



Spelman College

A Choice to Change the World

OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS

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The OSP FUNDING ALERT BULLETIN (FAB)

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OVERVIEW

Welcome to the first edition of the OSP FAB, our new monthly e-newsletter. In this edition and future editions we will provide a cross section of funding opportunities that should be of interest to you. In addition, we will share news and policy updates as well as ‘best practices’ from the world of sponsored programs. We would also like to hear from you in terms of innovative projects you may be working on or important outcomes achieved. In addition, if you have specific questions related to sponsored programming that you would like to see addressed in future newsletters let us know. Finally future FABs may include information on upcoming workshops, statistical trends on grant submissions and awards, and special topics in the area of pre- and post-award management.

FEDERAL OPPORTUNITIES**[Collaborative Research Grants](#)**

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Full Proposal Deadline Date: November 5, 2008

Funding Number: 20081105-RZ

Funding Amount: \$0 - 300,000

Synopsis: Collaborative Research Grants support original research undertaken by a team of two or more scholars or research coordinated by an individual scholar that, because of its scope or complexity, requires additional staff and resources beyond the individual's salary. Eligible projects include: research that significantly adds to knowledge and understanding in the humanities.

More at: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/collaborative.html>

[Scholarly Editions](#)

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Full Proposal Deadline Date: November 5, 2008

Funding Number: 20081105-RQ

Funding Amount: \$0 - 300,000

Synopsis: Scholarly Editions Grants support the preparation of editions of pre-existing texts and documents that are currently inaccessible or available in inadequate editions. Projects must be undertaken by a team of at least one editor and one other staff member. Grants typically support editions of significant literary, philosophical, and historical materials, but other types of work, such as musical notation, are also eligible.

More at: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/editions.html>

[Enduring Questions: Pilot Course Grants](#)

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Full Proposal Deadline Date: November 13, 2008

Funding Number: 20081113-AQ

Funding Amount: \$0 - 25,000

Synopsis: The purpose of the Enduring Questions grant program is to encourage faculty and students at the undergraduate level to grapple with the most fundamental concerns of the humanities, and to join together in deep, sustained programs of reading in order to encounter influential thinkers over the centuries and into the present day.

More at: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/EnduringQuestions.html>

[We the People Challenge Grants in United State History, Institutions and Culture](#)

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Full Proposal Deadline Date: February 3, 2009

Funding Opportunity Number: 20090203-CA

Funding Amount: \$0 - 1,000,000

Synopsis: This grant opportunity is designed to help institutions and organizations secure long-term improvements in and support for humanities activities that examine American history. Proposals must demonstrate how the challenge grant would strengthen the institution's ability to explore significant themes and events in American history, so as to advance knowledge of how

the founding principles of the United States have shaped, and been shaped by, American history and culture for more than two hundred years.

More at: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/wtpchallenge.html>

[Humanities Initiatives for Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#)

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

Deadline: Jan 15, 2009

Funding Amount: \$75,000 (Successful applications for Humanities Initiatives for Faculty will be awarded a grant of up to \$30,000 in outright funds for projects serving a single institution; regional or multi-institutional programs may receive awards of up to \$75,000. All project activities and the expenditure of project funds must occur during the grant period, which may be up to three years.)

Synopsis: Humanities Initiatives for Faculty are intended to strengthen and enrich humanities education and scholarship at Presidentially designated institutions. These grants, intended for Historically Black colleges and universities, may be used to enhance the humanities content of existing programs, develop new programs, or lay the foundation for more extensive endeavors in the future. Each project must be organized around a core topic or set of themes.

Eligibility: Humanities Initiatives for Faculty are available to Presidentially designated Historically Black colleges and universities.

More at: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/hifacultyhbcu.html>

[Family & Youth Programs in American History](#)

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Humanities

Deadline: Jan. 28, 2009

Funds: Typically up to \$40,000 for one year for planning grants; up to \$400,000 for 18 to 36 months for implementation projects.

Synopsis: The National Endowment for the Humanities solicits proposals for public programs that encourage intergenerational learning about significant topics in U.S. history and culture, especially programs tailored to youth and family audiences at museums, libraries and other community sites. NEH encourages projects that: highlight documents and artifacts; make humanities content central to the project (competitive proposals will employ a team of humanities advisers whose expertise is tailored to the project's needs); and /or collaborate with other organizations to extend the reach of the project, including cultural, community, professional and businesses.

Eligibility : Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status and state and local government agencies, such as schools and higher education institutions; school, academic and public libraries; discipline and professional associations and cultural institutions.

More at: www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/familyyouthprograms.html

[American Masterpiece: Dance](#)

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Arts

Deadline: Oct. 24, 2008

Funds: \$15,000 to \$150,000 for dance companies; \$15,000 for academic programs. The match is dollar-for-dollar.

Synopsis: The National Endowment for the Arts seeks grant applications for projects that support the evolution of dance and choreography in the United States. Through the American

Masterpieces: Dance initiative, NEA supports reconstructions and restaging of important works of the highest quality across the country. The program plans to fund a variety of projects that are artistically, historically and culturally significant and reflect the breadth of dance forms, styles and techniques: Grants will be made in two areas: dance companies, presenters and festivals; and college and university programs. All projects must be accompanied by related educational, interpretive or contextual components, for example, master classes, seminars, study guides and cooperatives community learning projects.

Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status.

More at: www.arts.endow.gov/grants/apply/amdance.html

[Research on Engineering Education](#)

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Deadline: March 11, 2009

Funds: \$8.5 million for 35 to 40 awards of \$150,000 to \$400,000, including exploratory projects up to \$150,000 each (multiple universities up to \$200,000 each); and expansion projects up to \$400,000 each.

Synopsis: The National Science Foundation invites research applications that can contribute to significant breakthroughs in understanding how students learn engineering so undergraduate and graduate programs can better prepare engineers to meet the needs of the changing economy.

Areas: NSF will fund projects in two categories. Innovations in teaching and learning, including (expansion projects):

- Engineering epistemologies
- Engineering learning mechanisms
- Engineering learning systems
- Engineering diversity and inclusiveness
- Engineering entrepreneurs; and Educational Opportunities using Cyber infrastructures and virtual or mixed reality (exploratory projects)

Eligibility: U.S. organizations colleges and universities; government units, such as school districts and state education agencies; other nonprofit nonacademic organizations, such as research laboratories and professional associations; and for-profit organizations with strong science or engineering capabilities.

More at: www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08610/nsf08610.html

[Family History for Prenatal Providers](#)

Sponsor: Health Resources Services Administration

Deadline: Dec. 22, 2008

Funds: \$400,000 for one award.

Synopsis: The Health Resources and Services Administration invites applications to develop a family history tool for taking women's health history spanning their life cycle. This project will provide models, best practices, and dissemination strategies for a health history tool that integrates genetics, including newborn screening information into a health history for use by family practice, obstetrics, gynecologic and nursing practitioners.

Eligibility: Nonprofit and for-profit organizations.

More at: <http://www.hrsa.gov> (click on "Grants")

[Infrastructure Support Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions \(HBCU/MI\)](#)

Deadline: Jan 17, 2009

Sponsor: United States Department of Defense (DOD) Department of the Army
Army Research Office (ARO)

Amount: \$800,000 (Approximately \$12.0 million is expected to be available for new awards under this solicitation. Grant awards will range from \$375,000 to \$800,000.)

Synopsis: The Department of Defense (DoD) announces the fiscal year 2007 Infrastructure Support Program for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MIs). The program is executed under policy and guidance of the Office of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering (ODDR&E) and administered through the Army Research Office (ARO) and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR). Awards under the 2008 program will be for the acquisition of instrumentation and/or equipment, hereafter referenced collectively as instrumentation. The program aims to enhance science, mathematics, and/or engineering education programs and/or research capabilities through the acquisition of instrumentation that will augment existing facilities, enhance curricula, or develop new laboratories, programs and capabilities in these areas. This includes basic items for laboratory and classroom use as well as sophisticated instrumentation and computers (including software) for advanced studies and research important to the DoD mission. less..

Eligibility: Awards will be limited to (HBCU/MI) institutions having accredited, degree-granting programs in science, mathematics, and/or engineering.

Proposing schools must have accredited science, mathematics and/or engineering programs and a history of graduating students in one or more of these fields. Community colleges or junior colleges responding to this announcement must demonstrate or establish a program in which the graduates will continue science, mathematics, or engineering studies toward the baccalaureate degree. The institution that grants the baccalaureate degree does not have to be an HBCU or MI, but it must formally agree to participate and support the community or junior college graduates toward completion of the baccalaureate degree as stipulated in the proposal. The principal investigator must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and a faculty member at the institution submitting the proposal. All students participating in the research must also be a U. S. citizen or a permanent resident.

More at: <http://www.arl.army.mil/www/default.cfm?Action=6&Page=8>

[Understanding and Promoting Health Literacy \(R01\)](#)

Sponsor; Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Deadline: May 25, 2009, Jan 25, 2010 (Non-required letters of intent are due by April 24 and December 24, 2009. The application deadlines are May 25, 2009; and January 25, 2010. This program will expire on January 26, 2010.

Amount; \$1,250,000 (This FOA will use the Research Project Grant (R01) award mechanism. Applicants for an R01 award are not limited in dollars but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project. Modular applications are most prevalent with modules of \$25,000, up to the modular limit of \$250,000. Applications that exceed this level must be submitted as nonmodular and provide detailed budget information. Applications are generally awarded for one to five budget periods, each normally 12 months in duration. Applications can be renewed by competing for an additional project period. Awards from AHRQ are limited to \$300,000 total costs for the project period. Cost sharing is not required.)

Synopsis: The ultimate goal of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage empirical research on health literacy concepts, theory, and interventions as these relate to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' public health priorities that are outlined in its Healthier US and Healthy People 2010 initiatives. Health literacy is defined as the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

The research must involve at least one of the following:

- health literacy, or one of its many components, as a key outcome;
- health literacy as a key explanatory variable for some other outcome;
- methodological or technological improvement to strengthen research on health literacy; or
- prevention or intervention strategies that focus on health literacy.

Eligibility: Applications may be submitted by domestic or foreign, for-profit or nonprofit organizations and public or private institutions, such as universities, colleges, hospitals, and laboratories; units of state and local governments; eligible agencies of the federal government; and faith-based or community-based organizations.

More at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-07-020.html>

FOUNDATION OPPORTUNITIES

[Volvo Environment Prize](#)

Sponsor: Volvo Environment Prize Foundation

Deadline: Nov 15, 2008

Amount: The Volvo Environment Prize is awarded annually at a ceremony in Göteborg, Sweden, and consists of a prize sum amounting SEK 1.5 million.

Requirements: Ph.D./M.D./Other Professional

Synopsis: The prize is awarded for outstanding innovations or scientific discoveries which in broad terms fall within the environmental field and are of global or regional importance.

The span of disciplines and activities for which nominations can be made is very wide. The work of nominees should be based on scientific grounds.

Additional Contact:

Dr. Helene Bergsten

Scientific Advisor to the Volvo Environment Prize

Eligibility The foundation invites universities, research institutes, scientists and engineers as well as other individual and organizations to submit nominations for the prize. Priority is given to an individual or to a group of named individuals, rather than to institutions.

More at: <http://www.environment-prize.com/content/view/47/55/>

[American Honda Foundation](#)

Eligibility: K-12 and Higher Education

Value: Varies

Deadline: Nov. 1, Feb. 1, May 1, and Aug. 1

The American Honda Foundation provides grants in the fields of youth education and scientific

education to the following: Educational institutions, K-12; accredited higher education colleges and universities); community colleges and vocational or trade schools; scholarship fellowship programs at selected colleges and/or universities or through selected non-profit organizations; other scientific and education-related, non-profit, tax-exempt organizations; student programs; media concerning youth education and/or scientific education; private, scientific and/or youth education projects; other non-profit, tax-exempt, institutions in the youth education and scientific education; and programs pertaining to academic or curriculum development that emphasize innovative educational methods and techniques. Contact: American Honda Foundation, 1919 Torrance Blvd., M.S. 100-1W-5A, Torrance, 90501

Kathryn A. Carey, Mgr., Tel:(310) 781-4090, E-mail: kathryn_carey@ahm.honda.com

Area: Mathematics, Science, Technology / Professional Development Level: K-16

More at: <http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>

NEWS AND POLICY UPDATES

Upcoming Symposium: Howard University and the University of the District of Columbia will host the 15th National HBCU Faculty Development Symposium October 23 - 25, 2008 at the Kellogg Conference Hotel at Gallaudet University. This year's theme is: Closing the Loop: Research, Assessment and Curriculum Design. Reference this site for more details <http://hbcufdn.org/>

National Institutes of Health

New NIH Policy on Resubmission (Amended) Applications

Notice Number: NOT-OD-09-003

Release Date: October 8, 2008

Beginning with applications intended for the January 25, 2009 due date, all original new applications (i.e., never submitted) and competing renewal applications will be permitted only a single amendment (A1). For this and subsequent cohorts of original new and competing renewal applications, any second amendment (A2) will be administratively withdrawn and not accepted for review. Applicants who fail to receive funding after two submissions may resubmit but only if the application is fundamentally revised to qualify as new. A new application is expected to be substantially different in content and scope with more significant differences than are normally encountered in an amended application. Note that there is no time limit for the submission of the original and subsequent A1.

Original new and competing renewal applications that were submitted prior to January 25, 2009 will be permitted two amendments (A1 and A2). For these “grandfathered” applications, NIH expects that any A2 will be submitted no later than January 7, 2011, and NIH will not accept A2 applications after that date.

This policy applies to **all** applications, including applications submitted under the NIH Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)

programs, Career Development Awards, Individual Fellowships, Institutional Training Grants, Resource Grants, Program Projects, and Centers. Currently no amendments are permitted for applications received in response to a Request for Applications (RFA) unless it is specified in the Funding Opportunity Announcement, in which case only one amendment will be permitted.

Inquiries

Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their questions with their NIH IC contact. For additional information or questions, please contact:

Division of Receipt and Referral Center for Scientific Review 6701 Rockledge Drive MSC
7720 Bethesda, MD 20892-7720 Voice: (301) 435-0715 Fax: (301) 480-1987

Or send an email to EnhancingPeerReview@mail.nih.gov.

For more information on NIH's Enhancing Peer Review effort visit <http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/>.

National Science Foundation

Important Information about the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide

A new version of the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG), NSF 09-1, has been posted on the NSF website and is available at:

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf091. The PAPPG is comprised of documents relating to the Foundation's proposal and award process and consists of:

- (a) the Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) for guidance on the preparation and submission of proposals to NSF; and
- (b) the Award & Administration Guide (AAG) to guide, manage, and monitor the award and administration of grants and cooperative agreements made by the Foundation.

This new version of the PAPPG will be effective for proposals submitted on or after January 5, 2009. Given the significance of some of the changes contained in this revised version, we wanted to provide the community with appropriate advance notice.

The significant changes include:

* Entirely new guidance that addresses and implements the mentoring requirement of the America COMPETES Act;

* A major revision of NSF's faculty salary reimbursement policy, to limit compensation for senior personnel to no more than two months of their regular salary in any one year from all NSF-funded grants;

* Debut of the Grants for Rapid Response Research (RAPID) and EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) mechanisms, which replace the Small Grants for Exploratory Research (SGER) program; and

* Revision of the definition of co-PI for greater consistency with guidance issued by the Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP).

BEST PRACTICES

The following is an outline of tips for developing a competitive grant proposal. This is a general outline of the elements that one would normally address although all of these elements may not be applicable for every grant application (it may depend upon whether you are developing a research proposal versus a programmatic or service grant).

Statement of Need or Project Description

Gather and analyze information about unmet service needs and try to address some or all of the following questions:

1. What is the problem to be addressed?
2. What is the extent of the need?
3. What geographic area do we hope to cover?
4. What resources are available for our project?
5. Have we referenced literature published within the last 5 years?
6. Have we used authors whose work is cited the most (leaders in the field)?
7. Does our literature reference gaps in knowledge?
8. Does our project address any of these gaps?
9. Do we include literature on the cultural dimensions of the problem?
10. Have we discussed the community demographics and problems?
11. Have we documented our rationale for using this population?
12. Is our target population defined?
13. Have we documented the need in this population for the service we provide?
14. Have we paid attention to any specific requirements for epidemiologic data?
15. Have we provided comparison data?
16. Have we included sources of local data:
 - State and County public agencies?
 - School systems?
 - Court systems?

- Community health assessments?
- United Way organizations?
- U.S. Census Bureau and other Federal Agencies?
- Hospitals?

17. Have we expressed our solution to the problem in terms of goals, objectives, and methods?

Project Design or Approach

- Once your statement of need is clearly developed, the next step is to identify the solution to your problem.
- Your proposed project explains the solution.
- Your proposed project approach expresses the solution to the problem in terms of goals, objectives, and tasks.
 - To delineate a goal, ask yourself what major milestone do we need to meet to make our project's mission a reality? If we succeed, what specific changes will occur?
 - Develop SMART—Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time-limited—objectives
 - Tasks are the precise steps you will follow to carry out each objective.
 - Tasks help you identify
 - What tasks need to be done under each objective
 - Who will do the tasks
 - When they will be done
 - Where they will be done
 - What resources you need for each task
 - What the purpose of the task is (i.e., what outcome is expected as a result of doing each task)
 - Methodology
 - Describe the project activities to occur and the resources and staff needed to operate the project and why these methods were chosen.
 - Explain how members of the target community have been involved in the design of the project. Describe how methods meet the culturally relevant needs of the community.
 - Describe how you have integrated successes from similar projects. Refer to current literature and explain how it has shaped your proposed project.
 - Describe how the parts of the project interrelate, where personnel will be needed, and what they are expected to do. Identify the kinds of facilities, transportation, and support services required.
 - Highlight the innovative features of the application that could be considered distinct from other applications under consideration.

Project Management/Staffing Plan

- Sell your organization's capability, its uniqueness, and its niche.
- Show how your organization's wealth of experience supports the requirements of the project.
- Detail the roles and responsibilities of key staff members, and show their superb qualifications for their specific role in the project.
- Detail the amount of time each person will work on the project.
- Develop a chart or timeline, organized in a way that is feasible.
- Indicate that your staff reflects the target population.
- Explain how the staff is competent in the culture of the target population(s).
- Provide evidence of capability, experience, and commitment of proposed consultants and subcontractors.

Evaluation Methodology

- The funding agency wants to learn if you accomplished your goals and objectives.
- Evaluation is designing measurable goals and objectives so you will be able to report
 - How your work is accomplished (process evaluation).
 - What changes result from your work (impact or outcome evaluation).
- Describe how your evaluation plan addresses the RFP requirements.
- Explain the information you will need to collect.
- Describe the knowledge and experience of the individuals who will conduct the evaluation.
- Identify data collection instruments needed to demonstrate project performance.
- Describe how project data will be collected.
- Look carefully at the evaluation section of the RFP to analyze the scope of the evaluation.
- If your evaluation is minimal, you may be able to conduct it yourself; a large, multi-site, rigorous evaluation may require additional tools and resources.

Literature Citations

- Find authors whose work is cited most frequently. (These are the leaders in the field.)
- Review literature that has been published in the past 5 years and is considered to be major works.
- Try to find research that shows gaps in knowledge that your project addresses.
- Make sure you include literature on the cultural dimensions of the problems from cultural standpoints.
- Use federal agency clearinghouses (i.e. SAMHSA) to help you start and conduct your search. Ask the information specialists for ideas and how best to find what you need.

- If you are conducting a literature review in the area of health and human services, meet with State and local health, mental health, and substance abuse offices to obtain State and local data collection reports.
- Assign a staff member or student the task of an ongoing literature search and collection of relevant materials for review.

Budget Justification, Existing Resources, and Other Support

- The budget provides your projection of all costs for all years of the grant.
- Read and understand the budget form.
- The budget narrative describes how your organization will use the funds that you are requesting.
- Your plan demonstrates that grant money will be spent in compliance with grant provisions and Federal regulations (if applicable).
- Make sure you realistically project the activities, resources, staff, and other items that cost money as a part of your budget plan.
- Your budget narrative and your project narrative should match, referencing the same activities, resources, staff, and other items.
- Double-check your arithmetic.
- You must be able to justify why resources, staff, or supplies are requested.
- Your budget narrative should provide an explanation of the costs.
- Make sure you understand the RFP guidance about *allowable* and *unallowable* costs as well as Federal regulations related to cost.

Biographical Sketches and Job Descriptions

Include these items when required and adhere to any formatting standards outlined by the sponsor or in the program announcement.

Confidentiality/Participant Protection, if applicable

Areas that need to be addressed include:

- Protection of clients and staff from potential risks
- Fair selection of participants
- Absence of coercion
- Data collection
- Privacy and confidentiality
- Adequate consent procedures
- Discussion of risks and benefits
- Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval