Identifying Funding Sources:

How to Search for Funding Opportunities in STEM and the Health Sciences

The Graduate Funding Information Center
200 Bynum Hall
gfic@unc.edu

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Topics for Today

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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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- **Network.** Find out how people in your department get funded and what listservs you should join.

How did you learn about this award?

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

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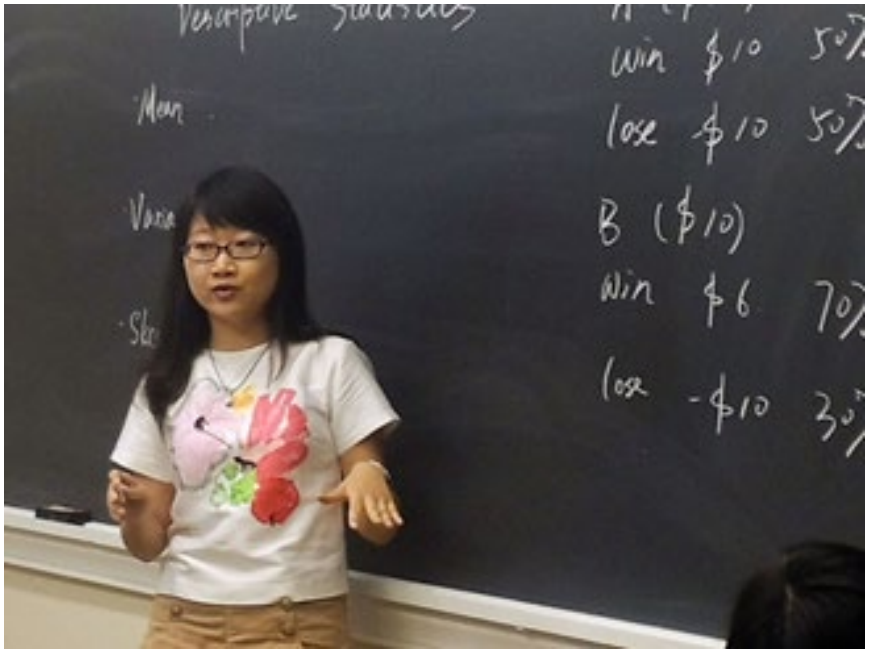
- Scholarships
- Assistantships
  - Graduate
  - Teaching
  - Research
- Fellowships
  - Stipends
- Travel
- Prizes or Awards



Internal Opportunities

Funding from The Graduate School

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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

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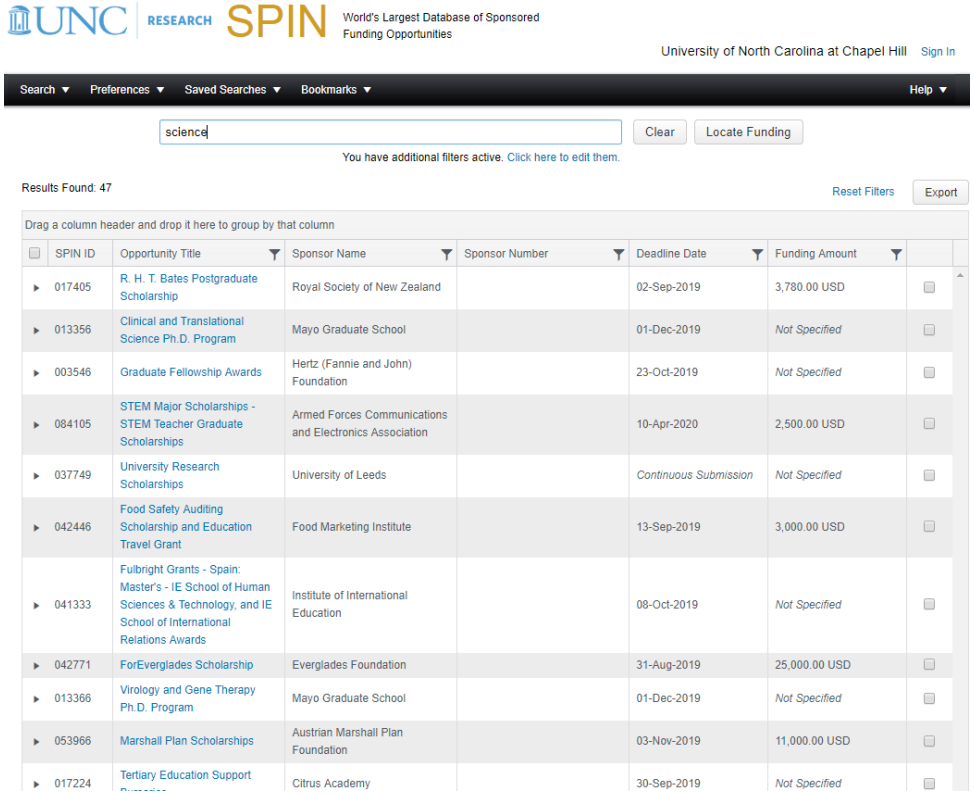
- InfoEd SPIN
- Strive
- UNC Global Embark
- Profellow
- UNC External Award Winners

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

Strive Funding Database

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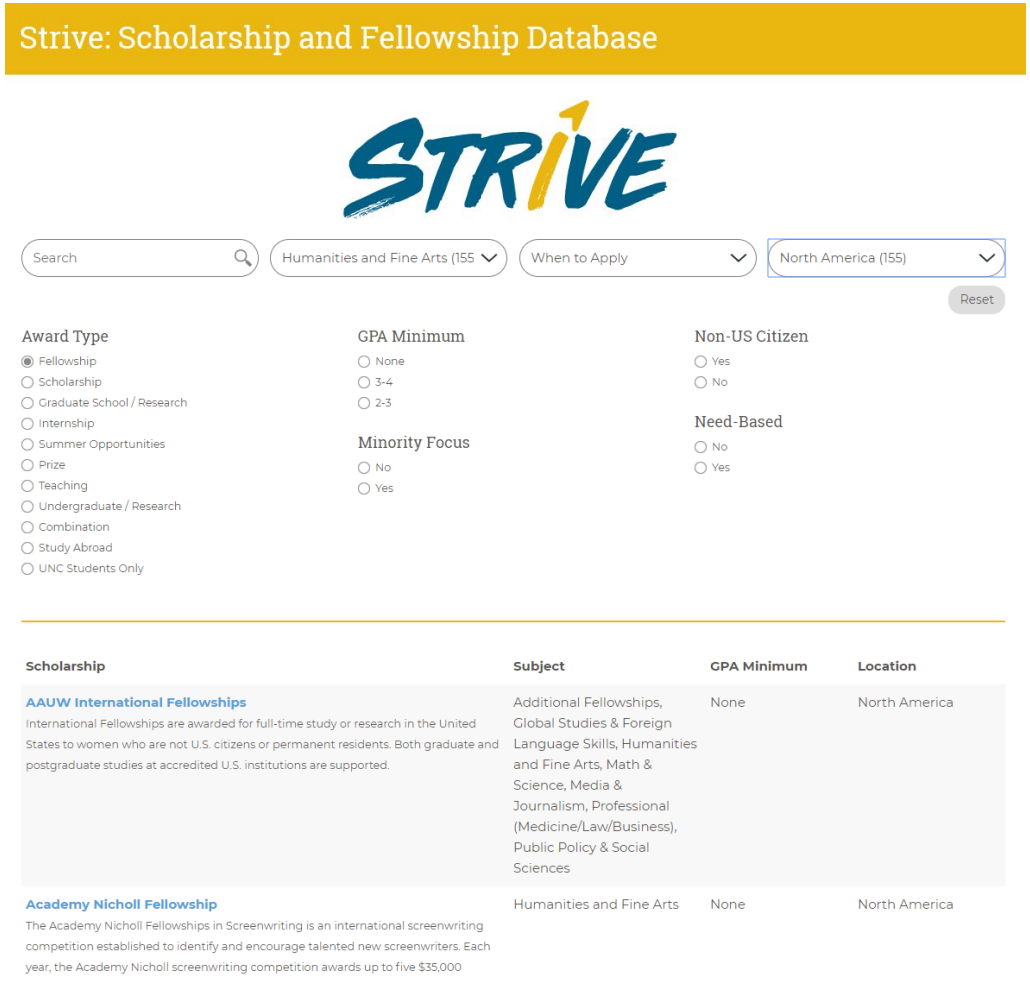

- Strive
- Scholarship and fellowship database managed by UNC Office of Distinguished Scholarships
- Editable filters to help narrow search

Strive Funding Database

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EMBARK CAROLINA

FUNDING FINDER

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.

DEGREE STATUS
-all-

REQUIRED GPA
-all-

KEYWORD SEARCH

CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS
-all-

GOOD FOR
-all-

ADVANCED FILTERS ↓ RESET FILTERS

ProFellow Funding Database

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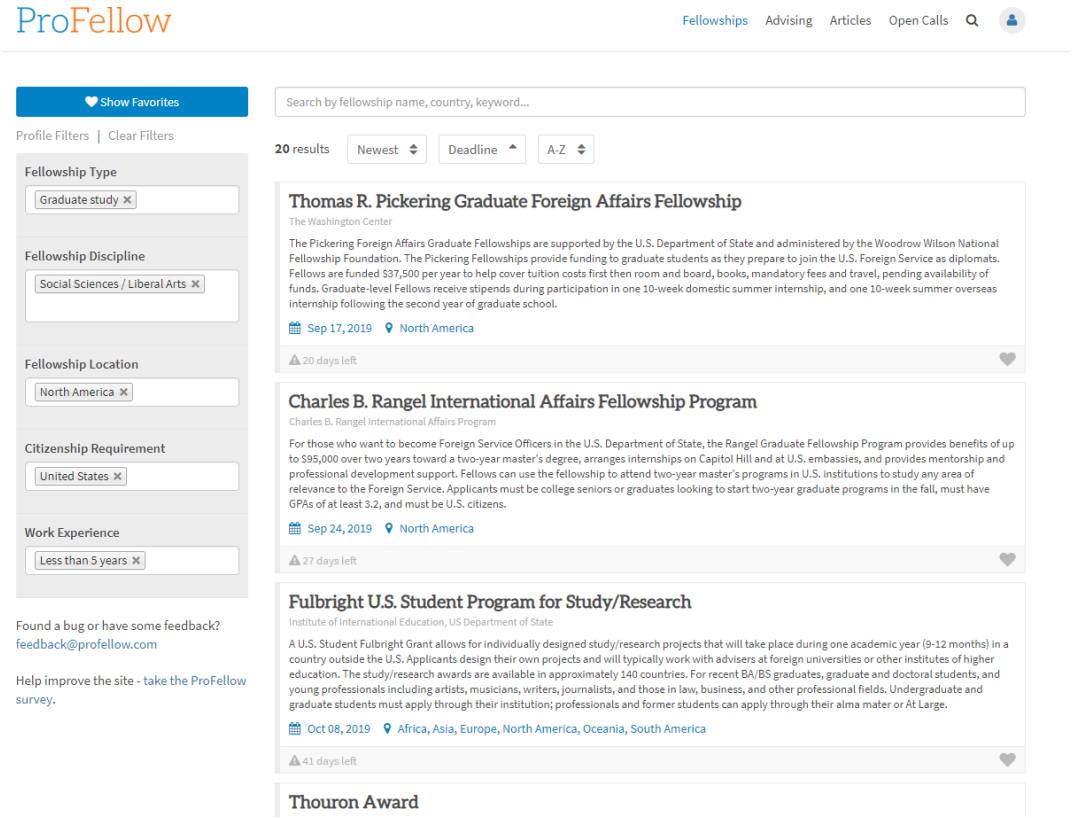

- ProFellow
- Fellowships database
- Fellowship application tips in articles
- Add deadlines to calendar

ProFellow

UNC External Award Winners

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- UNC-Chapel Hill External Award Winners
- See what scholarships **UNC student**s have successfully applied for in the past
- See what scholarships are available in which **departments**

Other Funding Databases

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University Databases

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

Oak Ridge Laboratory

- Zintellect

Sciences

Science Opportunities

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- **Chateaubriand Fellowship Program** - The French Embassy in the United States is awarded to doctoral students who wish to research subjects within science, technology, engineering, mathematics, biology, and health and initiate or reinforce partnerships between French and American research teams.

- **Department of Defense** - The National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Program is a highly competitive award intended to support Americans trained in disciplines of military importance.

- **Department of Energy** - The Computational Science Graduate Fellowship provides four years of support to students studying engineering and physical, computer, mathematical, and life sciences.

- **The Hertz Foundation** - Hertz Fellowships are awarded to students of applied physical and biological sciences, mathematics, and engineering who are willing to accept the Foundation's moral commitment to make their skills available to the United States in a time of national emergency.

- **National Science Foundation (NSF)** - The Graduate Research Fellowship Program supports graduate students pursuing NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines.

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program

NSF (National Science Foundation)

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To qualify for a Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation, you must meet several eligibility requirements.

- You must be either a US citizen or permanent resident
- You must be Early-Career; this means that you must be either an undergraduate or graduate student
- You must be pursuing a research-based MS or PhD degree
- You cannot have previously accepted a Graduate Research Fellowship (if offered, you must have declined)
- You must have never previously applied to the GRFP while enrolled in a graduate degree program

There are several stages of your academic career in which you are eligible for a GRF.

- When you are a senior pursuing an undergraduate degree with no graduate study
- When you are in your first year of graduate study
- When you are in your second year of graduate study but have completed fewer than 12 months of graduate study by August of the year you apply
- When you have completed 12 or more months of graduate study **if** you are returning to graduate study after an interruption of two or more years

NSF GRFP (continued)

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Your proposed research must be in an eligible field of study:

- Chemistry
- Computer and Information Science/Engineering
- Engineering
- Geosciences
- Life Sciences
- Materials Research
- Mathematical Sciences
- Physics and Astronomy
- Psychology
- Social Sciences
- STEM Education

Each year, certain fields are highlighted and new fields are occasionally added; be sure to read the current year's solicitation for the most accurate information.

NSF GRFP Peer Review Workshop

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What: Workshop to connect NSF GRFP applicants with awardees to review applicant materials and provide feedback

When: Thursday, Sept. 28th, 5:30-7:30pm

Where: Kenan Science Library (Venable Hall)

Register: https://tinyurl.com/2bwvfc4h

Health

Health Opportunities

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- **Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH)** - The Environmental Health Fellowship Program provides graduate students with professional training and other opportunities by enabling them to work with the EPA on current and emerging environmental public health needs.

- **Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)** - The Laboratory Fellowship trains and prepares students for careers in public health laboratory science. Areas of interest include bioinformatics, biorisk management (biosafety), environmental health, infectious disease, informatics, food safety, newborn screening, and quality management.

- **Fogarty International Center** - In partnership with the Fulbright program, the Fulbright-Fogarty Fellowship Program in Public Health promotes the expansion of research in public health and clinical research in resource-limited settings for medical and graduate students.

- **Kennedy Krieger Institute** - The Dr. James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Diseases R.I.S.E. Fellowship Program is a CDC-funded summer program providing educational and professional development for students interested in infectious diseases, public health, mental health, maternal and child health, and/or health disparities research.

- **National Institute of Health (NIH)** - The Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award helps predoctoral students to obtain individualized, mentored research training from faculty sponsors while conducting dissertation research in scientific health-related fields relevant to NIH missions.

Funding for Women

Scholarships/Fellowships for Women

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- **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.

- **Graduate Women in Science** - The National Fellowship Program supports women conducting doctoral research in the natural sciences.

- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA)** - The Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program supports female graduate students studying oceanography, marine biology, and maritime archaeology.

- **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.

- **Society of Women Engineers** - Scholarships are available for graduate students preparing for careers in engineering, engineering technology, and computer science.

Thesis Funding

Resources for Thesis Funding

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- **National Science Foundation (NSF)** - The Geography and Spatial Sciences Program supports doctoral research on the geographic distributions and interactions of human, physical, and biotic systems on Earth.

- **German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)** - Research Grants support students looking to conduct dissertation research in Germany.

- **Inter-American Foundation (IAF)** - The Grassroots Development PhD Fellowship Program supports dissertation research in Latin America and the Caribbean on topics within the physical sciences and technical fields.

- **American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF)** - Fellowships support individuals, with priority given to doctoral students, looking to conduct research in one or more Scandinavian country in any field of study.

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** - The Grant for Public Health Research supports doctoral students conducting dissertation research focusing on methodological and research topics that relate to CDC interests.

Proposal Writing

Proposal Writing

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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

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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

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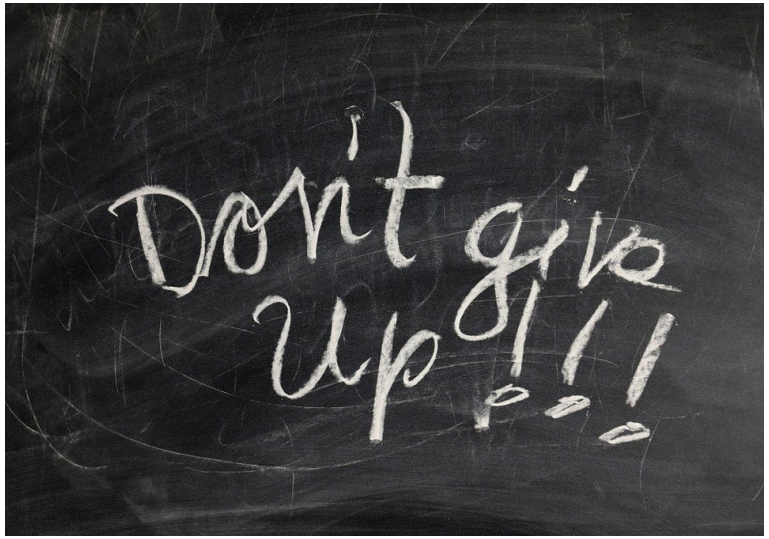
- Gather information and strategize
- Be persistent



Thank you!

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