Revised IRB Application Form Now Available

As required by federal regulations (45 CFR 46) and institutional policy (OP 56.03), faculty, staff, and students conducting research involving human subjects are required to obtain approval for their projects through ASU’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) for the Protection of Human Subjects. The purpose of the IRB review and approval process is to ensure the ethical treatment of human research subjects.

The IRB recently updated its application form to include some additional information regarding projects involving student researchers. The form has also been revised to allow content in it to be saved on computers that only have Adobe Reader installed, and it now allows for the use of rich text formatting.
Finally, the revised form includes more detailed instructions and tool tips to help researchers navigate the form.

Beginning June 24, 2016, all new applications to the IRB must use the new form, which is available in the IRB Blackboard course or online at https://www.angelo.edu/content/files/16926-irb-application-form. Researchers who submit proposals using older versions of the application after June 24 will be asked to redo their applications using the new form before it will be reviewed by the IRB.

If you have any questions about ASU’s policy and procedure or if you would like more information, please visit the IRB’s Webpage at https://www.angelo.edu/dept/sponsored_projects/human_subjects.php, review the IRB Blackboard Organization by logging into https://blackboard.angelo.edu, or e-mail the Chair of the IRB, Dr. Teresa (Tay) Hack, at teresa.hack@angelo.edu

Federal Funding Agencies: National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

Having just celebrated their 50th anniversary as a federal agency in 2015, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) was created by Congress to support research, education in formal and informal settings, and outreach in the humanities. The wide range of projects supported by the NEH are designed to address not only academic audiences but also a broader public audience, as is evidenced by some of their more well-known projects, such as their support for Ken Burns’ Civil War documentary series.

The NEH broadly defines the Humanities as “the study and interpretation of the following: language, both modern and classical; linguistics; literature; history; jurisprudence; philosophy; archaeology; comparative religion; ethics; the history, criticism and theory of the arts; those aspects of social sciences which have humanistic content and employ humanistic methods; and the study and application of the humanities to the human environment with particular attention to reflecting our diverse heritage, traditions, and history to the relevance of the humanities to the current conditions of national life” (About NEH, 2016).

In Fiscal Year 2015, the federal government appropriated slightly more than $146 million to the NEH to support its programs. Specific appropriations by program include $14.7 million for research programs, $13.6 million for public programs, and $13.2 million for education programs. Because funding for the humanities tends to lag behind that provided for the sciences, funding rates tend to be a bit lower at the NEH, with individual scholar award success rates falling between 7-10% in recent years. Institutional grants have somewhat higher success rates, with the Humanities Initiatives at Hispanic Serving Institutions and the Landmarks in American History success rates being 15% and 29%, respectively.

The NEH is somewhat unique in that it supports not only grants to institutions but also grants to individual scholars. The Awards for Faculty at Hispanic Serving Institutions, Fellowships, and Summer Stipends Programs all provide funding directly to researchers for work conducted during the summer or during other periods of leave from the university.

For more information on the National Endowment for the Humanities and its funding opportunities, please visit their Website at http://www.neh.gov or http://www.neh.gov/grants or contact ASU’s Office of Sponsored Projects at osp@angelo.edu.
Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Small Research Grant Program (R03)

Submission deadlines: Standard NIH R03 deadlines apply; see full announcement for details

Program description: “This FOA encourages Small Research Grant (R03) applications, and expresses AHRQ priority areas of interest for ongoing small research projects. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of health services research projects including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology.”


American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund

Undergraduate Research (UR) Grants

Submission deadline: October 21, 2016

Program description: “The goals of the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund are: 1) To support fundamental research in the petroleum field, and 2) To develop the next generation of engineers and scientists through support of advanced scientific education. The Undergraduate Research (UR) grants program provides funding for scientists and engineers with established programs of research at non-doctoral departments. UR grants are used to illustrate proof of principle, i.e., feasibility, and accordingly, are to be viewed as seed money for generating preliminary results that can be used to apply for continuation funding from other agencies.”

Link to full announcement: https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/grants/prf/programs/ur.html

Undergraduate New Investigator (UNI) Grants

Submission deadline: October 21, 2016

Program description: “The goals of the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund are: 1) To support fundamental research in the petroleum field, and 2) To develop the next generation of engineers and scientists through support of advanced scientific education. Undergraduate New Investigator (UNI) grants provide funds for scientists and engineers who are beginning their independent careers in academia and have limited or no preliminary results for a research project they wish to pursue. The UNI grants are to be used to illustrate proof of principle, i.e., feasibility, and accordingly, are to be viewed as seed money for generating preliminary results that can be used to apply for continuation funding from other agencies.”

Link to full announcement: https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/grants/prf/programs/uni.html

International Literacy Association

Elva Knight Research Grant

Submission deadline: January 15, 2017 (est.)

Program description: “This grant is a US$5,000 grant for research in reading and literacy. Projects should be completed within 2 years and may be carried out using any research method or approach so long as the focus of the project is on research in reading or literacy. Activities such as developing new programs or instructional materials are not eligible for funding except to the extent that these activities are necessary procedures for the conduct of the research. Applicants must be ILA members”

Link to full announcement: http://www.literacyworldwide.org/about-us/awards-grants/ila-elva-knight-research-grant
National Endowment for the Humanities

Humanities Connections

Submission deadline: October 5, 2016
Program description: “Humanities Connections grants seek to expand the role of the humanities in the undergraduate curriculum at two- and four-year institutions, offering students in all academic fields new opportunities to develop the intellectual skills and habits of mind that the humanities cultivate. Grant projects focus on connecting the resources and perspectives of the humanities to students’ broader educational and professional goals, regardless of their path of study. Through this new grant program, NEH invites proposals that reflect innovative and imaginative approaches to preparing students for their roles as engaged citizens and productive professionals in a rapidly changing and interdependent world. Grants support the development and implementation of an integrated set of courses and student engagement activities focusing on significant humanities content. A common topic, theme, or compelling issue or question must link the courses and activities. The linked courses (a minimum of three) may fulfill general education or core curriculum requirements but could also be designed primarily for students in a particular major or course of study.”
Link to full announcement: http://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-connections

Summer Stipends

Submission deadline: September 29, 2016
Program description: “Summer Stipends support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Eligible projects usually result in articles, monographs, books, digital materials and publications, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources. Summer Stipends support continuous full-time work on a humanities project for a period of two consecutive months. Summer Stipends support projects at any stage of development.”
Note: ASU is limited to nominating two individuals for the Summer Stipends program. If you plan to apply, please notify the Office of Sponsored Projects immediately (osp@angelo.edu).
Link to full announcement: http://www.neh.gov/grants/research/summer-stipends

National Institutes of Health

Academic Research Enhancement Award (Parent R15)

Submission deadlines: Standard R15 deadlines apply; see full announcement for details
Program description: “The purpose of the Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) program is to stimulate research in educational institutions that provide baccalaureate or advanced degrees for a significant number of the Nation's research scientists, but that have not been major recipients of NIH support. AREA grants create opportunities for scientists and institutions otherwise unlikely to participate extensively in NIH research programs to contribute to the Nation's biomedical and behavioral research effort. AREA grants are intended to support small-scale research projects proposed by faculty members of eligible, domestic institutions, to expose undergraduate and/or graduate students to meritorious research projects, and to strengthen the research environment of the applicant institution.”

National Science Foundation

Economics

Submission deadlines: August 18, 2016 and January 18, 2017
Program description: “The Economics program supports research designed to improve the understanding of the processes and institutions of the U.S. economy and of the world system of which it is a part. This program also strengthens both empirical and theoretical economic analysis as well as the methods for rigorous research on economic behavior. It supports research in almost every area of economics, including econometrics, economic history, environmental economics, finance, industrial
organization, international economics, labor economics, macroeconomics, mathematical economics, and public finance.”

**Link to full announcement:**
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5437&org=SES&from=home

**Perception, Action & Cognition (PAC)**

**Submission deadline:** February 1, 2017

**Program description:** “The PAC program funds theoretically motivated research on a wide-range of topic areas focused on typical human behavior. The aim is to enhance the fundamental understanding of perceptual, motor, and cognitive processes and their interactions. Central research topics for consideration by the program include vision, audition, haptics, attention, memory, reasoning, written and spoken language, and motor control. The program welcomes a wide range of perspectives, such as individual differences, symbolic computation, connectionism, ecological, genetics, nonlinear dynamics, and complex systems, and a variety of methodologies including both experimental studies and modeling.”

**Link to full announcement:**
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5686&org=BCS&from=home

**Political Science**

**Submission deadlines:** August 15, 2016 and January 17, 2017

**Program description:** “The Political Science Program supports scientific research that advances knowledge and understanding of citizenship, government, and politics. Research proposals are expected to be theoretically motivated, conceptually precise, methodologically rigorous, and empirically oriented. Substantive areas include, but are not limited to, American government and politics, comparative government and politics, international relations, political behavior, political economy, and political institutions.”

**Link to full announcement:**
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5418&org=SES&from=home

**Social Psychology**

**Submission deadline:** January 17, 2017

**Program description:** “The Social Psychology Program at NSF supports basic research on human social behavior, including cultural differences and development over the life span. Among the many research topics supported are: attitude formation and change, social cognition, personality processes, interpersonal relations and group processes, the self, emotion, social comparison and social influence, and the psychophysiological and neurophysiological bases of social behavior.”

**Link to full announcement:**
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5712&org=BCS&from=home

**U.S. Department of Education**

**Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program**

**Submission deadline:** August 1, 2016

**Program description:** “This program provides grants to support overseas projects in training, research, and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and area studies for teachers, students, and faculty engaged in a common endeavor. Projects may include short-term seminars, curriculum development, group research or study, or advanced intensive language programs.”

**Link to full announcement:** http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsgpa/index.html

The e-Funding Alert is published monthly by Angelo State University’s Office of Sponsored Projects. To subscribe to this alert, please send a message to osp@angelo.edu with “Subscribe Alert” indicated in the subject line.