

Access Granted

Office of Sponsored Programs & Research

July 2015

Grants 101

A Short Summary of Federal Grants

What is a grant? A grant is a way the government funds your ideas and projects to provide public services and stimulate the economy. Grants support critical recovery initiatives, innovative research, and a litany of other programs. On Grants.gov you will find all the funding opportunities from the [26 federal agencies that award grants](#).

The grant process follows a linear lifecycle that includes creating the funding opportunity, applying, making award decisions, and successfully implementing the award. The specific actions along the lifecycle are grouped into three main phases:

1. [Pre-award Phase: Funding Opportunities and Application Submission](#)
2. [Award Phase: Application Review and Award Decisions](#)
3. [Post Award: Implementation, Reporting, and Closeout](#)

Check out the [grant lifecycle](#) page to find out what you, the applicant, and the award-making agency do in the lifecycle. Each of the three phases has its own page that provides a more detailed look at the process.

As you move through the grant lifecycle, you will need to use several different grants systems to apply, manage, and report on your grants. For detailed information on the variety of grant systems, check out the [Grant Systems](#) section.

**Funding
Opportunities**

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		The Camille & Henry Dreyfus Foundation, Inc.
		U.S. Department of Education
		U.S. Department of Agriculture
		U.S. Department of Energy

Updates & Information

Manage Grants and Contracts

Sponsored agreements are awarded to the university on behalf of the principal investigator (PI). As such, it is important to note that **primary responsibility** of fiscal oversight and technical completion begins with the PI.

Since the university is legally responsible for all sponsored agreements, post-award grant management must follow Towson University's Financial Services policies and procedures. Please see the pages in this section and the [Faculty Handbook](#) to ensure that proper policies and procedures are followed.

The post-award grants financial management team is here to assist you in all financial matters relating to expenditures and revenues, including:

- Assisting in the administration of project award
- Preparing and submitting invoices
- Receiving and tracking payments
- Preparing and submitting financial reports
- Ensuring compliance with OMB regulations, sponsoring agency regulations, and Towson University policies
- Requests for no-cost extensions
- Modifications requiring prior approval from sponsor (budget, change in PI, change in scope, etc.)
- Negotiations for subaward agreements

Kudos Corner

Congratulations to Dr. Rita Costa Gomes, who received \$10,965 from the Fundacao Calouste Gulbenkian for her project titled "The Letter-collection of Gomes Eanes (1420-1441): edition and study ."

Congratulations to Dr. Michael O'Leary, who received over \$22,055 from the Maryland Department of Human Resources for his 2016 Graduate Assistant Fellowship!



Spotlight Funding

Select one of the links below to view the full announcement!

Sponsor: National Endowment for the Arts

Deadline(s): 9/21/2015

Description: The Arts Endowment's support of a project may start on August 1, 2016, or any time thereafter.

OUR TOWN: Grant Program Description The Our Town grant program supports creative placemaking projects that help to transform communities into lively, beautiful, and resilient places with the arts at their core. Creative placemaking is when artists, arts organizations, and community development practitioners deliberately integrate arts and culture into community revitalization work - placing arts at the table with land-use, transportation, economic development, education, housing, infrastructure, and public safety strategies. This funding supports local efforts to enhance quality of life and opportunity for existing residents, increase creative activity, and create a distinct sense of place.

Click [here](#) to view the RFP!

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Deadline(s): 9/22/2015

Description: The program seeks: 1) to increase the number of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need obtaining degrees in STEM and entering the STEM workforce or graduate study; 2) improve the education of future scientists, engineers, and technicians, with a focus on academically talented low-income students; and 3) advance understanding of the factors or curricular and co-curricular activities affecting the success of low-income students. In this solicitation, the acronym STEM stands for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that includes biological sciences (except medicine and other clinical fields); physical sciences (including physics, chemistry, astronomy, and materials science); mathematical sciences; computer and information sciences; geosciences; engineering; and technology areas associated with the preceding disciplines (for example, biotechnology, chemical technology, engineering technology, information technology, etc.)

Click [here](#) to view the RFP!

Specific OSPR Services Include:

- Assist with the proposal budget preparation and development
- Research and disseminate funding opportunities
- Facilitate institutional routing/approvals of proposals
- Submit proposals and other required documents to sponsors
- Assist with electronic proposal development and submission
- Provide institutional certification and/or assurances when required
- Serve as liaison between the University and sponsor to resolve sponsored award related concerns/issues
- Initiate sponsored award account set-up
- Facilitate sponsored award close-out functions
- Host regular events to educate faculty/staff with the administration of sponsored awards
- Ensure compliance with applicable federal, state, local and University policies and regulations



OSPR Orientation Express

The annual OSPR faculty orientation breakfast is coming up!
RSVP will be available soon!

Let's travel the road of research and scholarly interest together.
We look forward to you joining us!



Questions, or comments regarding *Access Granted* can be directed to the editor, [Jai-lyn Elliott](#).