

We will be using a back channel communication tool with today's webinar. This will enable the audience to post questions during the webinar which will be answered at the end prior to opening up the phone line for live questions.

To participate:

Go to <https://todaysmeet.com/IAMSE4Feb>

In the "Nickname" field type your name, then press enter.

In the "Say" field type your question and press enter.



1

How to Find Funding for Your Educational Research

Jane Z. Dumsha, Ph.D., CHES
Chief Research Operations Officer
Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine



Overview

1. Develop an Idea
2. Find Potential Sponsors
3. Research Potential Sponsors




3

Step 1 – Develop an Idea



4

Step 1 – Develop an Idea

- What is the need?
- What is the project that will address the need? 
- What are your qualifications and institutional capabilities?
- How will the project be conducted?



5

What is the need? (Why)

- Who has the need? (target population)
- What are their needs/problems?
- What is causing the needs/problems?
- How can the needs/problems be measured and documented?



6

What is the need? (*Why*)

- What are the major unanswered questions?
- What does the current literature say about the problem/need? What approaches have been tried or suggested?



7

What is the project that will address the need? (*What*)

- What is the proposed solution?
- What approaches can attain that solution?
- What are some alternative approaches?
- What makes the project unique?



8

What is the project that will address the need? (*What*)

- What makes the project important?
- What resources will be needed?
 - People, facilities, money, time
 - Institution, partners, funder
- What is the projected **budget**?



9

What are your qualifications and institutional capabilities? (*Who and Where*)

- What have you done that is similar?
- What input have you sought?
- How does project fit institution's mission?



10

What are your qualifications and institutional capabilities? (*Who and Where*)

- What is institution's commitment to this specific project?
- What capabilities and resources does the institution have? Fiscally responsible?
- What other capabilities and resources are available?



11

How will the project be conducted? (*How and When*)

- What methods will be used?
- What are the expected outcomes of the project?
- How will the project be **evaluated**?
- How will the project be **continued** after the grant expires?



12

Step 2 - Find Potential Sponsors

- Foundations/Corporations
- Voluntary Health Organizations
- Professional Societies
- Government Agencies



13



Private and corporate foundations

- Subscription services
 - Chronicle of Philanthropy - Guide to Grants
 - Foundation Center
 - History of annual grants and other giving at <http://foundationcenter.org/findfunders/990finder/>
 - International Directory of Foundations at <http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/topical/international.html>
 - GuideStar
 - SPIN (InfoEd Global), IRIS, Community of Science, etc.
- General Internet search engines



14

Private and corporate foundations

N.B.: May be **required** to notify your institution's development/advancement office before contacting a sponsor or submitting anything



15

SPIN Search and Results Example

- Keywords: Medical Education, Educational/Instructional Technology, Instructional Materials and Practices, Educational Evaluation/Assessment, Classroom Instruction (many more in SPIN under Education)
- AND
- Applicant Type = *Researcher or Investigator*
- 36 results
- Spencer Foundation
 - "high-quality, innovative research with the potential to improve education"
 - \$50,000 or less



16

SPIN Search and Results Example

- Keywords: Medical Education, Educational/Instructional Technology, Instructional Materials and Practices, Educational Evaluation/Assessment, Classroom Instruction
- AND
- Applicant Type = Faculty Member
- 43 results
- Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER)
 - "two-year fellowship program for international health professions educators" to come to U.S.



17

Internet Search Results Examples

- Arnold P. Gold Foundation
 - Research Planning Grants for teams to work on multi-institutional proposals to larger funding agencies
 - "research which links humanistic healthcare and health professions education to important patient, provider and systems outcomes"
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
 - Focus areas include health leadership and workforce
 - Training and fellowship programs, policy analysis, health services research



18

Internet Search Results Examples

- Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation
 - “Advancing the education and training of health professionals”



19

Voluntary health organizations

- Disease or condition specific
 - Examples: Alzheimer’s Association, March of Dimes
- Fund research, service delivery, and/or education
 - Usually public/patient education
- Resources to locate VHOs
 - Subscription services (e.g., SPIN)
 - National Health Council
 - HealthFinder.gov
 - Fogarty International Center



20

VHO Education Funding Examples

- March of Dimes
 - Agnes Higgins Award
 - “achievement in research, education or clinical services in the field of maternal-fetal nutrition”
- Fogarty International Center (U.S. NIH)
 - Currently *CLOSED*: Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI)



21

Professional Societies

- National Board of Medical Examiners Stemmler Medical Education Research Fund
 - “research or development of innovative assessment approaches”
- American Educational Research Association (AERA)
 - Research on “education policy and practice using quantitative methods”



22

Professional Societies

- American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
 - Medical education research and institutional research
 - “Up to \$10,000 for collaborative research projects...up to \$5,000 for single campus research or smaller collaborative studies.”



23

Government agencies

- Usually not for beginning research/researchers
- Highly competitive
 - Preliminary data
 - Track record of grants and publications
 - Institutional infrastructure



24

Federal Funding Examples

- National Institutes of Health Fogarty awards
- Most are for kindergarten to 12th grade or undergraduate institutions or for training physician-scientists
 - National Center for Education Statistics
 - National Science Foundation
 - NIH Career Development Awards



25

Federal Funding Examples

- U.S. Department of Education
 - Institute of Education Sciences (IES)
 - Low-Cost, Short-Duration Evaluation of Education Interventions
 - Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)
- Medical schools are a tough sell – generalizability



26

Proposal concept paper

- Answer questions in “Develop an Idea” section
- Practice makes perfect
- Prepare even if no funding opportunity identified
- Get feedback
 - Colleagues
 - Program staff at sponsor’s office



27

Step 3 - Research Potential Sponsors

- What are sponsor priorities?
- What are sponsor guidelines?
 - How should initial contact be made?
- What types of projects, investigators, and institutions has the sponsor funded currently/previously?



28

What are sponsor priorities?

- Types of grants, e.g., research grant, training and professional development, seed money
- Types of applicants, e.g., faculty, residents, students
- Populations served by project, e.g., children, families, elderly
- Geographic restrictions



29

What are sponsor guidelines?

- How should initial contact be made?
 - Phone (rehearse first)
 - Letter of inquiry/intent
 - Preapplication/Preproposal
- Will program officer critique a draft?
- Citizenship and other eligibility criteria
- Maximum budget request
 - Matching requirement?
- Deadlines or open
- Success ratios



30

Types of projects, investigators, and institutions funded

- Collaborative vs. standalone; service delivery vs. research, etc.
- Trainees, midlevel, senior
- Grassroots and other nonprofits; large/research-intensive; another PI at your institution
- Sponsor's website, annual reports, newsletters, press releases
- Who's on review panel?



31

Need Grant Writing Training?

- Foundation Center
<http://grantspace.org/skills/proposal-writing>
 - Free webinars
 - Videos, live chats, "Get Answers," sample documents
 - Online course for US\$295
 - Classroom-based courses in larger cities around the U.S.



32

Remember

Lack of money is no obstacle. Lack of an idea is an obstacle.

- Ken Hakuta



33

Join Us in Leiden!

IAMSE Annual Meeting
June 4-7, 2016

- More detailed information
- Experiential learning



http://iamse.site-ym.com/events/event_details.asp?id=696997



34