Identifying Funding Sources:
How to Search for Funding Opportunities in the Humanities & Social Sciences

The Graduate Funding Information Center
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Topics for Today

1. Funding Strategies
2. Funding Databases
3. UNC Graduate School Funding Opportunities
4. External Opportunities
5. Proposal Writing
Funding Strategies
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• **Start Early.** Begin your search early, at least 1 year before the intended onset of funding.
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• **Familiarize yourself** with programs, sponsors in your field.
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• **Network.** Find out how people in your department get funded and what listservs you should join.
How did you learn about this award?

advisor communications departmental department

member online organization personal previous professor

research scholarship school sciences search sigma strength student studies teaching texas undergraduate university web website
Funding Strategies

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- **Familiarize yourself** with programs, sponsors in your field.
- **Network.** Find out how people in your department get funded and what listservs you should join.
- **Trade up.** Funders look favorably on applicants who have already completed successfully for smaller grants.
Types of Funding

- Scholarships
  - Graduate
  - Teaching
  - Research
- Fellowships
  - Stipends
- Travel
- Prizes or Awards
Internal Opportunities
Funding from The Graduate School

**Fall**
- Spring 2024 Off-Campus Dissertation Research Fellowship
- AY 24-25 Dolores Z. Liebmann Fellowship
- Fall 2023 Graduate Tuition Incentive Scholarship
- 2024 Impact Award
- 2024 Dean’s Distinguished Dissertation Award

**Spring**
- 2024 Summer Research Fellowship
- Spring 2024 Graduate Tuition Incentive Scholarship
- AY 24-25 Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- Fall 2024 Off-Campus Dissertation Research Fellowship
Funding Databases
Funding Databases

- InfoEd SPIN
- Strive
- UNC Global Embark
- Profellow
- UNC External Award Winners
Funding Databases: InfoEd SPIN

- **InfoEd Global SPIN**
- Comprehensive database containing over 40,000 funding opportunities from more than 10,000 sponsors
- Create a profile using your UNC email address for additional useful features
- Access SPIN anonymously from any computer on UNC campus network

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Strive Funding Database

Strive: Scholarship and Fellowship Database

- **Strive**
- Scholarship and fellowship database managed by UNC Office of Distinguished Scholarships
- Editable filters to help narrow search
The Funding Finder allows you to filter a robust database of awards, programs and fellowships offered by UNC, government agencies and other organizations. (Graduate students, please also visit the Graduate Funding Information Center for a wide variety of other databases and resources.)

While every effort is made to ensure this information is accurate, you should verify the deadline, eligibility and other information with the sponsoring department or external organization. To suggest another opportunity to add to our Funding Finder database, please use this online form.

NOTE: More opportunities will appear as you scroll down the page, and the database will automatically adjust as you select filters that meet your needs and interests. If the site gets a bit buggy and you get stuck at any point, please refresh the page to continue your search.
ProFellow Funding Database

• ProFellow

• Fellowships database

• Fellowship application tips in articles

• Add deadlines to calendar
UNC External Award Winners

- **UNC-Chapel Hill External Award Winners**
- See what scholarships **UNC students** have successfully applied for in the past
- See what scholarships are available in which **departments**
Other Funding Databases

University Databases
- Duke University
- University of California - Los Angeles
- Rutgers University
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado-Boulder

Oak Ridge Laboratory
- Zintellect
Humanities
Humanities Opportunities

- **Boren Awards** - Boren Awards fund the intensive study of language and culture abroad by U.S. graduate students.

- **BMI Foundation** - The BMI Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization founded in 1985 by executives of Broadcast Music Incorporated for the purpose of "encouraging the creation, performance and study of music through awards, scholarships, internships, grants, and commissions.

- **The Kress Foundation** - Competitive fellowships supported by the Kress Foundation are awarded to art historians and art conservators in the final stages of their preparation for professional careers, as well as to students of art history and related fields who are interested in art museum education and curating.

- **The Smithsonian Institution** - The Smithsonian Institution offers a variety of fellowships, including Graduate Student Fellowships for students in Art History, American Studies, and more.

- **Institute for Citizens & Scholars** - The Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (part of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation) fosters the original and significant study of ethical or religious values in all fields of the humanities and social sciences.
Humanities Opportunities

- **Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry** - The History of Science Fellowship supports humanities research regarding the history of science, technology, medicine, and industry.

- **George Washington University** - The National Churchill Library and Center Graduate Research Fellowship Program offers support for short-term research projects related to Winston Churchill’s example of global research.

- **Harry Ransom Center at the University of Texas** - Research Fellowships support doctoral students whose research requires substantial on-site use of its collections in all areas of the humanities.

- **Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)** - The Sally Kress Tompkins Fellowship, a collaboration between HABS and the Society of Architectural Historians supports a student studying architectural history working on a summer research project.

- **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)** - The American Antiquarian Society offers grants to doctoral students or students pursuing a terminal degree looking to conduct short-term research on the Society’s collection.
Social Sciences
Social Sciences Opportunities

- **French Embassy in the United States** - The Chateaubriand Fellowship Program supports PhD students looking to conduct research in France.

- **German Academic Exchange Service** - The German Studies Research Grant supports graduate students in the social sciences who are researching topics within German Studies and doctoral students preparing dissertation proposals on modern German topics.

- **The Council of Library and Information Resources (CLIR)** - The Council awards fellowships for dissertation research in the humanities or related social sciences in original sources.

- **Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy** - The Foundation supports emerging scholars studying contemporary issues within the social sciences.

- **Social Science Research Council (SSRC)** - The Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) supports graduate students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences who are enrolled in PhD programs and conducting dissertation research on non-US topics.

- **National Geographic Early Career Grant** - Early Career Grants are designed to offer less experienced individuals an opportunity to lead a project.
Social Sciences Opportunities

- **American Center for Mongolian Studies** - The Library Fellowship supports graduate students studying library and information sciences who wish to conduct library development projects and/or research in Mongolia.

- **Institute for Humane Studies** - The Humane Studies Fellowship supports students enrolled in doctoral programs looking to perform classical liberal research in the humanities and social sciences.

- **Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** - The Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant supports doctoral students conducting dissertation research on issues related to housing and urban development.

- **Wenner-Gren Foundation** - The Dissertation Fieldwork Grant supports doctoral research that demonstrates a clear link to anthropological theory and debates and promises to make a solid contribution to their advancement.

- **National Science Foundation (NSF)** - The Graduate Research Fellowship Program supports graduate students pursuing NSF-supported social science disciplines. The Dissertation Research Improvement Grant allows doctoral students to undertake significant data-gathering projects and conduct field research in settings away from their campus.
Funding for Women
Scholarships/Fellowships for Women

- **P.E.O. International Scholar Merit Awards** - P.E.O. Scholar Awards are one-time, competitive, merit-based awards for women of the United States and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral level degree at an accredited college or university.

- **Institute for Citizens & Scholars** - The Women’s Studies Fellowships support the final year of dissertation writing for Ph.D. candidates in the humanities and social sciences whose work addresses topics of women and gender in interdisciplinary and original ways.

- **American Association of University Women (AAUW)** - AAUW American Fellowships support women scholars who are completing dissertations, planning research leave from accredited institutions, or preparing research for publication.
Thesis Funding
Resources for Thesis Funding

- **American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)** - ACLS is one of the leading private institutions supporting scholars in the humanities and related social sciences at the doctoral and postdoctoral levels.

- **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad** - This program provides grants to colleges and universities to fund individual doctoral students who conduct research in other countries, in modern foreign languages and area studies for periods of six to 12 months.

- **The Getty Foundation** - Getty Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellowships are intended for emerging scholars to complete work on projects related to the Getty Research Institute's annual research theme.

- **The Metropolitan Museum of Art** - Fellowships at the Met are an opportunity for scholars from around the world to use the Museum as a place for exchange, research, and professional advancement.
Proposal Writing
**Successful Proposals Collection**

- Database of Carolina graduate students’ successful applications
- Look for examples where students:
  - establish a sincere, enthusiastic tone
  - supply appropriate detail
  - appeal to funders without pandering
Proposal Writing

Other Proposal Writing Guidelines:

- **Grant Proposals (or Give me the money!)** (UNC Writing Center)
- **Profellow Application Articles**
- **Grant Writing Tips for Graduate Students** (Chronicle of Higher Education)
- **Personal Statements and Essays** (Worcester Polytechnic Institute)
Key Takeaways

- Start early
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- Think broadly
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• Start early
• Think broadly
• Gather information and strategize
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- Start early
- Think broadly
- Gather information and strategize
- Be persistent

Don't give up!!!
Want to schedule an appointment?

Email gfic@unc.edu with questions or to schedule an appointment.