

This is ORCPD's Tip Sheet for Fund Searching and Proposal Writing. If you have questions or discover a nonfunctional link on this sheet, please contact ORCPD at orcpd@iit.edu. We update this file often, so the numbers below aren't necessarily all in order.

Proposal Development:

IIT Resources:

1. Proposal Development Main Site

http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_Proposal_Development_Services.shtml

2. The Graduate College's Boilerplate Library for Proposal Writers at

http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_BoilerplateLibrary.shtml

3. A database of your collaborators at IIT:

<http://gradserver5.ais.iit.edu/gradresearch/searchengine.htm>

4. How to get a copy of a funded proposal at IIT:

http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_Funded_Faculty_Proposal.shtml

5. A specific description of the editorial and writing service at IIT is here:

http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_WritingAssistance.shtml

6. You may wish to think about making your summary a "grabber" with:

<http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/KnockoutPunchProposalSummary.shtml>

7. Another useful resource is IIT's Boilerplate Library for Proposal Writers, at:

http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_BoilerplateLibrary.shtml

...which is divided into five sections:

- Capabilities of Principal Investigator;
- IIT Institutional Capabilities;
- IIT Research Resources;
- Budget Justification;
- Templates for Working with Industry.

8. For an NSF proposal, the one page Proposal Summary follows special rules, see:

http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_BPLibrary_NSFPropSum.shtml

9. The Science of Scientific Writing (one of my favorites)

<http://www.americanscientist.org/issues/feature/the-science-of-scientific-writing/>

Other Resources:

10. Inside the NIH Grant Review Process (online video)

<http://www.drug.nih.gov/Video/Video.asp>

11. There's a very good EPA Grant Writing Tutorial at <http://www.purdue.edu/dp/envirosoft/grants/src/msieopen.htm>
I find the "Enhancing a Proposal" link at the left on that screen is the most helpful, generically, to proposal writers no matter what the field. For example, after you have clicked "Enhancing a Proposal" on the leftnav bar, see "The Reviewer's Perspective" on that page (click "Place Yourself in the Reviewers' Shoes").

12. The Foundation Center's Proposal Writing Course at <http://fdncenter.org/learn/shortcourse/prop1.html>

Funding Sources:

13. An article about how to talk to a funder
http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_Talking_to_a_Sponsor.shtml

14. Research Services funding opportunities:
<http://www.iit.edu/research/services/>

15. ORCPD funding opportunities at:
http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_FundingOpportunities.shtml

16-24. IIT's Most Common Funders:

[National Science Foundation](#)

[U.S. Department of Education](#)

[National Institutes of Health](#)

[Office of Naval Research](#)

[Air Force Office of Scientific Research \(AFOSR\)](#)

[Army Research Office \(ARO\)](#)

[Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#)

[National Aeronautics and Space Administration \(NASA\)](#)

[United States Department of Energy](#)

25. Some non-Government and Foundation funders are found at:
http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_GovernmentFunding.shtml

26. The Community of Science at
www.cos.com

This is an important site and one with which it will pay to become familiar. This site can save you time! The Community of Science site is one of your best methods of getting automatic funding alerts in the timeliest manner. Sometimes, just having a few days' extra notice makes all the difference and allows enough time to get a proposal done by deadline.

27. Please see the introductory material on IIT's website at:
http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_COS.shtml
and get yourself signed up by following the instructions there.
Note the COS Help Desk telephone line: (410) 563-2378 (then press "1" for product support); their staffers are trained in library science. IIT maintains a paid subscription to this site that allows access from any IIT domain.

After you sign up, it is suggested you get familiar with their Keyword Browser, which is a feature you'll use when you set up an automatic Funding Alert. You may also wish to get familiar with the COS Sponsor Browser. Both are shown below:

28. COS Keyword Browser: Activate from your "workbench" you create, or go to
<http://fundingopps.cos.com/cgi-bin/search/main>

and scroll down until you see the box marked "Browse" to the right of the word: **Keywords**. Click that browse box and when it launches a popup window, expand that window fully. We will demonstrate this in the workshop.

29. COS Sponsor Browser:
<http://fundingopps.cos.com/sponsors/>

30. Additional Note: you might find the COS "Freedom Funds" page of interest; it was created in response to the September 11th 2001 attacks.

<http://fundingopps.cos.com/freedom/>

31. If **biomedical research** is your specialty you may want to visit
www.grantsnet.org

It is free and sponsored by AAAS and Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

32. The US Department of Energy outlines their agency's priorities for grant awards at:
<http://www.science.doe.gov/production/grants/progdesc.html>

NSF's Guide to Programs

One of the best ways to research what this agency has to offer. Official description follows:
"The new edition of the *Guide to Programs* (NSF 04-009) is available on the NSF website. Published each fiscal year, the *Guide* is a compilation of funding opportunities offered by NSF for research and education in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology. The *Guide* includes broad, general descriptions of programs and activities for each NSF Directorate, as well as sources for more information. NSF funds research and education in most fields of science and engineering and accounts for about one-fourth of all Federal support to academic institutions for basic research."

33. The Guide to Programs is found at:
<http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?gp>

34. The NSF Active Funding Opportunities list:
http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_list.jsp?org=NSF&ord=date

35. You may also be interested in the weekly NIH (National Institutes of Health) guide, available via
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/listserv.htm>

36. An article about subscribing to various agency listserves
http://www.iit.edu/research/services/orcpd/ORCPD_AgencyListservs.shtml

Proposal Development Follow-up: To schedule a proposal development meeting, or for a meeting to discuss fund searching, please contact Glenn Krell; telephone is 312 567-7141 and email is krell@iit.edu.

Library Tip:

From “Problems and Concerns Commonly Cited by Reviewers” in *The Original How to Write a Research Grant Application*:

“The proposal lacks critical literature references causing reviewers to think that the applicant either does not know the literature or has purposely neglected critical published material.”

Don’t let this be a problem cited about your proposal! Please consult with librarians at the Galvin Library regarding available resources.

<http://library.iit.edu>
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