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Federal Funding Agencies: Health and Human Services (HHS)

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is a behemoth among the federal grant making agencies, supporting research, assistance, education, service, and other projects throughout the spectrum of human health and social services. A single day snapshot of funding opportunities in Grants.gov shows the DHHS has at least 1,300 open funding opportunities; the next closest agency is the Department of the Interior, with a mere 361 opportunities, and the DHHS reports it is “the largest grant-making agency in the U.S.”

Agencies and divisions operating under the umbrella of DHHS are numerous, and some of the most important ones for researchers and other university grant seekers to know about are the following:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) – The AHRQ provides financial support for research on improving healthcare research and quality, including research on the reduction and
prevention of healthcare associated illnesses and injuries and the enhancement of access to healthcare for Americans. The AHRQ, though a separate entity from the NIH, uses NIH funding mechanisms (e.g. R01, R03) and proposal development guidelines.

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** – Celebrating their 70th anniversary this year, the CDC provides funding to support research and related projects focused on disease prevention, safety and security, and public health. The agency supports both intramural and extramural research in these areas through the issuance of grants and cooperative agreements. Like the AHRQ, the CDC’s research grants follow the same format and guidelines as those found at the NIH. The CDC also has a substantial online repository of health related information, including disease prevalence, mortality rates, and much more.

- **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** – Most Americans probably think about food safety, recalls, and foodborne illnesses when the FDA is mentioned, and those are among their primary areas of focus, but the FDA also regulates and supports research on a wide range of other topics. They regulate pharmaceuticals, medical devices, pet food, and even radiation-emitting products. Additionally, the FDA issues regulations regarding research on human subjects (alongside those issued by the Office of Human Research Protections), good laboratory practice, and various stages of clinical drug and device trials.

- **Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)** – One of the agencies from which ASU has received significant funding, the Health Resources and Services Administration supports a broad range of activities. While HRSA does provide some research support, particularly in the area of rural health, health equity and access, and maternal and child health, the pool of funding of greatest interest to universities is for programs designed to grow the healthcare workforce. HRSA programs support recruitment programs, scholarships, loan repayment programs, and academic support programs for students in health workforce fields, including nursing, physical therapy, social work, clinical psychology, and others.

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)** – The NIH is one of the oldest federal agencies, tracing its history back to the Marine Hospital Service, which was established in 1798. A single agency comprised of 27 separate Institutes and Centers (ICs), the NIH conducts and funds health research, development, and training activities. Funding opportunity announcements, parent announcements, and other funding mechanisms issued by the NIH fall into one or more “activity codes” that define the type of project being funded. The R01 (pronounced “Are-Oh-One”) Research Project award, for example, is the pinnacle of individual research awards. It provides major funding support for a “discrete, specified, circumscribed project” in a researcher’s expertise. For non-research intensive institutions like Angelo State, the R15, Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA), is a good funding mechanism to consider. Like the R01, the R15 mechanism supports high quality, meritorious research, but it is limited to investigators at institutions that “have not been major recipients of NIH support.”

For more information on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and its funding opportunities, please visit their Website at [http://www.hhs.gov/grants/grants/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/grants/grants/index.html) (DHHS) or [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/oer.htm) (NIH) or contact ASU’s Office of Sponsored Projects at [osp@angelo.edu](mailto:osp@angelo.edu).

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**Upcoming Funding Opportunities**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**
Small Research Grant Program (R03)

**Submission deadline:** 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](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](https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/grants/prf/programs/uni.html)

American Philosophical Society

**Franklin Research Grants**

**Submission deadlines:** October 1, 2016 or December 1, 2016

**Program description:** “Since 1933, the American Philosophical Society has awarded small grants to scholars in order to support the cost of research leading to publication in all areas of knowledge. In 2015–2016 the Franklin Research Grants program awarded $473,950 to 93 scholars, and the Society expects to make a similar number of awards in this year’s competition. The Franklin program is particularly designed to help meet the costs of travel to libraries and archives for research purposes; the purchase of microfilm, photocopied, or equivalent research materials; the costs associated with fieldwork; or laboratory research expenses.”

**Link to full announcement:** [https://amphilsoc.org/grants/franklin](https://amphilsoc.org/grants/franklin)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**e-Funding Alert – August 2016**
NIOSH Small Research Program (R03)
Submission deadlines: Standard NIH R03 deadlines apply; see full announcement for details
Program description: “The purpose of this grant program is to develop an understanding of the risks and conditions associated with occupational diseases and injuries, to explore methods for reducing risks and for preventing or minimizing exposure to hazardous conditions in the workplace, and to translate significant scientific findings into prevention practices and products that will effectively reduce work-related illnesses and injuries.”

Harry S. Truman Library and Museum
Research Grants
Submission deadline: October 1, 2016
Program description: “Research Grants of up to $2,500 are awarded twice annually to offset the cost of conducting research at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. Funding is calculated on the following basis: 1) $75 for any night spent in Independence, Missouri to cover lodging and meals; 2) airfare based on the best advance-coach fare available; 3) $100 allowance for photocopying (ground transportation, including rental car fees, will not be reimbursed).”
Link to full announcement: http://trumanlibraryinstitute.org/research-grants/research-grants/

International Literacy Association
Elva Knight Research Grant
Submission deadline: January 15, 2017
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.”
Link to full announcement: http://www.neh.gov/grants/education/humanities-connections

National Institutes of Health
Community Partnerships to Advance Research (CPAR) (R15)
Submission deadline: Standard NIH R15 deadlines apply; see full announcement for details
Program description: “This funding opportunity announcement encourages researchers to partner with communities using Community Engaged Research (CEnR) methodologies that will enhance relationships leading to better interventions and positive health outcomes. … The objectives of the R15 program [all NIH R15 programs] are to (1) provide support for meritorious research, (2) strengthen the research environment of schools that have not been major recipients of NIH support, and (3) expose available undergraduate and graduate students in such environments to meritorious research. Preliminary data are not required for an R15 application; however, they may be included if available.”

Link to full announcement: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-140.html

National Science Foundation

Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP)

Submission deadlines: Bridge to the Doctorate and Pre-Alliance Planning Grants – October 14, 2016; Alliances (Multi-institutional partnerships) and Bridge to the Baccalaureate – November 4, 2016

Program description: “Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP) program assists universities and colleges in their efforts to significantly increase the numbers of students matriculating into and successfully completing high quality degree programs in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines in order to diversify the STEM workforce. Particular emphasis is placed on transforming undergraduate STEM education through innovative, evidence-based recruitment and retention strategies, and relevant educational experiences in support of racial and ethnic groups historically underrepresented in STEM disciplines: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Native Pacific Islanders. The LSAMP program provides funding to alliances that implement comprehensive, evidence-based, innovative, and sustained strategies that ultimately result in the graduation of well-prepared, highly-qualified students from underrepresented groups who pursue graduate studies or careers in STEM.”


Rockefeller Archive Center

Grants-in-Aid

Submission deadline: November 1, 2016

Program description: “The Rockefeller Archive Center's competitive grant-in-aid program provides awards of up to $4000 for reimbursement of receipted expenses for travel and accommodation in conjunction with research conducted at the RAC. The research grants are designed to foster, promote, and support research by serious scholars in the collections located at the Rockefeller Archive Center.”

Link to full announcement: http://www.rockarch.org/grants/generalgia.php

VentureWell™

Faculty Grants

Submission deadline: November 9, 2016

Program description: “Innovation is a skill that can and should be taught in universities. With our faculty grants, VentureWell challenges faculty to pioneer new ways to engage their students in the entrepreneurial process. The grants: 1) Support new (or help modify existing) courses and programs that lead to the formation of E-Teams—multidisciplinary groups of students, faculty, and mentors working together to bring inventions to market, 2) Help students learn by doing—gaining the entrepreneurial skills they need by actually forming a team and trying to make both the technology and business model work, and 3) Have a strong likelihood of continuing beyond the grant period and becoming part of a campus culture of innovation. To date, 92% of our funded courses and programs report that they are ongoing. There are two types of faculty grants: Course & Program grants and Sustainable Vision grants.”

Link to full announcement: https://venturewell.org/facultygrants/
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