Office of Sponsored Projects

e-Funding Alert

November 2017

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**Avoiding Predatory Publishers: The NIH Weighs In**

In a recent Notice to scientific researchers and a blog post by their Deputy Director of Extramural Research, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) echoed the warnings of librarians and federal agencies regarding the increase in predatory publishing in academia.

Predatory publishers lack credibility in the scientific community, are not indexed in any recognized journal databases, and usually have questionable peer review processes. And, yet, many of them succeed in
gaining payments from researchers to publish their results, making these illegitimate publishers richer and depriving the author of reaching a truly national or international audience.

To combat this problem, the NIH suggests making use of several resources to assess the legitimacy and credibility of a particular journal/publisher. In lieu of relying on the now-defunct Beall’s List of Predatory Publishers, which included some potentially legitimate sources, they recommend using the industry-created “Think. Check. Submit.” website and guidance from a Federal Trade Commission article to evaluate the reputation of an academic journal before submitting an article.

References:


Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Center for Retirement Research at Boston College

Steven H. Sandell Grant Program [retirement research and policy]

Submission deadline: January 31, 2018

Program description: “The Center for Retirement Research sponsors the annual Steven H. Sandell Grant Program for scholars in the field of retirement research and policy. The program is funded by the U.S. Social Security Administration to provide opportunities for junior scholars or senior scholars in a new area from all academic disciplines to pursue cutting-edge projects on retirement income issues. Priority areas include: Social Security, Macroeconomic analyses of Social Security, Wealth and retirement income, Program interactions, International research, [and] Demographic research.”

Link to full announcement: http://crr.bc.edu/about-us/grant-programs/steven-h-sandell-grant-program-2/

Health Resources and Services Administration

Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) – Registered Nurses in Primary Care (RNPC) Training Program

Submission deadline: January 29, 2018

Program description: “This notice solicits applications for the Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) – Registered Nurses in Primary Care (RNPC) Training Program. The purpose of this four-year training program is to recruit and train nursing students and current registered nurses (RNs) to practice to the full scope of their license in community-based primary care teams to increase access to care, with an emphasis on chronic disease prevention and control, including mental health and substance use conditions.”

Link to full announcement: https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=298592

National Education Association Foundation

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Learning and Leadership Grants

Submission deadline: February 1, 2018

Program description: “Educators frequently need outside resources to engage in meaningful professional development due to limited district funding. Through our Learning & Leadership grants, we support the professional development of NEA members by providing grants to: Individuals to participate in high-quality professional development like summer institutes, conferences, seminars, travel abroad programs, or action research[, and] Groups to fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson plan development, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff. We give preference to proposals that incorporate STEM and/or global competence in their projects.”

Note: Eligibility is limited to current NEA members

Link to full announcement: https://www.neafoundation.org/for-educators/learning-and-leadership-grants/

National Endowment for the Humanities

Public Humanities Projects

Submission deadline: January 10, 2018

Program description: “Public Humanities Projects grants support projects that bring the ideas and insights of the humanities to life for general audiences. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art history. NEH encourages projects that involve members of the public in collaboration with humanities scholars or that invite contributions from the community in the development and delivery of humanities programming.”

Link to full announcement: https://www.neh.gov/grants/public/public-humanities-projects

National Institutes of Health

Diet and Physical Activity Assessment Methodology (R01)

Submission deadlines: Standard R01 deadlines apply; see full announcement for details

Program description: “This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages innovative research to enhance the quality of measurements of dietary intake and physical activity. Applications submitted under this FOA are encouraged to include development of: novel assessment approaches; better methods to evaluate instruments; assessment tools for culturally diverse populations or various age groups, including children and older adults; improved technology or applications of existing technology; statistical methods/modeling to improve assessment and/or to correct for measurement errors or biases; methods to investigate the multidimensionality of diet and physical activity behavior through pattern analysis; or integrated measurement of diet and physical activity along with the environmental context of such behaviors.”


Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health (R01)

Submission deadlines: Standard R01 deadlines apply; see full announcement for details

Program description: “This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages investigators to submit research grant applications that will identify, develop, test, evaluate and/or refine strategies to disseminate and implement evidence-based practices (e.g. behavioral interventions; prevention, early detection, diagnostic, treatment and disease management interventions; quality improvement programs) into public health, clinical practice, and community settings. In addition, studies to advance dissemination and implementation research methods and measures are encouraged.”


Prevention Research in Mid-Life Adults (R01)

Submission deadlines: Standard R01 deadlines apply; see full announcement for details
Program description: “This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks to stimulate research on mid-life adults (those 50 to 64 years of age) that can inform efforts to optimize health and wellness as individuals age, and prevent illness and disability in later years.”

Link to full announcement: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-18-134.html

National Science Foundation

Campus Cyberinfrastructure (CC*)

Submission deadline: January 30, 2018

Program description: “The Campus Cyberinfrastructure (CC*) program invests in coordinated campus-level networking improvements, innovation, integration, and engineering for science applications and distributed research projects. Learning and workforce development (LWD) in cyberinfrastructure is explicitly addressed in the program. Science-driven requirements are the primary motivation for any proposed activity. CC* awards will be supported in four program areas: 1) Data Driven Networking Infrastructure for the Campus and Researcher awards will be supported at up to $500,000 total for up to 2 years; 2) Network Design and Implementation for Small Institutions awards will be supported at up to $750,000 total for up to 2 years; 3) Network Integration and Applied Innovation awards will be supported at up to $1,000,000 total for up to 2 years; and 4) Network Performance Engineering and Outreach awards will be supported at up to $3,500,000 total for up to 4 years.”


Dear College Letter: Principles for the Design of Digital Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Learning Environments

Submission deadline: January 22, 2018

Program description: “With this Dear Colleague Letter (DCL), the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Directorates for Education and Human Resources (EHR) and Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) wish to notify the community of their intention to fund research to support the design of the next generation of digital learning environments for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) content, and in support of STEM education research more broadly. As an important first step in this direction, this DCL encourages a series of synthesis, integration, and design workshops. … NSF challenges interdisciplinary science and engineering teams to produce plans for developing forward-looking, highly adaptable, distributed digital environments that can personalize learning for individual, diverse learners in collaborative settings with potential applications across multiple and varying: (a) domains of knowledge, (b) learning contexts (including formal and informal education), and (c) time spans.”


Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI)

Submission deadline: February 5, 2018

Program description: “The Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program serves to increase access to multi-user scientific and engineering instrumentation for research and research training in our Nation’s institutions of higher education and not-for-profit scientific/engineering research organizations. An MRI award supports the acquisition or development of a multi-user research instrument that is, in general, too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NSF programs. MRI provides support to acquire critical research instrumentation without which advances in fundamental science and engineering research may not otherwise occur. MRI also provides support to develop next-generation research instruments that open new opportunities to advance the frontiers in science and engineering research. Additionally, an MRI award is expected to enhance research training of students who will become the next generation of instrument users, designers and builders.”


Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

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Developing Solutions for Social Isolation in the United States: Learning From the World

Submission deadline: December 21, 2017

Program description: “Social connections can help us thrive. But too many people feel disconnected from society and from life, and that contributes to a host of physical, mental and emotional health problems. School children, teens, new mothers, immigrants, LGBT people, people living in remote areas, even millennials with thousands of Facebook friends, often feel excluded or like they don’t belong. We want to learn about solutions that have worked in other countries to address social isolation across all ages and life stages, so that we can strengthen social connection in the United States.”


Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP)

Submission deadline: February 1, 2018

Program description: “The Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) grant provides funding to local governments and non-profit organizations for programming that introduces under-served populations to environmental and conservation programs as well as TPWD mission oriented outdoor activities. …The success of this program lies in the partnerships created between TPWD and grass-roots organizations who have already established a relationship with these identified targeted audiences; females, physically/mentally challenged, ethnic minorities, low income and youth.”

Link to full announcement: https://tpwd.texas.gov/business/grants/recreation-grants/community-outdoor-outreach-program-co-op-grants