

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 the IU Foundation** executive directors of corporate (jennlawr@iu.edu) and foundation (bfravel@iu.edu) relations 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

(fdo.foundationcenter.org)

- A database of private philanthropic funders.
- IU institutional subscription begins September 1, 2017.
- When logged in, scroll down to see the useful “Getting Started” section, or to the bottom for Help Contents.
- Researchers who decide to seek private funding are encouraged to contact the IU Foundation Relations team (cfrforms@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.

Weekly Opportunity Emails

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