Finding Funding Tools and Basic Proposal Development Concepts

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Agenda

- Finding Funding Tools offered through AURI
- Understanding eligibility
- Key concepts in building a budget

Grant Finding Tools

- https://www.augusta.edu/research/spa/funding.php

Funding Opportunities

To assist faculty in identifying potential sponsors, DSPA provides access to sponsor web sites, an alphabetical listing with links directly to sponsor home pages, and to Grants.gov, announcements of funding by various federal and private sponsors.

DSPA subscribes to the Sponsored Program Information Network (SPIN) and GrantsSelect, web-based searchable databases available at no cost to the AU community.

Also directly accessible are the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation home pages, and information about intramural funding sponsored by the Augusta University Research Institute.

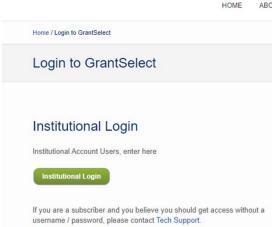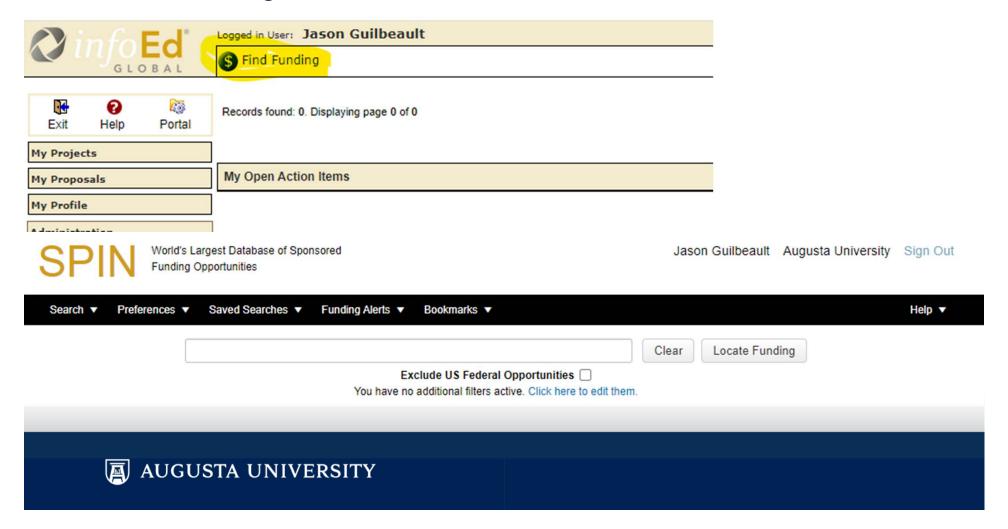| SPIN	GRANTS.GOV	GrantSelect
SPIN	GRANTS.GOV	GRANT SELECT
NIH National Institutes of Health, Office of Extramural Research	HRSA	National Science Foundation WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH	HEALTH RESOURCES & SERVICE ADMIN	NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

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- Extensive On-line Grants Database
- Over 16,000 Funding Opportunities
- Greater than 5,100 Sponsoring Organizations
- Free to AU Community
- Requires AU Log-In Credentials
  - https://www.grantselect.com/login.html
  - Can also be found on the list of Apps and Tools on my.augusta.edu
- Need to be on campus or connected to VPN

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SPIN – InfoEd (eSproute)

- When logged into eSproute, you should see the Find Funding button to click on.

Reviewing the Solicitation/Grant Opportunity

- A solicitation is the source of all information and includes:
  - When the proposal is due
  - Where to submit it
  - How to submit it
  - What information the sponsor wants in the proposal package
  - What the budget limits are
  - What types of costs are allowable or unallowable
  - Allowed indirect costs (aka Facilities and Administration costs)
  - How the proposal will be reviewed/scored
  - Who to contact with questions
  - Institutional and PI/PD eligibility
  - Matching/Cost Sharing requirements (if required)
- Best practice is to create a checklist based on the solicitation

Proposal Development

- There are a wide variety of grants from many different sponsors that require varying parts of a proposal

- Most funding opportunities have the following parts in common:

  – Institutional Eligibility

  – Principal Investigator (PI) or Project Director (PD) Eligibility

  – Purpose/Objective/Scope of work

  – Budget

  – Review Criteria

PI/PD Eligibility

- Individual eligibility for PIs/PDs can be limited by criteria such as:

  - career stage

  - demographics such as gender, first-generation college graduate, or other underrepresented groups

  - Amount of sponsored funding a PI/PD currently has

- AU Policy – only full time faculty can serve as a PI/PD

  - Exceptions can be granted by SVP of Research

Institution and PI/PD Eligibility

- Institutional eligibility can be restricted by such criteria as:
  - non-profit organizations with IRS 501(c)(3) designation
  - institutions of higher education, either public or private
  - university's overall operating budget
  - university designations such as Historically Black Colleges or Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Primarily Undergraduate Institution
  - foreign entities may be included or excluded from participation
  - small businesses
  - amount of sponsored funding received by specific college or AU as a whole
  - Regional demographics
- Sponsors may also limit number of submissions by each entity
  - These are called "limited submission opportunities"
  - AVP of DSPA and SVP of Research manage the process to facilitate in the selection of who will submit on behalf of AU/AURI

Notes for Institutional Eligibility

- Augusta University Research Institute has an IRS 501(c)(3) designation (i.e. non-profit organization)

- Augusta University is a public institution of higher education

- Augusta University is NOT:
  - A Historically Black College or University (HBCU)
  - A Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)
  - A Minority Serving Institution (MSI)
  - A Predominantly/Primarily Undergraduate Institution (PUI)

Proposal Writing Basics

- **Purpose/Objective/Scope of Work (SOW)**:

  - The PI/PD should align their purpose/objective/SOW to fit the mission and priorities of the sponsor.

  - The sponsor's missions are often on their website or other publicly available sources.

  - Some sponsors host webinars and/or events designed to share the goal of a particular proposal.

Common Elements of a Budget

- Salaries/wages and fringe benefit expenses of employees and students working on the award
- Travel, either to collaborating sites or to conferences
- Supplies, including computing devices
- Publication
- Consultants
- Subawards (collaborating institutions)
- Equipment
- Participant costs (including participant travel)
- Other services from 3rd party vendors
- Patient Care
- Indirect Costs (aka Facilities and Administration Costs)

Budget Justification

- Many sponsors requires the PI/PD to justify their budget

    – Describe how and why each line item in the budget will be used to complete the project

- Budget Justifications, Not Budget Reiterations

- Budget justifications are important because they explain to reviewers why the costs are essential to completing the tasks outlined in the proposal.

    – One common mistake is to over-simplify explanations (e.g., Supplies: general supplies for the project, $25).

    – Provide the *why* behind the *what*.

Other Resources for Developing Proposals

- Office of Interdisciplinary Research is available to assist the Summerville Campus in developing proposals

- AURI provides funding for consultants from Health Research Associates (on retainer) and Stone Fence Collaborative (on a project-by-project basis) to assist faculty with grant proposal preparation and revisions.

  - Assistance is provided in preparation of specific aims, significance, hypothesis development, and other sections of the grant application, as well as with responding to review critiques.

- The Office of the Senior Vice President for will pay a $250 consulting fee for up to two external reviews of a major (e.g., NIH) grant proposal being submitted by any AU faculty member

Other Resources for Developing Proposals

- HRA consultants visits Augusta University twice yearly to meet individually with faculty and to present grantsmanship seminars, and they welcome fax, telephone, and email communication.

- HRA Contact - Israel Goldberg, PhD

- Stone Fence Contact - Carl Batt, PhD

- Contact Jason Guilbeault (Jguilbeault@augusta.edu) and Maggie Flavin (MFLAVIN@augusta.edu) if you need to utilize these consultants

Questions

- Thank you all for attending