



# Finding Funding Resources

Physics Postdoctoral Scholars Retreat  
September 17, 2025

# Agenda



INTRODUCTIONS



FUNDING  
LANDSCAPE  
CONSIDERATIONS



FINDING FUNDING  
RESOURCES FOR  
POSTDOCTORAL  
SCHOLARS



GENERAL  
GRANTSMANSHIP  
ADVICE



OTHER  
RECOMMENDED  
RESOURCES



QUESTIONS?

# FORA's Mission

The FAS Office of Research Administration, or FORA, advances the research and scholarly mission of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences through expert guidance, comprehensive support, and seamless collaboration with researchers and administrative colleagues. As your trusted partner in navigating the complexities of the full research lifecycle with integrity and care, we are your hub for research support and direction. **Your research, our mission.**

# The Funding Landscape

- Political shifts and strategic agility
- Funding diversification opportunity
- Uncertainty brings resilience

# Research Development Core Service Areas



Finding Funding



Proposal Resources



Grantsmanship Advice



Workshops & Outreach



# Finding Funding



- Curated funding opportunity list for Postdoctoral Scholars
- Using funding search tools
- Automated funding alerts

# Funding Opportunities

- [Curated funding opportunity list for Postdoctoral Scholars](#)
- Search by keywords
- Filter by discipline, citizenship requirements, type of support, and external vs. Harvard opportunities

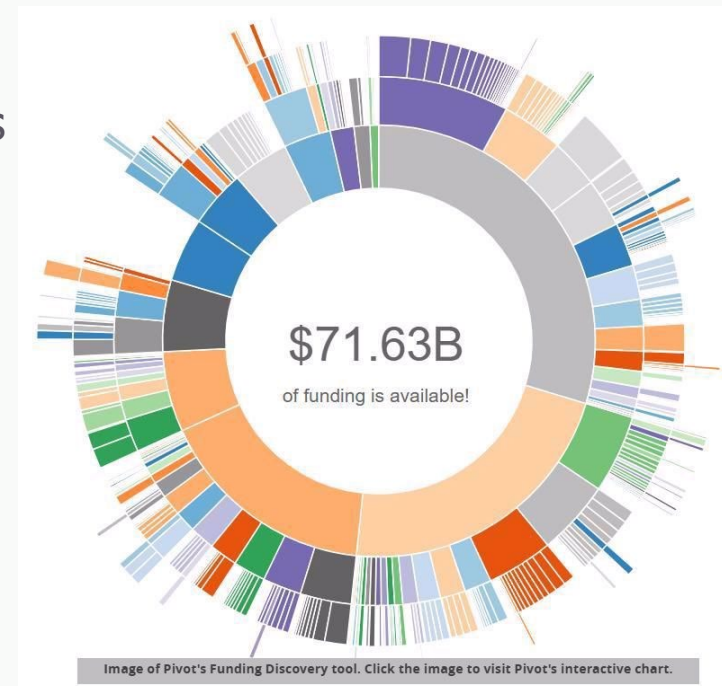


# Funding Databases: Pivot

## Pivot

- Keyword-searchable funding opportunities
- Includes private, federal, and international sponsors
- Register individual email account to be able to:
  - Sign up to receive customized funding alerts
  - Save and return to previous funding searches
  - Track individual funding opportunities
  - Claim your profile, which will allow the system's proprietary matching algorithm to suggest funding opportunities and potential collaborators

[Funding Opportunity Databases website](#): access the Pivot User Guide

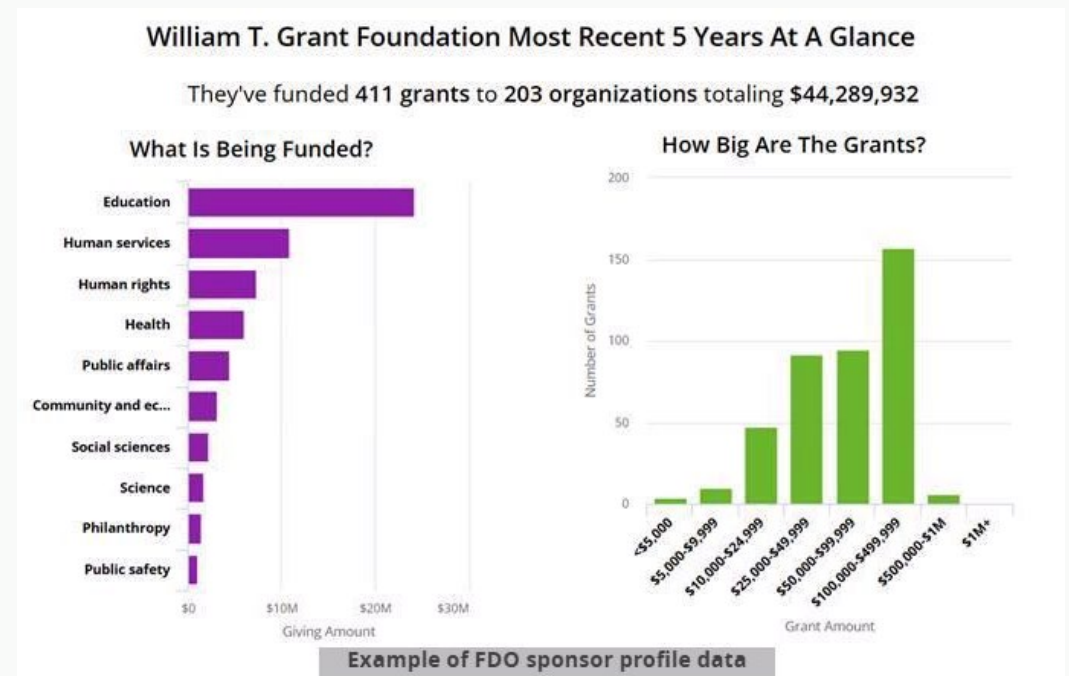


# Funding Databases: Foundation Directory Online (FDO)

## Foundation Directory Online


- Database of private, family, and corporate foundations
- Sponsor profiles include
  - Application process
  - Grantmaking history
  - Funding interests
  - Geographic focus
  - Contact information
- Access with HarvardKey

[Funding Opportunity Databases website:](#)  
access the FDO User Guide



# Limited Submission Opportunities

Limited submission opportunities (LSOs) are funding programs for which the sponsor has placed a limit on the number of applications that may be submitted from an institution.



LSOs are facilitated through an internal, competitive selection process.



FORA manages the LSO selection process for the FAS and SEAS.

Questions regarding LSO competitions may be directed to [Jennifer Corby](#).

# Grantsmanship Strategies & Applying for Funding

Before you apply:

Determine whether the opportunity is a good fit for your research

Discuss the opportunity with your advisor/mentor

Ask for a sample proposal

Let your sponsored research administrator know as early as possible about your intent to apply

- Review agency/foundation mission/strategic priorities
- Read solicitation carefully
- Review abstracts of funded proposals
- Contact the Program Officer



# Sample Proposal Library

- Successful proposals from recent award recipients
- Proposals marked with an asterisk\* are available to postdoctoral scholars
- [Sample Proposal Library](#)

# Submission Timeline

As far in advance as possible

- Postdoc notifies Sponsored Research Administrator (SRA) of intention to apply
- SRA confirms internal due date

5 Business Days before sponsor deadline

- SRA submits a complete draft of the application to the Office for Sponsored Programs, and if applicable, FORA, for review

3 Business Days before sponsor deadline

- Postdoc provides final version of project narrative

By sponsor deadline

- OSP will authorize submission

For more information, see [OSP Submission Deadlines](#) and [PI Eligibility](#)

# Other Resources

**Harvard CARAT database**: Searchable grants and fellowships database for undergraduate/graduate students and postdoctoral scholars

**Simpler Grants.gov**: Searchable database for federal funding opportunities

**UCLA GRAPES database**: Searchable database for graduate student and postdoctoral opportunities

# QUESTIONS?

## FAS Office of Research Administration

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<https://research.fas.harvard.edu>

### Quick Links

[Postdoc Resources](#)

[Postdoc Funding Opportunities](#)

[Early Career Awards](#)

[Funding Opportunity Databases](#)

[Sample Proposal Library](#)

[Limited Submission Opportunities](#)