Grant Applications and Sources of Funding

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30th October 2019

How to find Funding?

The research grant application process.

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1. **Ask yourself what do I want to do?**

   Is it a large project, small project, international project, travel grant, PhD, fellowship, creative?

2. **Do I need to work with anyone else and particularly do I need to work with organisations other than Universities?**

   Charities, NGOs, Government, Gatekeepers, companies, artists, film makers etc.

3. **Ask yourself what resources am I going to need?**

   Staff, travel, workshop, conference fees, data collection/management, software, equipment?

4. **Ask yourself when successful how am I going to get my results out there?**

   Exhibition, cartoon, poetry, performance, film, publishing, policy documents, social media etc.?

5. **Ask yourself now who is going to fund me??!!**
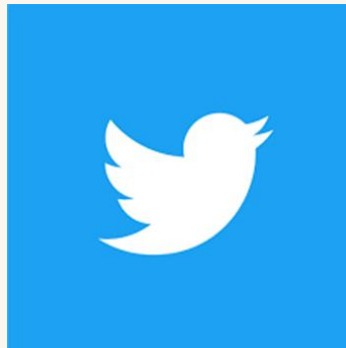
How to find Funding?

Funding Sources

- ❑ Governments

- ❑ Charities

- ❑ Foundations

- ❑ Learned Societies

- ❑ Industry

- ❑ UKRI

The search is on!

- Which Funders are actively funding my topic?

- Does the Funder fund organisations like mine?

You've found some Funders

- What are the guidelines for applying?

- Am I eligible?

- What information/documents do I need to collate?

- What format must I write the proposal in (page limits, font, spacing)?

- Do I have sufficient time to submit the proposal? When is the deadline?

- Do some background research on the funder – look at past projects that have been funded, are there any limitations to number of times you can apply, due diligence.

Applying for the Grant Top Tips

- Know your team

- Read winning proposals and if possible unsuccessful ones

- Create a checklist of everything you are going to need to do

- Allocate tasks to your team and set internal deadlines

- If collaborative try to arrange a one day meeting to clarify roles and research questions/plans.

Typical Documents

- Funder Guidance

- Case for support (Proposal)

- Aims

- Objectives

- Pathways to Impact

- Data management plans

- Justification of Resources

- CVs

- Letters of Support

Other Considerations

- Accessing online submission portals

- Referees

- Institutional information – PIC numbers – DUNS numbers – Company registration documents – Audited accounts – financial statements - policies

- Ethics

- Peer Review - criteria

- Budgets

Grant writing tips

Heilmeir Catechism:

1. What are you trying to do? Articulate your objectives using absolutely no jargon. What is the problem? Why is it hard?

2. How is it done today, and what are the limits of current practice?

3. What's new in your approach and why do you think it will be successful?

4. Who cares?

5. If you're successful, what difference will it make? What impact will success have? How will it be measured?

6. What are the risks and the payoffs?

7. How long will it take?

8. What are the midterm and final "exams" to check for success? How will progress be measured?

9. How much will it cost?

Grant writing tips

Resources:
- ACU https://www.acu.ac.uk/
- Funds for NGOs https://www2.fundsforngos.org/featured/free-top-25-tips-on-how-to-write-proposals-effectively-for-funding-success/
- https://freeresources.fundsforngos.org/
- Grant writers Handbook (University of Cambridge) https://www.ifm.eng.cam.ac.uk/research/grant-writers-handbook/

Tips for Planning for proposals

- Identify the problem that your project would solve
- Identify prospective funding agencies
- Know what the donor is looking for
- Organize a good working team
- Read winning proposals

Tips for Proposal Writing

- The project title should capture the essence of the project
- Structure the proposal properly
- Bring in innovative ideas and elements in the project
- Write the executive summary in a clear, succinct and appealing manner
- Be specific and to the point
- Include relevant examples/case studies
- When writing about your organization don't brag about your achievements
- Use data and facts to support your case
- Goal should clearly indicate the purpose of your proposal
- Keep only one goal for the proposal
- Write S.M.A.R.T objectives
- Cleary describe the methodology that you will follow to achieve the desired goals/Objectives
- Avoid using jargons and technical language
- Use Charts, Flow diagrams, info graphs to make the proposal
- Follow the specific guidelines
- Format the proposal properly
- Get the proposal reviewed by your colleagues ad revise i
- Answer all the questions/sections mentioned in the proposal template
- Avoid Plagiarism
- Design the budget with utmost care

Possible Funders

- Global Innovation Fund
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- IDRC
- UKRI - Global Challenges Research Fund
- DFID
- UNDP
- UN Women
- UN Wider
- National endowment for democracy (NED)
- SSRC – African peace building network
- UN agencies
- People in Need
- Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundation
- Polden Puckham
- UKaid
- USaid
- National Endowment for Democracy
- ESRC Urgency fund
- UKRI standard grants (as co-applicant)
- EU – H2020 – ERC grants/ Marie Sklowdowska Curie fellowships (although as lead would need to move to Europe)
- International Growth Centre