Extramural Funding

How can you find available outside funding opportunities for your research?

You'll find several options listed below

Pivot? Funding Opportunities Database [1]

Pivot is one of the most comprehensive searchable funding opportunities databases available, with approximately 40,000 opportunities that are private, federal and international in nature. Pivot allows researchers to search funding opportunities, save results, set automated funding alerts, and identify potential collaborators. Pivot is free to all UCSF faculty, staff and students.

Pivot Training [2]

The Library, is pleased to offer monthly Pivot trainings for faculty, staff, post-docs and students. To get the schedule for Pivot trainings and Pop-up sessions, go to class schedule [3]. Contact: Min-Lin Fang [4] for more information

Limited Submission Opportunities (LSOs) [5]

Limited submission opportunities (LSOs) are extramural funding opportunities that either limit the number of applications that UCSF may put forward to a given sponsor or that require some kind of internal coordination (i.e., to eliminate unnecessary duplication of instrument requests). The Limited Submission Program (LSP) is responsible for notifying the campus of these opportunities, coordinating the internal review and selection process, and notifying all applicants of outcomes.

UCSF Innovation, Technology & Alliances (ITA) [6]

Finding the funding to develop a research opportunity through proof-of-concept and beyond is increasingly challenging. The barriers to entry for investors are set higher every year. To help investigators bridge this funding gap, UCSF Innovation, Technology & Alliances (ITA) compiles a range of relevant funding opportunities for researchers, from traditional government sources to non-traditional sources, such as crowdsourcing and disease foundations.


UCSF has partnered with crowdfunding platforms to support the fundraising efforts of UCSF researchers. UCSF researchers now have the ability to conduct their own fundraising
campaigns using indiegogo. UCSF researchers can check out the Crowdfunding for Science Chatter group for more information and updates on new crowdfunding opportunities (via MyAccess login).

UCSF Library [10]
The UCSF Library provides access to a variety of different databases, including those listing private foundation funding categorized by study area. Visit the UCSF Library online to learn more about this resource.

Distinguished Achievement Awards and Honorary Societies [11]
The EVCP Office encourages recommendation of deserving colleagues and acknowledges those who have received distinguished awards. For information on Distinguished Achievement Awards and Honorary Societies.

Other Places to Find Funding Opportunities
NIH Office of Extramural Research is the largest funder of biomedical research in the world. The Grants and Funding page includes extensive information about NIH grants, as well as a place to search NIH funding programs. NIH also has an advanced search page, which offers a wide range of search options.

National Science Foundation (NSF) is an independent federal agency that funds approximately 20 percent of all federally supported basic research conducted at America's colleges and universities. You can search for funding opportunities on the NSF website.

Department of Defense (DOD) is home to the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP), which supports biomedical research in specific agency-designated strategic areas. The CDMRP page lists current areas of interest and available funding opportunities.

Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) offers some research funds or research capabilities through a task contract with the federal government. Opportunities for these contracts can be found on the FBO page.

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) [12] is authorized by Congress to conduct research to provide information about the best available evidence to help patients and their health care providers make more informed decisions.

Grant announcements from the Agency for Health-Care Research and Quality (AHRO) [13] for supporting research to improve the quality, effectiveness, accessibility, and cost effectiveness of health care.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) [14] makes grants to organizations to improve and expand health care services for underserved people.

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