

Office of the Vice Provost for Research

Searching for Funding Opportunities

Quick Start

Visit the **“Finding Funding”** tab of the OVPR website (ovpr.indiana.edu) for internal funding programs, external funding databases, pre-filtered searches, and other resources.

Before you search

- **Prepare a short research statement.** Write a couple of paragraphs summarizing your research question or goal. Use the major concepts in your statement as keywords to focus and fine-tune your funding search.

Refining a search

- Start with your most general keywords, adding more specialized terms if you have too many results.
- Use Boolean operators such as *AND*, *OR*, *NOT*, and quotation marks to combine search terms or offer synonyms.
- Use advanced search features to increase the relevance of your results.

Other stones to turn

- Search the web. Talk to your colleagues.
- Check disciplinary societies' websites.
- Look for funding acknowledgements in related publications.
- Consider crowd funding such as Kickstarter, Petridish, and RocketHub.

After you search

- **Visit agency websites** to find out what has been funded recently and to subscribe to email funding updates.
- **Contact Proposal Development Services** (ovprhelp@indiana.edu) for guidance and advice on your proposal. Learn more at ovpr.indiana.edu/pds.
- **Contact IU's experts** in foundation relations (cjruz@indiana.edu) or corporate relations (rileyw@iu.edu) for insight into opportunities involving private funders.

“External Funding Opportunities” highlights

Pivot Database (pivot.cos.com)

- ▮ Search across federal, foundation, and other opportunities (international, corporate, state, etc.).
- ▮ Members of the IU community may access the database via the IU subscription. Please claim and update your profile.
- ▮ Note the red HELP button at the top right corner, which links to useful information.

Grants.gov Database (grants.gov)

- ▮ A website for federal agencies to post discretionary funding opportunities and for grantees to find and apply to them.

Foundation Directory Online

(<https://libraries.indiana.edu/foundation-directory-online>)

- ▮ A database of private philanthropic funders.
- ▮ When logged in, scroll down to “Getting Started” section or to the bottom for Help Contents.
- ▮ Researchers seeking private funding are encouraged to contact IU foundation relations (cjruz@indiana.edu) or corporate relations (rileyw@iu.edu) prior to approaching prospective funders.

Also in “Finding Funding”

OVPR and Other Internal Funding Opportunities

- ▮ IU offers multiple programs supporting faculty research activity.

Limited Submissions

- ▮ The university runs an internal selection process whenever an agency limits the number of proposals accepted from an institution.

Funding Opportunity Emails

- ▮ Limited Submissions and Multidisciplinary Opportunities are sent weekly to subscribers.