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11-2012

Find Your Funding Source

Office of the Vice President for Research
Western Michigan University

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Western Michigan University

Office of the Vice President for Research

Find Your Funding Source

Before you start your funding search:

Identify your search criteria. Your criteria will include key words, subject matter, geographic area of project, people or groups who will benefit from your research, amount of funding needed and other factors that will help you target and refine your search

Grant Sources:

- The government -- often federal, sometimes state, and occasionally local
- Private businesses and corporations
- Foundations

All leads are good leads, but, depending on your area of expertise, here are some databases you may want to check regularly.

1. Grants.gov
2. Grant Advisor
3. Pivot (Community of Science) <http://pivot.cos.com/>
4. Sci-Val - funding.scival.com
5. Foundation Directory Online – fconline.foundationcenter.org - your department will need to subscribe to this database or ask OVPR for help.

***Your best resource for
finding funding is the
OVPR web page!***

wmich.edu/research

Office of the Vice President for Research
Research and Sponsored Programs
240-W Walwood Hall MS 5456
1903 West Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-5456
TEL: 269 387-8270

Start Your Search Here

#1

Go to: www.wmich.edu/research

Click on **FUNDING SOURCES**



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Western Michigan University
Welcome to the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPF)

The work of our office is focused on supporting and sustaining research and creative activity at WMU. We assist with external funding proposal development and submission, manage the awarding and administration of internal funding support, and oversee and assure compliance with research-related federal, state, and University regulations. This site is designed to assist you with access to tools and resources related to these functions.

Congratulations to WMU Faculty and Staff!

External Award Activity - July 1, 2010 - January 31, 2011
Submissions: 168 | Awards: 136
Check out the list of WMU faculty and staff serving as principal investigators (PI) and co-principal investigators (Co-PI) with [recent awards](#).

Front Page News - What's Happening!
Research and Dessert November 18, 1-4 p.m
Join us November 18 at the Fetzer Center for dessert and the opportunity to connect with colleagues from across the WMU community. You will learn about funding opportunities, strategies and resources to support your scholarship, develop new collaborations with colleagues engaged in related research, and participate in info sessions and mini-workshops. [CLICK HERE](#) to

A Designated Carnegie Research Institution

- [WMU Research Foundation](#)
- [Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center](#)
- [Business, Technology, and Research Park](#)
- [CAVIDS at WMU](#)
- [Energy Research](#)
- [Evaluation Center](#)
- [Grants & Contracts](#)

#2

Click on EXTERNAL TO WMU

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Funding Sources

External Funding for Faculty Scholarship

External support is available from a number of agencies providing grants or contracts. OVPR has a number of resources for online searches of funding sources, some of which are only available to OVPR staff.

- [Online Search Databases](#)
- [Community of Science](#)
- [Federal Agencies](#)
- [State of Michigan Agencies](#)
- [Private Funding Agencies](#)

Complete the search help form below and contact your [research officer](#) or contact [Dawn Wesaw](#) at 269-387-8205 for assistance in searching for external funding sources.

- [Search Help Form](#)
- [Search Help Form](#)

Research officers:

- can acquire guidelines and application forms from potential sponsors,
- have many standard and special forms on file,
- will coordinate funding efforts with Corporate and Foundation Relations in the WMU Development Office, and
- will coordinate with the provost and the Office of International Affairs if the potential sponsor is a foreign funding source.

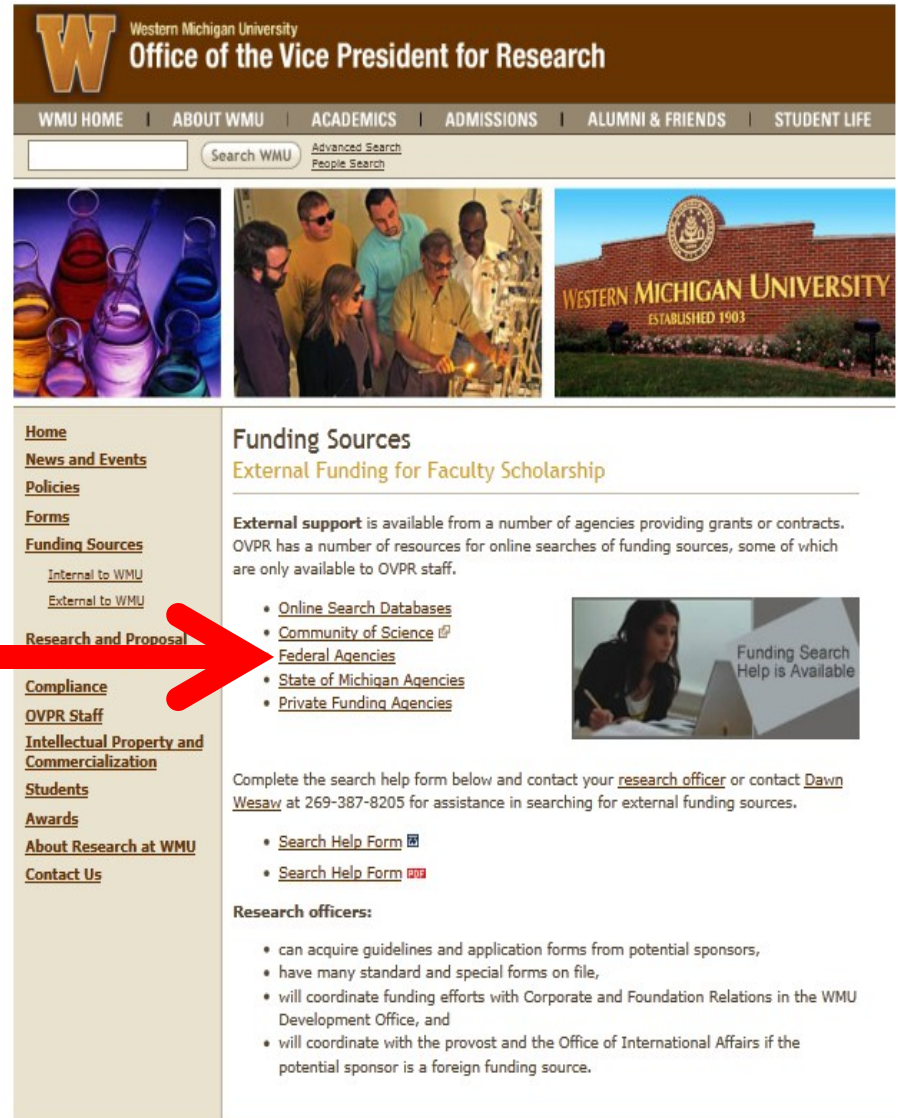
GoWMU | Directories | Contact WMU
ovpr-info@wmich.edu

(Also, be sure to check out INTERNAL TO WMU to find funding sponsored by WMU and OVPR)

#3

Choose one of the five categories to start:




- ONLINE SEARCH DATABASES
- COMMUNITY OF SCIENCE
- FEDERAL AGENCIES
- STATE OF MICHIGAN AGENCIES
- PRIVATE FUNDING AGENCIES



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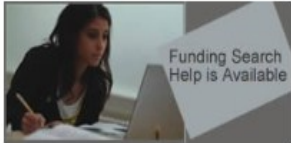
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
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Your Research and Program Officer (RPO)

Your RPO will help you navigate through all aspects of the research enterprise from finding funding opportunities to submitting a strong grant proposal.

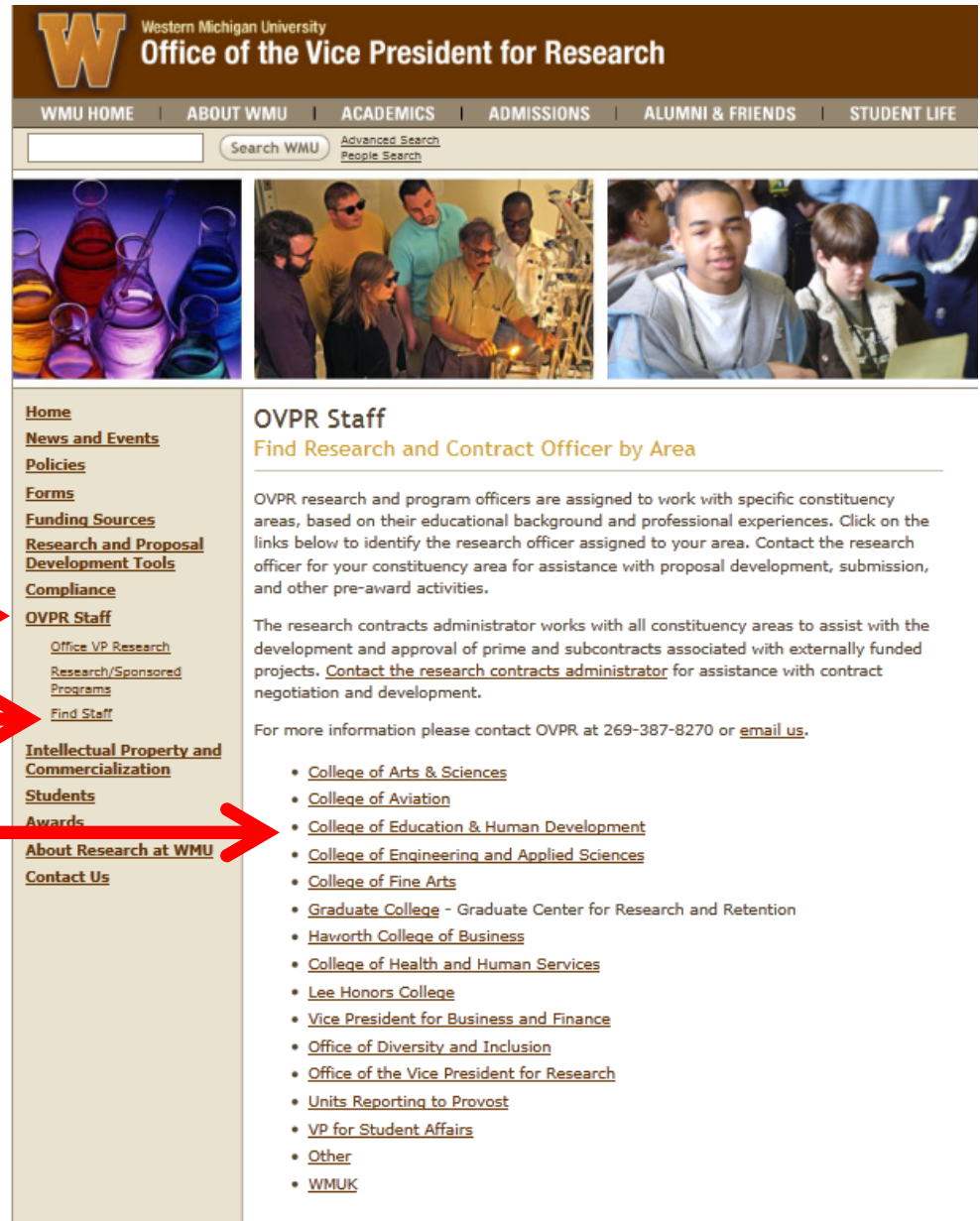
Find your RPO. Call her early in the process.

Go to:
www.wmich.edu/research/findresearchofficers.html

Click on OVPR Staff 

Click on Find Staff 


Click on Your College 



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OVPR Staff

Find Research and Contract Officer by Area

OVPR research and program officers are assigned to work with specific constituency areas, based on their educational background and professional experiences. Click on the links below to identify the research officer assigned to your area. Contact the research officer for your constituency area for assistance with proposal development, submission, and other pre-award activities.

The research contracts administrator works with all constituency areas to assist with the development and approval of prime and subcontracts associated with externally funded projects. **Contact the research contracts administrator** for assistance with contract negotiation and development.

For more information please contact OVPR at 269-387-8270 or [email us](#).

- [College of Arts & Sciences](#)
- [College of Aviation](#)
- [College of Education & Human Development](#)
- [College of Engineering and Applied Sciences](#)
- [College of Fine Arts](#)
- [Graduate College - Graduate Center for Research and Retention](#)
- [Haworth College of Business](#)
- [College of Health and Human Services](#)
- [Lee Honors College](#)
- [Vice President for Business and Finance](#)
- [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Office of the Vice President for Research](#)
- [Units Reporting to Provost](#)
- [VP for Student Affairs](#)
- [Other](#)
- [WMUK](#)

Before you apply...

Investigate the top sponsors on your list

Learn as much as you can about the organization. Read the mission, see what they fund, how much they award and determine the organization's funding priorities in the current funding cycle. Read what they DO NOT fund.

Know the guidelines and follow them

Read the guidelines carefully – they vary from sponsor to sponsor. Following the guidelines is very important; some sponsors will discard a proposal if all guidelines are not met.

Read the review criteria

Find out how your proposal will be judged and be sure your proposal responds to every criterion. Often the criteria are published or can be requested.

Read funded proposals

Call the funding agency and politely request a copy of a funded proposal. If it is a government agency, proposals are part of the public record and can be obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request. You may also request a copy of a funded grant proposal directly from the funded party. Most often awardees are happy to share.

Ask questions

Once you have thoroughly read the request for proposal (RFP) or funding announcement, it is perfectly acceptable to ask questions. Think through your questions carefully and make sure they are not covered in the RFP, the sponsor's web site, or other obvious places. You want to make a good impression and you do not want to waste the program officer's time.

Call the program officer

Often this sounds intimidating, but remember, funding agencies are suppose to give away money - not hold on to it. Most program officers will be receptive to a conversation. Be prepared before you make the call. Your OVPR research and program officer can help you plan.

Who do you know?

This question is probably most relevant when seeking funding from foundations and corporations. Do you know someone on the organization's board? Do you know someone who works for, or volunteers for, the organization? Can you partner with, or get support from, someone who has received funding from the organization and is well respected? Sometimes a personal connection helps.

Use a quality circle review

When you have a proposal draft, find experts who might be willing to review your draft and give advice. Your chair, associate dean and OVPR can often help identify people willing to help.