants](#) webpage for technical support with submitting an application.

• **General Questions:** Direct inquiries to the Program Contact Person listed under the "For Further Information Contact" section of the grant competition’s Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) or the program contact listed on the program webpage.
NIH launches Bridge2AI program to expand the use of artificial intelligence in biomedical and behavioral research

The National Institutes of Health will invest $130 million over four years, pending the availability of funds, to accelerate the widespread use of artificial intelligence (AI) by the biomedical and behavioral research communities. The NIH Common Fund’s Bridge to Artificial Intelligence (Bridge2AI) program is assembling team members from diverse disciplines and backgrounds to generate tools, resources, and richly detailed data that are responsive to AI approaches. At the same time, the program will ensure its tools and data do not perpetuate inequities or ethical problems that may occur during data collection and analysis. Through extensive collaboration across projects, Bridge2AI researchers will create guidance and standards for the development of ethically sourced, state-of-the-art, AI-ready data sets that have the potential to help solve some of the most pressing challenges in human health—such as uncovering how genetic, behavioral, and environmental factors influence a person’s physical condition throughout their life.

DOE today (9/23/2022) is announcing three funding opportunity announcements (FOAs):

- **Carbon Storage Validation and Testing** - This FOA supports the Carbon Storage Assurance Facility Enterprise (CarbonSAFE) Initiative, managed by DOE’s Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM), and provides up to $2.25 billion to support the development of new and expanded large-scale, commercial carbon storage projects with capacities to store 50 or more million metric tons of CO2, along with associated CO2 transport infrastructure. Projects will focus on detailed site characterization, permitting, and construction stages of project development under CarbonSAFE. Read the full FOA here.

- **Carbon Capture Demonstration Projects Program** - DOE’s Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED), in partnership with FECM, will manage the Carbon Capture Demonstration Projects Program. The program provides up to $2.54 billion to develop six integrated carbon capture, transport, and storage demonstration projects that can be readily replicated and deployed at fossil energy power plants and major industrial sources of CO2, such as cement, pulp and paper, iron and steel, and certain types of chemical production facilities. The FOA released today provides up to $189 million for up to 20 integrated front-end engineering design studies, with a second FOA expected later in 2022 to support detailed design, construction, and operation of carbon capture projects, as well as transport and storage of the captured CO2. Read the full FOA here.

- **Carbon Dioxide Transport Engineering and Design** - FECM will manage the Carbon Dioxide Transport, Front-End Engineering and Design FOA which provides up to $100 million to design regional CO2 pipeline networks to safely transport captured CO2 from key sources to centralized locations. Projects will focus on carbon transport costs, transport network configurations, and technical and commercial considerations that support broad efforts to develop and deploy carbon capture, conversion, and storage at commercial scale. Read the full FOA here.
Since January 2021, DOE has invested more than $242 million in 55 research and development projects and front-end engineering design studies to advance carbon management approaches that include CO2 capture, transport, and storage. Visit the OCED and FECM websites for more information on how DOE is working to accelerate market adoption and deployment of carbon management technologies to support an equitable transition to a decarbonized energy system.
**Cryptography and the Intelligence Community**

Encryption is a process for making information unreadable by an adversary who does not possess a specific key that is required to make the encrypted information readable. The inverse process, making information that has been encrypted readable, is referred to as decryption. Cryptography has become widespread and is used by private as well as governmental actors. It also enables authentication and underlies the safe use of the Internet and computer systems by individuals and organizations worldwide. Emerging cryptographic technologies offer capabilities such as the ability to process encrypted information without first decrypting it. At the request of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, this report identifies potential scenarios that would describe the balance between encryption and decryption over the next 10 to 20 years and assesses the national security and intelligence implications of each scenario. For each of these scenarios, Cryptography and the Intelligence Community identifies risks, opportunities, and actions. Attention to the findings should enable the Intelligence Community to prepare for the future and to recognize emerging trends and developments and respond appropriately.

**Automated Research Workflows for Accelerated Discovery: Closing the Knowledge Discovery Loop**

The needs and demands placed on science to address a range of urgent problems are growing. The world is faced with complex, interrelated challenges in which the way forward lies hidden or dispersed across disciplines and organizations. For centuries, scientific research has progressed through iteration of a workflow built on experimentation or observation and analysis of the resulting data. While computers and automation technologies have played a central role in research workflows for decades to acquire, process, and analyze data, these same computing and automation technologies can now also control the acquisition of data, for example, through the design of new experiments or decision making about new observations. The term automated research workflow (ARW) describes scientific research processes that are emerging across a variety of disciplines and fields. ARWs integrate computation, laboratory automation, and tools from artificial intelligence in the performance of tasks that make up the research process, such as designing experiments, observations, and simulations; collecting and analyzing data; and learning from the results to inform further experiments, observations, and simulations. The common goal of researchers implementing ARWs is to accelerate scientific knowledge generation, potentially by orders of magnitude, while achieving greater control and reproducibility in the scientific process. Automated Research Workflows for Accelerated Discovery: Closing the Knowledge Discovery Loop examines current efforts to develop advanced and automated workflows to accelerate research progress, including wider use of artificial intelligence. This report identifies research needs and priorities in the use of advanced and automated workflows for scientific research. Automated Research Workflows for Accelerated Discovery is intended to create awareness, momentum, and synergies to realize the potential of ARWs in scholarly discovery.
The Chemistry of Fires at the Wildland-Urban Interface

Wildfires in America are becoming larger, more frequent, and more destructive, driven by climate change and existing land management practices. Many of these fires occur at the wildland-urban interface (WUI), areas where development and wildland areas overlap and which are increasingly at risk of devastating fires as communities continue to expand into previously undeveloped areas. Unlike conventional wildfires, WUI fires are driven in part by burning of homes, cars, and other human-made structures, and in part by burning vegetation. The interaction of these two types of fires can lead to public health effects that are unique to WUI fires. This report evaluates existing and needed chemistry information that decision-makers can use to mitigate WUI fires and their potential health impacts. It describes key fuels of concern in WUI fires, especially household components like siding, insulation, and plastic, examines key pathways for exposure, including inhalation and ingestion, and identifies communities vulnerable to exposures. The report recommends a research agenda to inform response to and prevention of WUI fires, outlining needs in characterizing fuels, and predicting emissions and toxicants.
New Funding Opportunities

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User Note: URL links are active on date of publication, but if a URL link breaks or changes a Google search on the key words will typically take you to a working link. Also, entering a grant title and/or solicitation number in the Grants.gov search box will work as well.

New Funding Solicitations Posted Since September 15 Newsletter

Cooling Operations for Leaps in Energy, Reliability and Carbon Hyperefficiency
Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number DE-FOA-0002852: Cooling Operations Optimized for Leaps in Energy, Reliability and Carbon Hyperefficiency for Information Processing Systems (COOLERCHIPS) (SBIR/STTR) To obtain a copy of the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) please go to the ARPA-E website at https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov. To apply to this FOA, Applicants must register with and submit application materials through ARPA-E eXCHANGE (https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov/Registration.aspx). For detailed guidance on using ARPA-E eXCHANGE, please refer to the ARPA-E eXCHANGE User Guide (https://arpa-e-foa.energy.gov/Manuals.aspx). ARPA-E will not review or consider concept papers submitted through other means. For problems with ARPA-E eXCHANGE, email ExchangeHelp@hq.doe.gov (with FOA name and number in the subject line). Questions about this FOA? Check the Frequently Asked Questions available at http://arpa-e.energy.gov/faq. For questions that have not already been answered, email ARPA-E-CO@hq.doe.gov. AGENCY OVERVIEW The Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy (ARPA-E), an organization within the Department of Energy (DOE), is chartered by Congress in the America COMPETES Act of 2007 (P.L. 110-69), as amended by the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-358), as further amended by the Energy Act of 2020 (P.L. 116-260): “(A) to enhance the economic and energy security of the United States through the development of energy technologies that— (i) reduce imports of energy from foreign sources; (ii) reduce energy-related emissions, including greenhouse gases; (iii) improve the energy efficiency of all economic sectors; (iv) provide transformative solutions to improve the management, clean-up, and disposal of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel; and (v) improve the resilience, reliability, and security of infrastructure to produce, deliver, and store energy; and (B) to ensure that the United States maintains a technological lead in developing and deploying advanced energy technologies.” Due October 26.

FY22 Toxic Exposures Research Program (TERP)
Applications to the Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Toxic Exposures Research Program (TERP) are being solicited by the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) using delegated authority provided by United States Code, Title 10, Section 4001 (10 USC 4001). The
execution management agent for this program announcement is the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) at the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC). The TERP was initiated in 2022 to improve the scientific understanding of pathobiology from toxic exposures, more efficiently assess comorbidities, and speed the development of treatments, cures, and preventions. The FY22 appropriation is $30 million (M).

In June 2022, the TERP held a stakeholders meeting to engage consumers impacted by toxic exposures, advocates, other federal funders, and academic, clinical, and military subject matter experts across various fields of toxic exposures in an open dialogue forum to identify critical issues and underfunded areas in toxic exposure research and patient care. Outcomes from this meeting were considered by the TERP Programmatic Panel in developing the FY22 program. The FY22 TERP Stakeholders Booklet and Meeting Summary, including presentation materials can be found at https://cdmrp.health.mil/terp/. Pre-Application Submission Deadline: November 3, 2022.

**Enhanced Aquifer Recharge Performance and Potential Risk in Different Regional and Hydrogeologic Settings Request For Applications (RFA)**

One of the high-priority research areas identified by the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Research and Development (ORD) and the National Water Reuse Action Plan (WRAP) is to establish best practices for enhanced aquifer recharge including the use of impaired sources of water. Under the 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act, the responsibility for ensuring public water systems provide safe drinking water is divided among EPA, states, tribal nations, water systems and the public (U.S. EPA 2022). The WRAP was developed in collaboration with federal, state, tribal, local, and water sector partners to build technical, financial, and institutional capacity for communities to drive progress on water reuse practices. This research is relevant to WRAP action 7.4 on increasing the understanding of current aquifer storage and recovery practices. Due November 9.

**BIL - Rare Earth Element Demonstration Facility**

The Department of Energy Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, in collaboration with the Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains, is issuing this Funding Opportunity Announcement. Awards made under this Announcement will be funded, in whole or in part, with funds appropriated by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also more commonly known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will invest appropriations of $156 million for the design, construction, and operation of a Rare Earth Element Demonstration Facility that demonstrates the extraction, separation and refining from unconventional feedstock materials to high purity individual or binary rare earth metals and/or critical minerals and materials. Due Nov. 21.

**Carbon Capture Technology Program**

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) will fund Front-End Engineering and Design (FEED) studies that support and accelerate the planning for CO2 transport by a variety of modes. Due to the immediate need for CO2 transport servicing multiple points of capture and one or more points of storage, the first round of solicited applications will prioritize CO2 pipeline projects with two or more carbon capture sources connected to one or more secure geologic storage locations and/or to one or more CO2 conversion locations. The CO2 must be derived only from anthropogenic sources which
could include CO2 derived by direct capture from ambient air and must be delivered to CO2 conversion sites or secure geologic storage facilities. **Due November 28.**

**Small Surface Water and Groundwater Storage Projects**

The U.S. Department of the Interior (Department), through the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) administers the Small Surface and Groundwater Storage Program (Small Storage Program) to promote Federal assistance to enhance water storage opportunities for future generations in support of the Department’s priorities. Reclamation leverages Federal and non-Federal funding to support stakeholder efforts to stretch scarce water supplies and avoid conflicts over water. Congress enacted the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), Public Law 117-58 on November 15, 2021. Title IX – Western Water Infrastructure was enacted to address water storage infrastructure that is critical to the Nation’s economic growth, health, and competitiveness. Section 40903 authorizes Reclamation to provide funding for small surface water storage and groundwater storage projects. Surface water and groundwater storage are essential tools in stretching the limited water supplies in the Western United States. Water storage projects enhance and make more reliable municipal and irrigation water supplies as well as provide opportunities to enhance groundwater management abilities and to provide water quality improvements and ecosystem benefits. These projects will provide Western communities with new sources of water and increase water management flexibility, making water supply more reliable. Water storage projects help water managers increase resilience to climate change and are directly aligned with Executive Order 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, see [www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/27/executiveorder-on-tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/27/executiveorder-on-tackling-the-climate-crisis-at-home-and-abroad). Water storage projects are an important part of Reclamation and the Department of the Interior’s priorities. The objective of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to invite sponsors of small surface water and groundwater storage projects (Projects) to request cost-shared funding for the planning, design, and/or construction of those Projects. **Due December 9.**

**EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track-2 Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (RII Track-2 FEC)**

RII Track-2 FEC builds interjurisdictional collaborative teams of EPSCoR investigators in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) focus areas consistent with the National Science Foundation 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. Projects are investigator-driven and must include researchers from at least two EPSCoR eligible jurisdictions with complementary expertise and resources necessary to address challenges, which neither party could address as well or rapidly independently. RII Track-2 FEC projects have a comprehensive and integrated vision to drive discovery and build sustainable STEM capacity that exemplifies individual, institutional, geographic, and disciplinary diversity. Additionally, the projects’ STEM research and education activities seek to broaden participation through the strategic inclusion and integration of diverse individuals, institutions, and sectors. In addition, NSF EPSCoR recognizes that the development of early-career faculty from backgrounds that are traditionally underrepresented in STEM fields is critical to sustaining and advancing research capacity. The integration and inclusion of Minority-serving Institutions (MSIs), women’s colleges, Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs), and two-year colleges is a critical component of this sustainable STEM capacity. For FY 2023/2024, the topical focus area of RII Track-2 FEC is: **“advancing climate change research and resilience capacity to expand opportunities for disproportionately affected communities.”** Required LOI December 10.
NIAID Investigator Initiated Program Project Applications

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites submission of investigator-initiated Program Project (P01) applications. The proposed programs should address scientific areas relevant to the NIAID mission including: biology and pathogenesis of infectious microbes, including HIV; host-microbe interactions; mechanisms regulating immune system development and function across the lifespan, and in response to infectious pathogens; immune dysfunction resulting in allergy, asthma, autoimmunity, immunodeficiency, or transplant rejection; and translational research to develop vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics to prevent and treat infectious and immune-mediated diseases. Each P01 application submitted to this FOA must include at least two related, synergistic research projects that share a common central theme, focus, and/or overall objective; and an administrative core. A P01 may include scientific cores, if needed for the proposed research. Due December 11.

Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI)

The Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation (CSSI) program seeks to enable funding opportunities that are flexible and responsive to the evolving and emerging needs in cyberinfrastructure (CI). The program continues to emphasize integrated CI services, quantitative metrics with targets for delivery and usage of these services, and community creation. The CSSI program anticipates three classes of awards: Elements: These awards target small groups that will create and deploy robust services for which there is a demonstrated need, and that will advance one or more significant areas of science and engineering; Framework Implementations: These awards target larger, interdisciplinary teams organized around the development and application of services aimed at solving common research problems faced by NSF researchers in one or more areas of science and engineering, and resulting in a sustainable community framework providing CI services to a diverse community or communities; Transition to Sustainability: These awards target groups who would like to execute a well-defined sustainability plan for existing CI with demonstrated impact in one or more areas of science and engineering supported by NSF. The sustainability plan should enable new avenues of support for the long-term sustained impact of the CI. This solicitation continues the CSSI program’s emphasis on integrated cyberinfrastructure services while also recognizing the importance of adaptation to the evolving research community needs as well as the continuing evolution of the computing landscape. Revisions are noted below:

- The CI Professional Mentoring and/or Professional Development Plan section has been revised to further clarify the definition of a CI Professional and the activities that fall under this category. Also, the page limitation for the plan has been increased to 2 pages.
- The Program Synopsis and the Program Description sections have been updated to include clarifications about extensions of existing CSSI Elements and Frameworks projects.
- The Proposal Preparation and Submission Instructions section has been revised to clarify the expected content of the prior support section when the team has received past CSSI funding.
- The Programmatic Areas of Interest section has been revised to reflect the most recent programmatic priority areas for the collaborating NSF directorates and divisions with respect to the CSSI solicitation. PIs are strongly encouraged to contact program officer(s) from the list of Cognizant Program Officers in the division(s) that typically support the scientists and engineers who would make use of the proposed cyberinfrastructure, to gain insight into the priorities for the relevant areas of science and engineering to which their proposals may be responsive.
• The criteria for proposals to be returned without review have been clarified. Due December 16.

Enhancing Rigor, Reproducibility, and Translatability of Animal Models in Biomedical Research (R01)

The Office of Research Infrastructure Programs (ORIP) encourages grant applications aimed at developing and implementing broadly applicable technologies, tools, and resources for validating animal models and enhancing rigor, reproducibility, and translatability of animal research. Proposed studies, models, resources, or technologies under this FOA must either address research interests of multiple NIH ICs, explore multiple body or organ systems, or be applicable to diseases and processes that impact multiple body or organ systems in order to align with ORIP's NIH-wide mission and programs. Applications should aim to enhance the rigor, reproducibility, and translatability of animal research through the development and implementation of technologies, tools, and resources that have significant impact across a broad range of research areas using animal models. Applications must demonstrate how the proposed resources and technologies impact rigor and reproducibility of animal studies. Applications for developing a limited number of resources are not suitable for this funding opportunity announcement (FOA). Due January 6.

Solicitations Remaining Open from Last Newsletter

Minerva Research Initiative's (Minerva) Defense Education and Civilian University Research (DECUR) Partnership

Closing Date for Applications: November 22, 2022

The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) is interested in receiving applications for Minerva's DECUR Partnership. The DECUR Partnership aims to develop collaborative basic research partnerships between PME Institutions and Civilian Research Universities by supporting fundamental scientific research that improves the capacity of security-related basic social science research and education. Building upon the success of Minerva's university research awards, the DECUR Partnership aims to pair civilian university researchers with PME faculty to facilitate collaborative research in the fundamental understanding of the social and cultural forces shaping U.S. strategic interests globally. OSD is particularly interested in projects that align with and support the upcoming 2022 National Defense Strategy. Minerva emphasizes questions of strategic importance to U.S. national security policy, and the DECUR partnership aims to increase the Department's intellectual capital in the social sciences and improve its ability to address future challenges and build bridges between the Department and the social science community. Minerva brings together universities and other research institutions around the world and supports multidisciplinary and cross-institutional projects addressing specific interest areas determined by the Department of Defense. The Minerva program aims to promote research in specific areas of social science and to promote a candid and constructive relationship between DoD and the social science academic community.

The Minerva Research Initiative competition is for research related to nine (9) topics listed below. Innovative white papers and applications related to these research areas are highly encouraged.
Detailed descriptions of the interest areas—which are intended to provide a frame of reference and are not meant to be restrictive—can be found in Section XI.C of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO) document, “Specific Minerva Research Initiative Topics.”

**Topic 1: Social Implications of Environmental Change**

**Topic 2: Resource Competition, Social Cohesion, and Strategic Climate Resilience**

**Topic 3: Security Risks in Ungoverned, Semi-Governed, and Differently-Governed Spaces**

**Topic 4: Analysis of Foreign Influence Operations in Cross-Cultural Perspective**

**Topic 5: Community Studies on Online and Offline Influence**

**Topic 6: Computational Social Science Research on Difficult-to-Access Environments**

**Topic 7: Social and Cultural Implications of Artificial Intelligence**

**Topic 8: Humans and Outer Space**

**Topic 9: Management and Information in the Defense Environment**

**Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational and Applied Science Program**

The AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program supports grants in six AFRI priority areas to advance knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. The six priority areas are: Plant Health and Production and Plant Products; Animal Health and Production and Animal Products; Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health; Bioenergy, Natural Resources, and Environment; Agriculture Systems and Technology; and Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities. Research-only, extension-only, and integrated research, education and/or extension projects are solicited in this Request for Applications (RFA). See Foundational and Applied Science RFA for specific detail. Due Dec. 22.

**Formal Methods in the Field (FMitF)**

The Formal Methods in the Field (FMitF) program aims to bring together researchers in formal methods with researchers in other areas of computer and information science and engineering to jointly develop rigorous and reproducible methodologies for designing and implementing correct-by-construction systems and applications with provable guarantees. FMitF encourages close collaboration between two groups of researchers. The first group consists of researchers in the area of formal methods, which, for the purposes of this solicitation, is broadly defined as principled approaches based on mathematics and logic to system modeling, specification, design, analysis, verification, and synthesis. The second group consists of researchers in the “field,” which, for the purposes of this solicitation, is defined as any area within computer and information science and engineering that currently does not benefit from having established communities already developing and applying formal methods in their research. All proposals must make a strong case for why formal methods is appropriate for the field area, and why it is one that does not currently benefit from formal methods. Due February 15.
**FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2022-0007 FY22 DEFENSE ESTABLISHED PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH (DEPSCoR) – CAPACITY BUILDING (CB) Department of Defense Air Force Office of Scientific Research**

The Department of Defense (DoD) announces the fiscal year 2022 (FY22) Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) – Capacity Building. The program is sponsored and managed by the Basic Research Office, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD [R&E]), awarded by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR), and administered through the Office of Naval Research (ONR). The DoD plans to award FY22 DEPSCoR appropriations through this announcement.

DEPSCoR’s objectives are to:

1. Increase the number of university researchers in eligible States/Territories capable of performing science and engineering (S&E) research responsive to the needs of the DoD; and

2. Enhance the capabilities of institutions of higher education (IHE) in eligible States/Territories (listed below) to develop, plan, and execute S&E research that is relevant to the mission of the DoD, and competitive under the peer-review systems used for awarding Federal research assistance;

3. Increase the probability of long-term growth in the competitively awarded financial assistance that IHE in eligible States/Territories receive from the Federal Government for S&E research.

Consistent with these long-term objectives of building research infrastructure, the DoD intends to competitively make, and fund from fiscal year 2022 appropriations, multiyear awards for capacity building in IHEs with research areas relevant to the DoD’s mission and which are important to national security. The Basic Research Office anticipates up to $4 million in total funding will be made available for this program to fully fund and award between one to four grants up to $1 million (total cost) each. Each grant award will be funded up to $500,000 (total cost) per year for two (2) years. The award is subject to funding availability. The Basic Research Office reserves the right to select and fund for award all, some, part, or none of the proposals received. There is no guarantee of an award. **Closing Date for Applications: Feb 21, 2023**

**Global Emergency Response and Recovery Partner Engagement: Expanding Efforts and Strategies to Improve Rapid Response to Public Health Emergencies Globally**

This NOFO supports the implementation of programs and activities targeted at increasing the capacity of public health emergency partners to rapidly respond to support populations affected by humanitarian emergencies and conflict settings. Its purpose is to improve the ability to detect and respond to threats early and develop long-term, sustainable programs to rebuild resilience during and after an emergency. This NOFO will establish an Approved-But-Unfunded (ABU) list of recipients, providing a portfolio of partners that can work anywhere in the world. CDC will fund partners to respond to emergencies that require federal support to effectively respond to, manage, and address identified public health threats. **Due March 4.**
Notice of Intent to Issue Funding Opportunity Announcement No. DE-FOA-0002779 - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Additional Clean Hydrogen Programs (Section 40314): Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs Department of Energy Golden Field Office Closing Date for Applications

Close March 10, 2023; Estimated Total Program Funding: $8,000,000,000

The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED) intends to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled “Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs” (H2Hubs) in collaboration with the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy’s (EERE) Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office (HFTO) and the DOE Hydrogen Program, which includes multiple offices engaged in hydrogen related technologies across DOE. OCED anticipates issuing the FOA in the September/October 2022 timeframe, and the FOA will be funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The specific provisions for regional clean hydrogen hubs are set forth in Section 40314 of the BIL, which amends Title VIII EPAct 2005 by adding a new “Section 813 - Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs.” Section 813(a) defines the term “regional clean hydrogen hub” as “a network of clean hydrogen producers, potential clean hydrogen consumers, and connective infrastructure located in close proximity.” Investment in building out the hydrogen (H2) economy is a significant portion of the BIL funding at DOE. The BIL authorizes and appropriates $8.0 billion over the five-year period encompassing fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to support the development of at least four H2Hubs that: 1) Demonstably aid achievement of the clean hydrogen production standard developed under section 822(a) of Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAct 2005); 2) Demonstrate the production, processing, delivery, storage, and end use of clean hydrogen; and 3) Can be developed into a national clean hydrogen network to facilitate a clean hydrogen economy. The FOA will incorporate a range of equity considerations including energy and environmental justice, labor and community engagement, consent-based siting, quality jobs, and inclusive workforce development to support the Biden Administration’s decarbonization goals of a 50-52% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from 2005 levels by 2030, a carbon-pollution-free power sector by 2035, and a net-zero GHG emissions economy by 2050. The H2Hubs will be a key part of the National Clean Hydrogen Strategy and Roadmap, also required in the BIL, and will be instrumental in meeting national decarbonization goals, including the development and deployment of clean hydrogen technologies. Close March 10, 2023.

Strengthening Global Capacity for Molecular Surveillance and Outbreak Response for Foodborne, Waterborne, and Fungal Diseases

The purpose of this NOFO is to strengthen global capacity for molecular surveillance and outbreak response for foodborne, waterborne, and fungal diseases. The Surveillance and Outbreak Response strategy will include the following activities: 1) Waterborne Disease Surveillance Strengthening and Outbreak Response; 2) Genomic surveillance, data systems and outbreak response for fungal diseases; 3) Enteric disease surveillance strengthening, including case confirmation. The Capacity Building strategy will include the following activities: 1) Country-level Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) programs capacity building; 2) Wastewater and Environmental Surveillance capacity building; 3) Regional capacity building for Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS), bioinformatics, lab diagnosis and outbreak preparedness; 4) Country-level WGS and lab diagnosis capacity building and 5) Epidemiology and Laboratory Workforce development for foodborne, waterborne, and fungal diseases. Locations of activities will vary, based on CDC priority, but will include multiple regional and country-level locations. Due April 2.
Open Solicitations and BAAs

[BAA’s remain open for one or more years. During the open period, agency research priorities may change or other modifications are made to a published BAA. If you are submitting a proposal in response to an open solicitation, as below, check for modifications to the BAA at Grants.gov or by utilizing Modified Opportunities by Agency to receive a Grants.gov notification of recently modified opportunities by agency name.]

**Broad Agency Announcement for the Army Rapid Capabilities Office**

This Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), W56JSR-18-S-0001, is sponsored by the Army Rapid Capabilities Office (RCO). The RCO serves to expedite critical capabilities to the field to meet Combatant Commanders’ needs. The Office enables the Army to experiment, evolve, and deliver technologies in real time to address both urgent and emerging threats while supporting acquisition reform efforts. The RCO executes rapid prototyping and initial equipping of capabilities, particularly in the areas of cyber, electronic warfare, survivability and positioning, navigation and timing (PNT), as well as other priority projects that will enable Soldiers to operate and win in contested environments decisively. This BAA is an expression of interest only and does not commit the Government to make an award or pay proposal preparation costs generated in response to this announcement. Questions concerning the receipt of your submission should be directed: [http://rapidcapabilitiesoffice.army.mil/eto/](http://rapidcapabilitiesoffice.army.mil/eto/)

Technical questions will be sent to the appropriate Technical Points of Contact (TPOC), topic authors, and/or Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to request clarification of their areas of interest. No discussions are to be held with offerors by the technical staff after proposal submission without permission of the Army Contracting Command-Aberdeen Proving Ground (ACC-APG) Contracting Officer. **Open to March 23, 2023.**

**W911NF-18-S-0005 U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences Broad Agency Announcement for Basic, Applied, and Advanced Research (Fiscal Years 2018-2023)**

The U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences (ARI) announces the ARI FY18-23 Broad Agency Announcement for Basic, Applied, and Advanced Scientific Research. This Broad Agency Announcement, which sets forth research areas of interest to the United States Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences, is issued under the provisions of paragraph 6.102(d)(2) of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), which provides for the competitive selection of proposals. Proposals submitted in response to this BAA and selected for award are considered to be the result of full and open competition and in full compliance with the provisions of Public Law 98-369 (The Competition in Contracting Act of 1984) and subsequent amendments. The U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences is the Army’s lead agency for the conduct of research, development, and analyses for the improvement of Army readiness and performance via research advances and applications of the behavioral and social sciences that address personnel, organization, training, and leader development issues. Programs funded under this BAA include basic research, applied research, and advanced technology development that can improve human performance and Army readiness.
Those contemplating submissions of a proposal are encouraged to contact the ARI Technical Point of Contact (TPOC) for the respective topic area cited in the BAA. If the R&D warrants further inquiry and funding is available, submission of a proposal will be entertained. The recommended three-step sequence is (1) telephone call to the ARI TPOC or responsible ARI Manager, (2) white paper submission, (3) full proposal submission. Awards may be made in the form of contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements. Proposals are sought from educational institutions, non-profit/not-for-profit organizations, and commercial organizations, domestic or foreign, for research and development (R&D) in those areas specified in the BAA. The U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences encourages Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Serving Institutions (HBCU/MSI) and small businesses to submit proposals for consideration. Foreign owned, controlled, or influenced organizations are advised that security restrictions may apply that could preclude their participation in these efforts. Government laboratories, Federal Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), and US Service Academies are not eligible to participate as prime contractors or recipients. However, they may be able to participate as subcontractors or Subrecipients (eligibility will be determined on a case-by-case basis). **Open to April 29, 2023.**

**FA8650-17-S-6001 Science and Technology for Autonomous Teammates (STAT)**

The objective of Science and Technology for Autonomous Teammates (STAT) program is to develop and demonstrate autonomy technologies that will enable various AF mission sets. This research will be part of Experimentation Campaigns in: 1-Multi-domain Command and Control; 2-Intelligence, Surveillance, Recognizance (ISR) Processing Exploitation and Dissemination (PED); and 3- Manned-Unmanned combat Teaming to demonstrate autonomy capabilities to develop and demonstrate autonomy technologies that will improve Air Force operations through human-machine teaming and autonomous decision-making. The technology demonstrations that result from this BAA will substantially improve the Air Force’s capability to conduct missions in a variety of environments while minimizing the risks to Airmen. The overall impact of integration of autonomous systems into the mission space will enable the Air Force to operate inside of the enemy’s decision loop.

STAT will develop and apply autonomy technologies to enhance the full mission cycle, including mission planning, mission execution, and post-mission analysis. Particular areas of interest include multi-domain command and control, manned-unmanned teaming, and information analytics. The technology demonstrations that result from this BAA will substantially improve the Air Force’s capability to conduct missions in a variety of environments while minimizing the risks to Airmen. The overall impact of integration of autonomous systems into the mission space will enable the Air Force to operate inside of the enemy’s decision loop. This effort plans to demonstrate modular, transferable, open system architectures, and deliver autonomy technologies applicable to a spectrum of multi-domain applications. Development efforts will mature a set of technologies that enable airmen to plan, command, control, and execute missions with manageable workloads. The software algorithms and supporting architectures shall:

- Ingest and understand mission taskings and commander’s intent
- Respond appropriately to human direction and orders
- Respond intelligently to dynamic threats and unplanned events

Chosen technologies will be open, reusable, adaptable, platform agnostic, secure, credible, affordable, enduring, and able to be integrated into autonomous systems. The program will be comprised of various technologies developed by AFRL and Industry, integrated into technology
demonstrations and deliverables with all the necessary software, hardware, and documentation to support AFRL-owned modeling and simulation environments for future capability developments. Thus, all technology development efforts must adhere to interface designs and standards. **Open to July 23, 2023.**

**ARMED FORCES PEST MANAGEMENT BOARD (AFPMB)**
The Armed Forces Pest Management Board (AFPMB), an agency of the Department of Defense (DoD), is soliciting pre-proposals for original and innovative research designed to develop new interventions for protection of deployed military personnel from diseases caused by arthropod-borne pathogens and to improve control of bed bugs and filth flies. Diseases of significant concern include Lyme disease, malaria, dengue fever and other arboviruses. The program supports development of: (1) new toxicants or the adaptation of existing toxicants to medically relevant pests; (2) new insecticide application techniques; (3) new personal protection tools that prevent human-vector contact; (4) decision support tools and (5) novel vector surveillance tools that focus on improved control outcomes. Ideally the research would support **Advanced Technology Development** (see DoD Financial Management Regulation Volume 2B, Chapter 5, DoD RDT&E Budget Activity 3) of new insecticides or improved formulations of existing insecticides for vector control, new technology or enhanced modalities of personal protection from biting arthropods, or improved efficacy and sustainability of equipment for vector surveillance and application of pesticides for vector control in a military operational environment. Research should be product-oriented, consisting of advanced research related to a particular technology or new capability, evaluation of experimental products for military uses, or research directed towards development of an existing prototype product for commercial manufacture. Research should include semi-field or field evaluation of prototype products. Research should not include testing and evaluation of commercial products. Any pesticide end use products described in the proposed research should be destined for registration by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The research must be primarily applicable to the military, products should be transferable to civilian uses. The program consists of competitive grants open to principal investigators (PIs) from academia, industry, and local or state government agencies. Federal Agencies (including DoD) may apply subject to appropriate regulations. This BAA is intended to solicit pre-proposals for AFPMB for those parts of development not related to a specific system or hardware procurement in accordance with Title 2, Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 200 CFR. The purpose of this BAA is to identify the best available science, and as such, there are no set-asides associated with any awards resulting from this BAA. Specific areas of interest are described in the “Areas of Interest” section of this BAA. This Announcement provides a general description of project areas, including specific areas of interest, general information, evaluation and selection criteria, and proposal preparation instructions. All documentation and or attachments that are required with the submission of a full proposal, if requested, are described in the Mandatory Proposal Forms section of this announcement. Awards are typically made under grants; however, other funding opportunities may be considered. **Open to Oct. 31, 2024**
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- **Training for Faculty** - Online and in-person workshops, self-paced online courses, and proposal development retreats and bootcamps on how to find and compete for research funding from NSF, NIH, DoE and other government agencies as well as foundations.

- **Large proposals** - Assistance in planning, developing and writing institutional and center-level proposals (e.g., NSF ERC, STC, NRT, ADVANCE, IUSE, Dept of Ed GAANN, DoD MURI, etc.)

- **Assistance for new and junior faculty** - help in identifying funding opportunities and developing competitive research proposals, particularly to NSF CAREER, DoD Young Investigator, DOE Early Career and other junior investigator programs.

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