Fund Times

April 2017

Call for Proposals

CDC FY18 –
- This funding opportunity is for tenured faculty with priority given to those assessed in the current year.
- Average award is $1,500.
- Applications should be completed electronically via the New Online Application Internal Award System. Applications are due no later than 5:00pm, May 15, 2017.

SCOSA Faculty Research Scholar Award –
- Support for projects related to aging and consistent with SCOSA's mission for Fiscal Year 18.
- A pot of $10,000 is available.
- Applications are due electronically by 5:00pm, April 28, 2017 to grants@stockton.edu. Guidelines, Award Information

External Funding In the News

FY 18 Budget Request: STEM Agencies

In its Fiscal Year 18 budget blueprint, the Trump Administration is requesting $25.6 billion in funding for the U.S. Department of State (State) and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) – which is a 28 percent reduction from 2017.

If enacted, the budget would have impacts on several science-based agencies throughout the federal government. Details on specific programs within the following agencies will be fleshed out in the President's full budget request, anticipated to be released in May.

Below is a snapshot of the recommended cuts.

Department of Energy (DOE)

The request would cut funding for the entire DOE budget by 5.6 percent ($1.7 billion). The request suggests totally elminating the Advanced Research Program Agency - Energy (ARPA-E) as well as taking away 17 percent of the Office of Science's funding. Details on how cuts would be spread throughout the department's applied energy offices will not be available until a full budget request is released.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

The top-line budget is relatively unchanged from the previous year, reducing overall funding by about .8 percent ($200 million), with different priorities being emphasized.

Department of Defense (DOD)

DOD will have an agency-wide increase of $52 billion dollars.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

NSF is not discussed specifically but presumed to be one of the agencies within a single line item of $29.4 billion, labeled "Other Agencies" which is slated to collectively lose 9.8 percent of its funding ($2.9 billion).

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The blueprint decreases funding for the agency by 31 percent ($2.6 billion) with the request specifically mentioning a pivot away from EPA grant functions.

Online Application Process

NEW APPLICATION PROCESS - Internal Awards

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is happy to provide a new fully automated Internal Award Online System, created to streamline the application process with an easy to navigate system for all users.

Users may login to the system in three capacities, depending upon your role in the process:

- Applicant Log In - To apply for a funding opportunity
- Committee Access Log In - For Committee Members to review submitted applications
- Dean Access Log In - For Deans to review school applications for their faculty

Applicants for funding should visit the Applicant Login page to begin and simply log in to the system using your GO Portal credentials! Once you are on the Internal Award Portal site you will have access to any open application calls, your future applications (both initiated and submitted), as well as Guidelines and the system's User Guide.

Note that once you have filled in the application you will be required to attach your project narrative, CV, Dean's signature and any supplemental information as **ONE Merged PDF Document**. For more information about the system and creating a merged PDF please visit the User Guide available on the Site.

Currently all R&PD funding opportunites as well as the CDC fund have been automated on the system and **effective immediately, emailed and/or paper applications will no longer be accepted***. For funding opportunities not yet available in the Internal Award Online System please see the ORSP Internal Awards page for application and information.*

Grant Writing Workshop

July 17-19 and August 17, 2017

This summer the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) in collaboration with the Insitute for Faculty Development (IFD) will host a Grant Writing Workshop to support participants' completion of a submission-ready external grant application.

The workshop will provide proposal writing training to faculty members who have not received significant funding from external sources, or identify themselves as benefitting from focused instruction, training, and experience in proposal writing. Members of ORSP, IFD, and experienced faculty (those who have received external funding) will serve as mentors/trainers during the workshop.

The workshop aims to:
- Identify faculty who have a viable project idea.
- Provide the time to develop a proposal.
- Provide the training and mentoring to help faculty develop a proposal for an external sponsor.

See the overview for more information and application specifics.

Article 5 - Denial and the Next Step

You've done the work, prepared the application to the best of your ability and sent the proposal to the intended sponsor. After waiting patiently for your response and despite your best efforts, the application has been denied. Now what?

In some optimal instances, the Sponsor will offer feedback with your denial to specify exactly why you were not considered for funding. If that is the case, based on that information, and if feasible, you may choose to revise your proposal and if allowed, reapply for funding.

The most common reasons for denial are:
- Although the project and proposal were good, another proposal simply outshined yours. With a finite funding amount available, the funder may have six great proposals with only the means to fund three of them.
- The amount of money was not appropriate for the scope of work and the budget explanation did not support the request.
- The project is similar to one the Sponsor is already supporting, which would prioritize it lower than an untried project of equal merit.
- The project scope was outside of the realm of interest for the Sponsor and it was unclear how the project would meet the funding mission.
- Guidelines were not properly followed, and/or application was incomplete.
- The proposal itself was not strong and it was unclear how the problem will be solved, what is needed to do so and how the funds will be used to meet the end goal.

If resubmitting, it is imperative that you have the proposal reviewed to confirm that all the feedback revisions are incorporated before resending it to the sponsor. Its suggested that one colleague fluent in your field look over the proposal as well as one lay person who can help identify any areas that may be over laden with jargon.

With a denial where you are not offered feedback, you may ask the sponsor for their comments, but keep in mind that this simply may be something they will not accommodate. Either way you can still opt to revise your application and resubmit if allowable, but be sure to follow the advice above by having the application reviewed before sending off to the sponsor. Also, as indicated in the list above, be mindful that an application isn't always denied because it is deemed unworthy. There are several scenarios where even though the proposal was solid, funding still was not offered. That situation may be resolved by simply locating another sponsor with a similar mission.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs offers a PI Travel fund specifically for Principal Investigators who are already involved in the grant-seeking process and wish to meet with a Sponsor's Program Officer in person to discuss the merits of their application and the reviews received. Eligibility is as follows:

1. a PI/PD has submitted a proposal to an outside funder, been denied funding but with good reviews, and wishes to rewrite and resubmit; or
2. a PI/PD has drafted a proposal for outside funding and has the time to strengthen it before submission by focused interactions with the funder.

There are instances where another viable sponsor is not an option for your intended project. Although this is disappointing, it is still a valuable lesson in grant-seeking and should not be seen as a deterrent for future searches. Use the experience as a stepping stone and catapult to a successful future submission. It is suggested to also be open to the possibility of adding a component to your project, making it more attractive and better aligned with a sponsor's mission. This can often be done without losing the integrity of your project, but in contrast actually adding a more convincing case for addressing a problem, etc.

In Article 6 of the Bridging the Gap Series, we will close out our series with "Congratulations You've Been Funded! Now What?" which will offer insight into post-award and managing your grant.

Day of Scholarship Thank you!

Whether you were a presenter, observer, or room monitor your support is much appreciated.

Please take a quick moment to complete our survey so that we may continue to bring you a quality event each year.

17TH ANNUAL DAY OF SCHOLARSHIP SURVEY

The survey will close on Friday, April 21st.

stockton.edu/ORSP