Overview of Federal Funding Opportunities for Behavioral and Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities

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Ninth Edition
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Introduction

The social and behavioral sciences, the humanities, and the arts have a critical role to play in answering broader scientific and social questions, including in the areas of healthcare, energy, climate and sustainability among others. In addition, federal agencies are taking on new challenges through interdisciplinary approaches and emphasizing the importance of national initiatives reaching underserved populations – those whose opportunities are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.

The following pages include a select catalog of over 100 funding opportunities for behavioral and social sciences, arts, and humanities that span the federal government. When applying for federal research funding, researchers should think of the social sciences from an interdisciplinary perspective – how the social sciences affect technological innovation, national security, education, or human well-being in the context of national priorities.

In keeping with the interdisciplinary theme, many of the grants listed are specific in research scope but cross-cutting in the field of study; for example, a grant program at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) focusing on a particular disorder and demographic that solicits applications for research on prevention strategies may also include research on the epidemiology in its project scope. To submit the strongest applications for any interdisciplinary solicitation, researchers should consider partnering across disciplines to create a proposal that reflects two or more of the goals of the supporting program.

All grants offered by the federal government are listed on www.grants.gov, a government funding opportunity database. To find grants on grants.gov, select the “Search Grants” tab and a variety of search options should appear, including agency, category, and eligibility.

The availability of funds for federal grants is dependent on annual appropriations. Due to budgetary constraints, many federal agencies have had to limit extramural funds. As a result, some grants previously offered annually have been suspended or reduced in fiscal year (FY) 2016. The most current information on the funding status of individual programs can be found on the websites listed for each grant.
National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds basic science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) research. This includes social, behavioral, and economic (SBE) research as well as education research. NSF is one of the largest federal funders of social, behavioral, and economic research, with other federal agencies, such as the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration often looking to partner with NSF given its focus in this area.

In recent years, social, behavioral, and economic sciences have found their way into several programs across NSF, including large-scale trans-NSF initiatives that involve nearly all parts of the Foundation. This trend is likely to continue as NSF looks to fund research to better understand the human and social aspects of larger scientific questions, such as sustainability, energy consumption, and impacts of technology on society.

Despite this ongoing support by the agency and the research community, certain areas of social science (such as political science) continue to receive increased scrutiny from some policy makers on Capitol Hill. In response, NSF issued a report in 2013 entitled, Bringing People into Focus: How Social, Behavioral and Economic Research Addresses National Challenges,\(^1\) which outlines the many ways SBE research tackles issues of national importance, such as national security, public health, and the economy.

Many NSF proposals are due twice annually; however, a few programs have only one submission deadline per year. A complete listing of active grant programs offered by NSF with submission receipt deadlines can be found at http://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_list.jsp?org=NSF&ord=date.

Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

In 2011, SBE released a strategic plan, Rebuilding the Mosaic\(^2\), which represents a vision for social, behavioral, and economic sciences at NSF over the next decade. The research community was heavily involved in the development of the roadmap, as NSF asked researchers to submit whitepapers\(^3\) on what the community views as the pressing social science questions facing the nation through the year 2020. NSF received 252 whitepapers in response to this call and used that public input to craft the plan and subsequently to inform the directions of future programs.

One theme seen across the whitepapers and reflected in the Mosaic report is an understanding that the research enterprise has become increasingly interdisciplinary, especially in the SBE sciences. NSF issued a Dear Colleague letter in late 2012 encouraging the submission of interdisciplinary proposals. Details on specific interdisciplinary programs and initiatives are in the Dear Colleague letter, including the Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Science Research (IBSS) competition.\(^4\) It is clear that the Mosaic report continues to influence the research directions in SBE.

SBE research programs are organized into two main divisions: Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS) and Social and Economic Sciences (SES). SBE also supports the National Center for Science and

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Engineering Statistics (NCSES) and the SBE Office of Multidisciplinary Activities (SMA), which administers programs that span the SBE directorate and cut across other NSF directorates.

SBE’s core programs fund research to answer fundamental questions in social science fields. There is also SBE participation in programs for which other directorates are the lead.

**Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences**

**Archaeology and Archaeometry**
This is a broad-ranging funding opportunity for “anthropologically-relevant archaeological research.” Senior research proposals in archaeology are due twice annually on July 1 and December 20. In FY 2014, this grant provided students with between $48,872 and $349,964. Full proposals for archeometry are due annually on December 1. Doctoral dissertation research proposals are accepted at any time and provided students with up to $20,000 in FY 2014. Finally, this opportunity also provides High Risk Research in Biological Anthropology and/or Archaeology (HRRBAA) grants. For this award, proposals may be submitted throughout the year and funding is capped at $35,000.

*Source and Additional Information: [http://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11690](http://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11690).*

**Biological Anthropology**
The Biological Anthropology Program supports basic research by senior researchers to study areas related to “human evolution and contemporary human biological variation.” Research topics appropriate for this program include, but are not limited to: “human genetic variation, human and nonhuman primate ecology and adaptability, human osteology and bone biology, human and nonhuman primate paleontology, functional anatomy, and primate socioecology.” The program also supports doctoral dissertation research improvement (DDRI) grants. Competitions for both types of awards occur on a “staggered eight month interval cycle” near the 15th of the appropriate month. The next due date for senior research proposals is March 16, 2016. The upcoming deadline for DDRI proposals is November 10, 2015. For this award, it is anticipated that $300,000 to $400,000 per year will be available in funding and 15 to 20 awards will be funded each year.


**Cognitive Neuroscience**
This program seeks proposals that explore the range of brain function and cognition. Proposals should be highly innovative and interdisciplinary, and address topics such as “how the human brain mediates action, affect, creativity, decision making, intentionality, perception, social processes, and thought. Topics may bear on core functions such as attention, emotion, empathy, executive processes, language, learning, memory, music, sensory processing, sleep, representation of self and other, reasoning and rhythm.” Research proposals are due twice annually; the upcoming deadline is February 11. For this award, it is anticipated that $8,000,000 per year will be available in funding for an estimated 10 to 25 grants.

Cultural Anthropology
The Cultural Anthropology Program funds projects that explore “the causes, consequences, and complexities of human social and cultural variability.” The program’s research priorities include: “Socio-cultural drivers of critical anthropogenic processes such as deforestation, desertification, land cover change, urbanization, and poverty; Resilience and robustness of socio-cultural systems; Conflict, cooperation, and altruism; Economy, culture, migration, and globalization; Variability and change in kinship and family norms and practices; Cultural and social contexts of health and disease; Social regulation, governmentality, and violence; Origins of complexity in socio-cultural systems; Language and culture: orality and literacy, sociolinguistics, and cognition; Human variation through empirically grounded ethnographic descriptions; Mathematical and computational models of sociocultural systems such as social network analysis, agent-based models, and integration of agent-based models with geographic information systems (GIS)” Within this program, there are several different types of awards. Proposals for graduate and undergraduate research experiences are due annually on March 1. Senior research proposals, doctoral dissertation improvement proposals, and proposals for workshops and training programs are due twice annually on August 15 and January 15. Research proposals for Cultural Anthropology Scholars are due twice annually on August 16 and January 16. Additional opportunities exist through the Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER), Grants for Rapid Response Research (RAPID), and Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant mechanisms.


Developmental and Learning Sciences
The Developmental and Learning Sciences Program supports research on the social and cultural environment of children or adolescents as it relates to their learning and development. With this program, it is expected that research will “add to our basic knowledge of how people learn and the underlying developmental processes that support learning, social functioning, and productive lives as members of society.” Research proposals are due twice annually on January 15 and July 15. Typically, these awards last for a period of three years and provide between $100,000 and $200,000 of annual funding.


Documenting Endangered Languages
This multi-year funding partnership between the NSF and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports projects aimed at preserving and raising awareness around endangered human languages. The emphasis is on information technology to conduct research on endangered languages. Specifically, funding “can support fieldwork and other activities relevant to the digital recording, documenting, and archiving of endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples, and databases.” The program will grant funding for one to three year research grants and 6-12 month fellowships. In addition, it will provide doctoral dissertation research improvement grants for up to two years. It is anticipated that $4,500,000 will be available in funding per year and between 26 and 30 awards will be distributed, including up to 12 fellowships. U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply. Applications are due annually on September 15.

Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems
This program supports basic interdisciplinary research that increases the understanding of interactions in natural and human systems. Specifically, proposals should evaluate “(1) the dynamics of a natural system; (2) the dynamics of a human system; (3) the processes through which the natural system affects the human system; and (4) the processes through which the human system affects the natural system.” It is expected that this program will provide $17,050,000 each year in funding and fund 10 to 15 grants. For this program, U.S. academic institutions are eligible. Research proposals are due November 15, 2015.


Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases
The Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Diseases (EEID) program is a joint effort between NSF, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the U.K. Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC). It explores the “ecological, evolutionary, and socio-ecological principles that influence the transmission dynamics of infectious diseases.” Proposals should focus on a “quantitative or computational understanding of pathogen transmission dynamics.” Proposals that incorporate multidisciplinary teams will be viewed favorably. All proposals are due November 18, 2015. For this program, it is expected that nine awards will be made and $12,000,000 will be available in funding in FY 2016.


Geography and Spatial Sciences
The Geography and Spatial Sciences (GSS) Program supports research on the “geographic distributions and interactions of human, physical, and biotic systems on the Earth’s surface.” Research proposals that look at the ways human activity impacts natural environmental processes across various scales are particularly encouraged. Beginning in February, 2014, the solicitation for regular and doctoral research were split into two separate solicitations. For regular proposals, the deadline is September 3, 2015; while, doctoral dissertation research improvement grant proposals are due two times each year in mid-February and mid-August. The next proposal deadline is February 11, 2016.


High-Risk Research in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology
The High-Risk Research in Biological Anthropology and Archaeology (HRRBAA) program supports research “conducted under unusual circumstances.” In particular, the program provides small awards to allow investigators to “assess the feasibility of an anthropological research project” in a distant location with no previously known archeological significance. Investigators are required to contact the relevant NSF Program Officer before submitting an HRRBA proposal to determine whether the proposed work is appropriate. Proposals are accepted at any time once a Program Office has been consulted. An expected five awards will be distributed and $150,000 per year is available in funding.

Linguistics
The Linguistics Program supports “basic science in the domain of human language, encompassing investigations of the grammatical properties of individual human languages, and of natural language in general. Research areas include syntax, semantics, morphology, phonetics, and phonology.” With this program, there is also the possibility of Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement (DDRI) awards and early career grants. Research proposals are due twice annually on January 15 and July 15.


Integrative Paleoanthropology
The Integrative Paleoanthropology Program supports cross-disciplinary paleoanthropological research. For this program, “The goal of the competition is to further innovative, integrative research to elucidate hominin biological and behavioral evolution. The particular focus is on long term processes within hominin evolution and how they relate to major questions of paleoanthropological significance.” For FY 2015, NSF expects to make one award for up to $1,000,000 to a project for up to five years. For FY 2015, proposals were due April 2, 2015.


Perception, Action and Cognition
The Perception, Action, and Cognition (PAC) program focuses primarily on the following research topics: “vision, audition, haptics, attention, memory, reasoning, written and spoken discourse, and motor control.” Some proposals may be eligible for co-review by other programs, such as the Linguistics program or the Developmental and Learning Sciences program. Proposals with an emphasis on theory are encouraged. The application window occurs twice annually for research projects, between January 15 and February 1; and between July 15 and August 1. There are separate deadlines for workshop and conference proposals, please consult the program website for more information on this.


Social Psychology
The Social Psychology Program explores “human social behavior, including cultural differences and development over the life span.” Specifically, the program supports “attitude formation and change, social cognition, personality processes, interpersonal relations and group processes, the self, emotion, social comparison and social influence, and the psychophysiological and neurophysiological bases of social behavior” research. Proposals will be evaluated based on: “(1) The problems investigated must be theoretically grounded. (2) The research should be based on empirical observation or be subject to empirical validation. (3) The research design must be appropriate to the questions asked. (4) The proposed research must advance basic understanding of social behavior.” Research proposals are due twice annually on January 15 and July 15.

Division of Social and Economic Sciences

Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM
The Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM promotes “research projects that identify factors that are efficacious in the formation of ethical STEM researchers in all the fields of science and engineering that NSF supports.” Specifically, this program will address “What constitutes ethical STEM research and practice? Which cultural and institutional contexts promote ethical STEM research and practice and why? ... Do certain labs have a ‘culture of academic integrity’? What practices contribute to the establishment and maintenance of ethical cultures and how can these practices be transferred, extended to, and integrated into other research and learning settings?” For this award, between six and eight recipients will receive a maximum of $600,000 for five-year awards, or $400,000 for three-year awards. U.S. academic institutions are eligible for this program. Proposals are due February 16, 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505027

Decision, Risk and Management Sciences
The Decision, Risk and Management Sciences program supports research on understanding decision making at all social levels, from individuals and groups to organizations and society at large. This program has identified areas of priority, including: “judgment and decision making; decision analysis and decision aids; risk analysis, perception, and communication; societal and public policy decision making; and management science and organizational design.” In addition to standard research awards, this program also supports grants Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants (DDRIGs), time-sensitive research in emergency situations through the Grants for Rapid Response Research (RAPID) mechanism, and high-risk/high-reward or potentially transformative research through the Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) program. Research proposals are due twice annually on August 18 and January 18.


Economics
The Economics program supports research to understand the “processes and institutions of the U.S. economy” as well as the larger global system. Awards are granted in many different areas of economics, including: “econometrics, economic history, environmental economics, finance, industrial organization, international economics, labor economics, macroeconomics, mathematical economics, and public finance.” This program has a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches and will fund “individual or multi-investigator research projects, doctoral dissertation improvement awards, conferences, workshops, symposia, experimental research, data collection and dissemination, computer equipment and other instrumentation, and research experience for undergraduates.” Grant proposals are due twice annually on January 18 and August 18.


Law and Social Sciences
The Law and Social Sciences (LSS) program supports projects relating to the science of law and the systems of rules. Among the topics often addressed are: “crime, violence, and punishment; economic issues; governance; legal decision making; legal mobilization and conceptions of justice; and litigation and the legal profession.” As described, “Successful proposals describe research that advances scientific
theory and understanding of the connections between law or legal processes and human behavior.” The LSS program offers “standard research grants and grants for collaborative research, doctoral dissertation research improvement grants, interdisciplinary postdoctoral fellowships, and workshop and conference awards.” Grant proposals are due twice annually on January 15 and August 1.


Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics
The Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS) program supports interdisciplinary research geared toward the development of innovative methods and models for the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. Proposals that have potential for use in multiple fields of the social sciences and contain a basis in theory are of particular interest. This program offers funding for “Regular Research Awards, Awards for conferences, workshops, and community-development activities, Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement (DDRI) Grants, and Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Supplements.” It is anticipated that $3.4 million will be available in funding each year and an estimated 15 to 35 awards will be distributed. Grant proposals are due twice annually on the last Thursday of January and August.


Political Science
The Political Science program supports research projects on “citizenship, government, and politics.” Research proposals should be rooted in theory and empirically oriented. Specifically, the program is interested in “American government and politics, comparative government and politics, international relations, political behavior, political economy, and political institutions.” Grant proposals are due twice annually on January 15 and August 15.


Science of Organizations
The Science of Organizations (SoO) program, formerly the Innovation and Organizational Sciences program, supports projects that explore the development, formation, and operation of organizations in their various shapes and forms. As the announcement describes, “Successful SoO research proposals use scientific methods to develop and refine theories, to empirically test theories and frameworks, and to develop new measures and methods.” According to program materials, SoO funded projects should yield “generalizable insights that are of value to the business practitioner, policy-maker, and research communities.” Research proposals are due twice annually on February 2 and September 3.


Science, Technology, and Society
The Science, Technology, and Society program aims to understand the historical, philosophical and sociological impact of science and technology on society. This program looks specifically to further understanding in six areas: “Societal aspects of emerging high-tech technologies; Societal aspects of emerging low-tech technologies; Issues relating to equity, ethics, governance, sustainability, public engagement, user-centeredness, and inclusiveness; Integration of traditional STS approaches with innovative perspectives from the arts or humanities; Ethical, policy, and cultural issues regarding big
data, surveillance and privacy in an increasingly networked world; and The science of broadening participation in STEM disciplines.” Research proposals are due twice annually on February 2 and August 3. Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants are due on August 3. A total of $6,200,000 was available in FY 2015 for a total of 40 awards.


Sociology
The Sociology Program supports basic research on human social organization broadly. Topics for research identified by the program include: “organizations and organizational behavior, population dynamics, social movements, social groups, labor force participation, stratification and mobility, family, social networks, socialization, gender roles, and the sociology of science and technology.” Proposals are due twice annually on January 15 and August 15 for regular research proposals; and October 15 for dissertation research proposals.


SBE Office of Multidisciplinary Activities
Restricted-Access Research Data Centers (RDCs)
Through this program, NSF is looking to create new Restricted-Access Research Data Centers. NSF describes that “RDCs are secure Census Bureau facilities within which external researchers are given access to confidential micro data in accordance with specific statutory requirements.” Funding from this award will go to the start-up facility costs. It is recommended that applicants first contact the Census Bureau to discuss their proposals. Additionally, for this program there is a strong interdisciplinary emphasis. Applications are due on September 30, 2016. NSF anticipates making between one and three awards ranging from $100,000 to $300,000.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505144

Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences
The Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences (RIDIR) program, wishes “to develop user-friendly large-scale next-generation data resources and relevant analytic techniques to advance fundamental research in SBE areas of study.” In order to be successful, a proposal will “construct such databases and/or relevant analytic techniques and produce a finished product that will enable new types of data-intensive research. The databases or techniques should have significant impacts, either across multiple fields or within broad disciplinary areas, by enabling new types of data-intensive research in the SBE sciences.” The anticipated funding amount is between $3 and $4.5 million, for between two and four awards. For the upcoming round of awards, applications are due February 29, 2016.

Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Science Research (IBSS)
The NSF Interdisciplinary Behavioral and Social Science Research (IBSS) program supports interdisciplinary research in behavioral and social science fields with “teams of investigators in the social and behavioral sciences.” With this program, NSF hopes to support “research that involves researchers from multiple SBE disciplinary fields and that integrates scientific theoretical approaches and methodologies from multiple SBE disciplinary fields.” The IBSS program is especially interested in proposals from social and behavioral science researchers focusing on “Population Change; Sources and Consequences of Disparities; and Technology, New Media, and Social Networks.” In July 2015, IBSS released a new solicitation emphasizing its focus on social scientists leading the grant. For this program, full proposals are due on December 1. NSF anticipates supporting 12 to 16 awards with this program each year and expects to allocate $10,500,000 to the upcoming competition.


Integrative Strategies for Understanding Neural and Cognitive Systems (NSF-NCS)
With this program, NSF aims to “support transformative and integrative research that will accelerate understanding of neural and cognitive systems.” This program is part of the NSF Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative. The 2015 competition focused on “Neuroengineering and Brain-Inspired Concepts and Designs and Individuality and Variation.” NSF notes that “Within each theme, general advances in theory and methods, technological innovations, educational approaches, enabling research infrastructure, and workforce development are all of significant interest.” NSF will offer Integrative Foundation awards and Core+Extensions awards. Core+Extensions awards are to be requested with the submission of a proposal to another directorate. Funding and deadline information for FY 2016 has not yet been announced.


Science of Science and Innovation Policy
This program seeks to understand the “scientific basis of science and innovation policy.” Research funded by the program creates and improves tools, models, and data that can be applied to science policy. Specific research topics “develop models, analytical tools, data and metrics that can be applied in the science policy decision making process and concern the use and allocation of scarce scientific resources.” Proposals are welcomed from all of the social, behavioral, and economic sciences, as well as domain-specifics sciences such as chemistry, biology, and physics. This program support Grants for Rapid Response Research (RAPID) and EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER), as well as Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants (DDRIGs). Research proposals are due annually on February 9 and September 9.


Directorate for Education and Human Resources
The Education and Human Resources (EHR) Directorate has a variety of programs aimed at improving STEM learning. These programs focus on a full spectrum from research to implementation, and across audiences including K-12, informal, undergraduates, and graduate students. Many programs support
social science research related to STEM learning, either alone or as an evaluative piece of a larger project.


Advancing Informal STEM Learning
The Advancing Informal STEM Learning (AISL) program, formerly the Informal Science Education (ISE) program, aims to “advance new approaches to and evidence-based understanding of the design and development of STEM learning opportunities for the public in informal environments; provide multiple pathways for broadening access to and engagement in STEM learning experiences; and advance innovative research on and assessment of STEM learning in informal environments.” The program supports seven types of programs: “(1) Collaborative Planning; (2) Exploratory Pathways; (3) Research in Service to Practice; (4) Innovations in Development; (5) Broad Implementation; (6) Conferences; and (7) Informal STEM Learning Resource Center (FY 2016 only).” Many different types of groups are funded, including universities, non-profit organizations, museums, and educational television producers. There are six types of awards that cover studies of increasing scale and stage, as well as conferences and supplements to existing NSF grants. Funding amounts and durations vary based on award type. Proposals are due November 4, 2015.


Broadening Participation Research in STEM Education
In February 2014, NSF released a Dear Colleague Letter5, “Stimulating Research Related to the Science of Broadening Participation,” announcing SBE and EHR’s interest research that employs theories, methods, and analytic techniques to improve understanding the factors that both positively and negatively impact broadening participation in STEM education and careers. The Dear Colleague Letter encourages research proposals that focus on institutional and organizational factors, cultural and social factors, and economic and policy-related factors.

NSF funds a number of broadening participation programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels. These include the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP); Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST); Alliances for Graduate Education; and the Professoriate (AGEP), as well as specific programs for historically black colleges and universities and tribal colleges and universities. LSAMP released a new solicitation in 2015 that included changes such as the inclusion of social science research study in long-standing alliances, and an increase in Bridge to the Doctorate (BD) fellowship funding. Within each broadening participation program, NSF funds a track for Broadening Participation Research (BPR) to support investigations on new models for broadening participation and strategies to ensure the success of participants from diverse groups in STEM undergraduate and graduate education. Specific priorities vary by program. Proposals are due annually on the third Friday in October for LSAMP; on February 12, 2015 for AGEP; CREST center awards are made in alternate years, with the most recent solicitation in fall 2015.


References:
EHR Core Research
The EHR Core Research program (ECR) promotes research that aims to “synthesize, build and/or expand research foundations in the following focal areas: STEM learning, STEM learning environments, STEM workforce development, and broadening participation in STEM.” There are two types of projects for activities of different scope: Core Research Proposals and Capacity Building Proposals. ECR proposals for research receive funding between $500,000 and $2.5 million, for a duration of three to five years. Capacity building proposals can receive a maximum of $300,000. Proposals are due on September 10, 2016.


Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE: EHR)
NSF’s Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) program aims to support research projects “that address immediate challenges and opportunities that are facing undergraduate STEM education, as well as those that anticipate new structures (e.g. organizational changes, new methods for certification or credentialing, course re-conception, cyberlearning, etc.) and new functions of the undergraduate learning and teaching enterprise.” Specifically, the IUSE program will support “Engaged Student Learning” projects and “Institution and Community Transformation” projects. Additionally, within these two categories of awards, NSF will support “Exploration and Design” and “Development and Implementation” projects. Full proposals for the Engaged Student Learning and Institutional and Community Transformation Exploration and Design projects are due November 3. Proposals for the Development and Implementation track are due January 13. Overall, the program hopes to make approximately 140 awards and allocate between $300,000 and $3,000,000, depending on the type of award. Individual award size varies by category and track.

Source and Additional Information: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505082&org=DUE.

Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation
The Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation (PRIME) program supports research that focuses on “(1) exploring innovative approaches for determining the impacts and usefulness of STEM education projects and programs; (2) building on and expanding the theoretical foundations for evaluating STEM education and workforce development initiatives, including translating and adapting approaches from other fields; and (3) growing the capacity and infrastructure of the evaluation field.” The program mainly funds exploratory grants, full-scale projects, and conference grants. Additionally, the Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) and Grants for Rapid Response Research (RAPID) are available. For the FY 2015 award, $8,000,000 was made available for between 13 and 18 awards. Proposal deadlines for FY 2016 have yet to be announced.


Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering
The Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) supports research to advance understanding in computing, communications, and information science and engineering. Additional CISE goals are to ensure that the research it supports is used to benefit society, and to enable all to “contribute to universal, transparent, and affordable participation in an information-based society.” CISE is organized into three divisions: the Division of Computing and Communication
Foundations (CCF), the Division of Computer and Network Systems (CNS), and the Division of Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS). As with other NSF directorates, there are a number of CISE programs in collaboration with SBE.


Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience (CRCNS)
The Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience (CRCNS) program is a collaborative effort between the “National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, BMBF), the French National Research Agency (Agence Nationale de la Recherche, ANR), and the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF)” to promote research projects that “advance the understanding of nervous system structure and function, mechanisms underlying nervous system disorders, and computational strategies used by the nervous system.” Specifically, this program will support both “Research Proposals describing collaborative research projects” as well as “Data Sharing Proposals to enable sharing of data and other resources.” Full proposals are due by October 29, 2015. NSF anticipates granting between 15 and 25 awards each year. Additionally, NSF expects between $5,000,000 and $20,000,000 in funding each year.


Critical Techniques and Technologies for Advancing Big Data Science & Engineering (BIGDATA)
The Critical Techniques and Technologies for Advancing Big Data Science & Engineering (BIGDATA) program is part of the Big Data Initiative. The BIGDATA program is seeking foundation proposals of innovative application proposals. Foundation proposals are described as “those developing or studying fundamental theories, techniques, methodologies, technologies of broad applicability to Big Data problems” while innovative application proposals are described as “those developing techniques, methodologies and technologies of key importance to a Big Data problem directly impacting at least one specific application.” For this program, NSF seeks proposals from a broad range of science and engineering backgrounds and there is a strong emphasis on innovation. NSF expects around $26,500,000 in funding for this program and estimates making 27 to 35 awards.


Cyber-Human Systems (CHS)
The Cyber-Human Systems (CHS) program seeks to investigate “potentially transformative and disruptive ideas, novel theories and technological innovations in computer and information science that accelerate both the creation and our understanding of the complex and increasingly coupled relationships between humans and computing with the broad goal of advancing human capabilities: perceptual and cognitive, physical and virtual, social and societal.” CHS’ research includes a wide variety of computing platforms, for example “traditional computers, handheld and mobile devices, robots and wearables, and potentially even person-embedded sensors and computers.” The program describes, “While diverse in approach, cyber-human systems research is grounded in theory and rooted in empirical methods to produce broadly applicable and transferable results that advance the knowledge and practice of human-centered computing.” With this program there is an emphasis on interdisciplinary research. Proposals may be submitted between September 10 and September 16 for
medium projects, September 18 and September 24 for large projects, and November 4 and November 18 for small projects. The program expects $100,000,000 in funding and 150 to 200 awards per year.


Cyberlearning and Future Learning Technologies
The Cyberlearning and Future Learning Technologies program supports research aiming to “integrate opportunities offered by emerging technologies with advances in what is known about how people learn to advance three interconnected thrusts: innovation, advancing understanding of how people learn in technology-rich learning environments, and promoting broad use and transferability of new genres.” This award will offer grants for three different types of research: “Exploration (EXP), Design and Implementation (DIP), and Integration (INT).” Additionally, this program will have CAPS, EAGER, RAPID, INSPIRE, and CAREER components. Proposals are due December 7, 2015 (for CAPS projects); December 18, 2015 (for EXP projects); January 18, 2016 (DIP projects); and July 11, 2016 (for INT projects). The program hopes to fund 21 to 34 awards and up to $18 million will be available, contingent upon funding.


National Robotics Initiative
The National Robotics Initiative (NRI) is an interagency program that aims to develop the next generation of robots to work with humans to complete mundane, dangerous, precise, or expensive tasks. NRI involves NSF, NIH, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). A critical facet of NRI is research and education that examines the social, behavioral, and economic aspects of humans co-existing with robots in all areas. The program emphasizes collaboration. It is expected that $30,000,000 to $50,000,000 per year will be available and 25 to 60 awards will be distributed. Proposals are due December 3, 2015.


Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace
The Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC) program involves the following NSF directorates: CISE, SBE, MPS, ENG, and EHR. This program supports research to address cybersecurity technology, education, and training through either a Trustworthy Computing Systems (TWC) perspective; a Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) perspective; or a Secure, Trustworthy, Assured and Resilient Semiconductors and Systems (STARSS) perspective. SBE focused proposals may include research into cybersecurity risks and potential solutions on the individual, group, organizational, market, and societal levels. Small projects offer up to $500,000 for a maximum of three years and are due annually between November 4 and 18. Medium projects offer an estimated $500,001 to $1.2 million for a duration of up to four years and are due annually between September 10 and 16. Large projects offer an estimated $1.2 million to $3 million for a duration of up to five years and are due annually between September 18 and 24. Cybersecurity Education Projects offer $300,000 for a duration of up to two years and are due annually between December 3 and 16.

Smart and Connected Health
The Smart and Connected Health (SCH) program involves: the SBE, CISE, and the Engineering (ENG) Directorate at NSF; Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development; National Cancer Institute (NCI); National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI); National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB); National Institute on Aging (NIA); and Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The objective of the SCH program is to support research in the next generation of healthcare with a more preventative and proactive approach. SCH supports multidisciplinary teams to work on technology-based solutions that include bio-behavioral health research to address technical, behavioral, and clinical issues. This program offers two types of awards: Integrative awards and Exploratory awards. Annual proposal deadlines are as follows: Integrative (INT) proposals, consisting of multi-disciplinary teams for one to four years with an estimated maximum of $170,000 direct costs, are due annually on December 10. Exploratory (EXP) Proposals, consisting of one or more investigators for one to three years with an estimated maximum of $370,000 direct costs, are due annually on October 13.


Directorate for Geosciences
Within NSF, the Directorate for Geosciences (GEO) “supports basic research that advances the frontiers of knowledge and drives technological innovation while improving our understanding of the many processes that affect the global environment. These processes include the role of the atmosphere and oceans in climate, the planetary water cycle, and ocean acidification.” The Directorate is divided into four division. These divisions focus on Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences (AGS), Earth Sciences (EAR), Ocean Sciences (OCE), and Polar Programs (PLR).

Source and Additional Information: http://www.nsf.gov/geo/about.jsp

Prediction of and Resilience Against Extreme Events (PREEVENTS)
In a Dear Colleague letter from September of 2015, GEO announce its plan for “an opportunity for research in natural hazards and extreme events called Prediction of and Resilience against Extreme EVENTS (PREEVENTS).” This program will follow the prior Hazards SEES program and fits into NSF’s broader Risk and Resilience focus. The goal of PREEVENTS is to “(1) enhance understanding of the fundamental processes underlying natural hazards and extreme events on various spatial and temporal scales, as well as the variability inherent in such hazards and events; (2) improve models of natural hazards, extreme events, and their impacts on natural, social, and economic systems; and (3) enable development of new tools to enhance societal preparedness and resilience against such impacts. PREEVENTS will focus on natural hazards and extreme events, not those that are deliberate or accidental. PREEVENTS will include opportunities for disciplinary and multidisciplinary projects at multiple scales, particularly in areas ripe for significant near- or medium-term advances.” Specifically, PREEVENTS will support research projects and workshops. The formal solicitation is expected in 2016.


Directorate for Engineering
Through investments in engineering research and education, the Directorate for Engineering (ENG) strives “to build and strengthen a national capacity for innovation that can lead over time to the creation of new shared wealth and a better quality of life.” The Directorate is divided into six divisions.
These include Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET); Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI); Electrical, Communications and Cyber Systems (ECCS); Engineering Education and Centers (EEC); Emerging Frontiers and Multidisciplinary Activities (EFMA); and Industrial Innovation and Partnerships (IIP).

Source and Additional Information: http://www.nsf.gov/eng/about.jsp

Critical Resilient Interdependent Infrastructure Systems and Processes
The Critical Resilient Interdependent Infrastructure Systems and Processes (CRISP) program seeks to create “new approaches and engineering solutions for the design and operation of infrastructures as processes and services,” through interdisciplinary research involving engineers, computer scientists, and social and behavioral scientists. Additional program goals include the desire to “enhance the understanding and design of interdependent critical infrastructure systems (ICIs) and processes that provide essential goods and services despite disruptions and failures from any cause, natural, technological, or malicious; create the knowledge for innovation in ICIs so that they safely, securely, and effectively expand the range of goods and services they enable; and improve the effectiveness and efficiency with which they deliver existing goods and services.” There are two types of awards, ranging from a maximum budget of $500,000 to $2.5 million, with a duration of between three and four years. For the FY 2015 competition, 20 awards are expected. FY 2016 proposal due dates have yet to be announced.


Research in the Formation of Engineers
As a part of its Professional Formation of Engineers initiative, the Research in the Formation of Engineers (RFE) program strives to “transform the engineering formation system, and thus the impact of proposed projects on this system must be described.” Applicants are advised to create a roadmap that outlines the broader impacts on the formation of the engineering workforce. Strong applications will build on prior theory, fill research gaps, and translate into practice. The next deadline for applications is October 29, 2015. NSF notes that the program will accept projects ranging in scale and expects the average funding level to be $100,000.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503584
National Institutes of Health

The primary function of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is to support biomedical and health-related research. Included in this mission is research on the behavioral and social impacts of individuals and society as related to public health. This effort is guided by the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) within the Office of the Director (OD) at NIH. Most programs listed below are multi-agency or multi-institute solicitations coordinated by OBSSR. Please refer to each program's corresponding link to see which of NIH’s 27 Institutes and Centers (ICs), as well as which agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are collaborating on each solicitation. The focus of the research can and should be specifically geared to reflect the goals of one of the sponsoring ICs.

NIH grants are funded through a variety of funding mechanisms (i.e. R01, R03, and R21). NIH typically solicits grant applications three times a year: Cycle I (January through April); Cycle II (May through August); and Cycle III (September through December). The deadlines for grant proposals are published on NIH’s Standard Due Dates for Competing Applications page, available at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm.

The next cycle due dates for new grants under the funding mechanisms listed below are:

- R01: February 5, 2016
- R03: February 16, 2016
- R18: January 25, 2016
- R13: December 12, 2015
- R21: February 16, 2016
- K01: February 12, 2016

A complete listing of current grant programs catalogued by OBSSR with submission receipt deadlines is available at http://obssr.od.nih.gov/funding_opportunities/foas/foas.aspx. Also, while the formal Basic Behavioral and Social Science Opportunity Network (OppNet) concluded in May 2014, NIH Institutes and Centers have agreed to continue collaborating with OBSSR on a voluntary basis, continuing to invest in interdisciplinary projects with unique considerations for and linkages to behavioral and social sciences. OppNet will continue to be a resource for behavioral and social science research.

**Midcareer Investigator Award in Patient-Oriented Research**

This multi-institute award strives to “provide support to mid-career health-professional doctorates or equivalent who are typically at the Associate Professor level or the equivalent... for protected time to devote to patient-oriented research (POR) and to act as research mentors primarily for clinical residents, clinical fellows and/or junior clinical faculty.” NIH classifies POR as “research conducted with human subjects (or on material of human origin such as tissues, specimens and cognitive phenomena) for which an investigator (or colleague) directly interacts with human subject.” With this award, it is recommended that applicants connect with NIH points of contact to discuss budget logistics.


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Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award
The Mentored Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Awards aims “to support the career development of individuals with a clinical doctoral degree who have made a commitment to focus their research endeavors on patient-oriented research.” As with the Midcareer Investigator Award in Patient-Oriented Research, it is encouraged that applicants connect with NIH points of contact to discuss award logistics.


National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)

Design and Development of Novel Technologies for Healthy Independent Living
The objective of this program is to fund research on technologies to help improve the delivery of health care. Of particular interest are “novel sensor or monitoring systems, home-use point-of-care devices, home or mobile therapy or rehabilitation tools, or information systems and should have the goal of fostering healthy and independent living.” This research can have a significant impact on aging, disabled, as well as many other populations.


Technologies for Healthy Independent Living
This opportunity, which involves six different participating organizations within NIH, will support research surrounding technologies that can be used to help deliver health care. The goal is that “These systems are expected to integrate, process, analyze, communicate, and present data so that the individuals are engaged and empowered in their own healthcare with reduced burden to care providers.” The research funded through this award can have large-scale implications for patients suffering from disabilities, aging, or other chronic medical issues.


National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

Behavioral and Integrative Treatment Development Program
The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), and OBSSR partner to support research and clinical trials to develop and test “behavioral and integrative treatments for drug and alcohol abuse and dependence.” A broad range of behavioral treatments may be included in the proposed research, but behavioral components must be integrated with other treatments, including “medications or complementary and alternative treatments.” There are R01, R03, and R34 (Clinical Trial Planning Grant Program mechanism) versions of this award.

National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)

Early Stage Development of Technologies in Biomedical Computing, Informatics, and Big Data Science
This opportunity supports biomedical research from the perspective of behavioral sciences. In terms of biomedical research, the award is particularly interested in “biomedical computing, informatics, and Big Data science through the early stage development of new software, tools and related resources, as well as the fundamental research (e.g., methodologies and approaches) leading up to that development.” Projects can investigate topic like “collaborative environments; data integration; analysis and modeling methodologies; and novel computer science and statistical approaches.”


Extended Development, Hardening, and Dissemination of Technologies in Biomedical Computing, Informatics and Big Data Science
This award is offered by the NIGMS along with twelve other partners. It is an opportunity to support research around biomedical software. Through this program, NIGMS is seeking projects that are “conducted in the context of important biomedical and behavioral research problems and that domain researchers are consulted to make sure that the software is relevant to users.” The results of these projects should be applicable to a broad range of NIH institutes.


Modeling Social Behavior
Through a partnership with multiple NIH institutes, this program supports computational, engineering, or mathematical research that can be used to further understand social behaviors. Specifically, the award focuses on “phenomena at multiple scales to address the emergence of collective behaviors that arise from individual elements or parts of a system working together.” The solicitation has a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary teams, especially in the behavioral science and computational modeling research areas.


National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH)

Arts-Based Approaches in Palliative Care for Symptom Management
This award looks to promote clinical trial research focused on the effects of incorporating art methods to treat a variety of symptoms. The NCCIH is hoping to “understand the biological, physiological, neurological, psychological, and/or sociological mechanisms by which the arts exert their effects on symptom management during and throughout the palliative care continuum.” Specifically, NCCIH is looking to “develop an evidence-base that could be used as a basis for the uptake of arts-based therapies in palliative care settings, among individuals across the lifespan, with a wide variety of serious chronic conditions and their accompanying symptoms.”

**National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)**

**Biobehavioral and Technological Interventions to Attenuate Cognitive Decline in Individuals with Cognitive Impairment or Dementia**

In partnership with the NIA, NINR issued a funding announcement to promote research striving to “stimulate clinical research focused on biobehavioral or technological interventions to attenuate cognitive decline in individuals with dementia (such as Alzheimer’s disease, Lewy body dementia, vascular dementia), mild cognitive impairment (MCI), or disease- or age-related cognitive decline.” In particular, NINR is interested in intervention research and biomarker research. The goal is that the research funded by this award will help patients “maintain independence and quality of life, improve their ability to perform activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs), and additionally help to reduce stress, burden, and other poor outcomes in their caregivers.” For this award, there are both R01 and R21 opportunities.


**Healthy Habits: Timing for Developing Sustainable Healthy Behaviors in Children and Adolescents**

With this award, NINR, along with several other institutes hopes to support “innovative research to identify mechanisms of influence and/or promote positive sustainable health behavior(s) in children and youth (birth to age 18). Positive health behaviors may include: developing healthy sleep patterns, developing effective self-regulation strategies, adaptive decision-making in risk situations, practicing proper dental hygiene, eating a balanced and nutritious diet, engaging in age-appropriate physical activity and/or participating in healthy relationships. Applications to promote positive health behavior(s) should target social and cultural factors, including, but not limited to: schools, families, communities, population, food industry, age-appropriate learning tools and games, social media, social networking, technology and mass media.” For this award, there are both R01, R03, and R21 opportunities.


**National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)**

**Research on Chronic Overlapping Pain Conditions**

Issued by NINDS, this award is also sponsored by nine additional NIH institutes and offices. The award seeks to “encourage epidemiological, clinical, and translational research that will increase our understanding of the natural history, prevalence, biological mechanisms, psychological variables, and clinical risk factors responsible for the presence of multiple chronic pain conditions in people with pain.” The opportunity is promoting the “formation of research groups with interests bridging expertise in pain mechanisms with translational and clinical expertise to address important unresolved questions about overlapping pain conditions.” For this award, there are R01 and R21 opportunities available.

**National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)**

**Establishing Behavioral and Social Measures for Causal Pathway Research in Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Health**

Through this program, the NIDCR seeks to develop measures for social behaviors that are associated with dental, oral, and craniofacial diseases. This opportunity expects researchers to investigate both “1) measures of the health behaviors, social interactions, community characteristics, built environments, etc., targeted by behavioral or social interventions to improve oral health; and/or 2) measures of the hypothesized moderators and mediators of a behavioral or social intervention's effect.” For this award, there are R01 and R21 opportunities available.


**NIDCR Behavioral or Social Intervention Clinical Trial Planning Grant**

This NIDCR grant opportunity will fund research assessing the social and behavioral interventions for dental, oral, and craniofacial diseases. With this solicitation, the NIDCR is interested in “the development of the behavioral or social intervention manual and procedures for training interventionists; development of the clinical protocol that will guide a subsequent clinical trial; the tools for data management, participant safety and operational oversight; and other activities to prepare for a subsequent clinical trial.”


**National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)**

**Advancing Structural Level Interventions Through Enhanced Understanding of Social Determinants in HIV Prevention and Care**

In a partnership with the NIAID, the NIMH issues a solicitation to support research evaluating social factors associated with HIV treatment in two specific areas. “The first is to characterize those social determinants that are most relevant to HIV prevention and treatment outcomes, particularly in their association with inequities in HIV risk or disease outcomes. The second is to develop and test structural interventions aimed at reducing the negative impact or maximizing positive aspects of social determinants.” For this award, there are both R01 and R21 opportunities available.


**Dissemination and Implementation Research in Health**

This funding announcement will support projects aimed at the identification and development of “effective and efficient methods, structures, and strategies to disseminate and implement research-tested health behavior change interventions, evidence-based prevention, early detection, diagnostic, treatment, and quality of life improvement services, [as well as] data monitoring and surveillance reporting tools into public health and clinical practice settings.” There are three versions of this award: the R01, R21, and R03.

NIMH Biobehavioral Research Awards for Innovative New Scientists (NIMH BRAINS)
The NIMH offers these awards to investigators early in his/her research careers. With this program, the NIMH strives to support researchers “in launching an innovative clinical, translational, basic or services research program that holds the potential to profoundly transform the understanding, diagnosis, treatment, or prevention of mental disorders.”


Targeted Basic Behavioral and Social Science and Intervention Development for HIV Prevention and Care
NIMH, in partnership with the NIAID, seeks research that will ultimately reduce the infection rate of HIV and improving the quality of life for HIV patients. Specifically focusing on “(a) basic behavioral and social science research that is needed to advance the development of HIV prevention and care interventions; (b) [translation] of the findings from these basic studies to develop interventions and assess their feasibility; and (c) conduct tests of the efficacy of HIV prevention and care interventions.” For this award, there are R01 and R21 opportunities available.


National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)

Home and Family Based Approaches for the Prevention or Management of Overweight or Obesity in Early Childhood
This funding opportunity aims to support randomized clinical trials testing “novel home- or family-based interventions for the prevention or management of overweight in infancy and early childhood.” Interventions can include behavioral, environmental, or other approaches. NIH is especially interested in applications that focus on infants and young children and consider the role of the home environment. The project aims to produce research that will “advance knowledge for innovative approaches to the prevention or management of overweight children less than 6 years of age, with potential for future research clinical trial applications either in the home or linked to a community setting.” There are two versions of this solicitation, the R01 and R21.


Obesity Policy Evaluation Research
This program supports projects that “propose to evaluate large scale policy or programs that are expected to influence obesity related behaviors (e.g. dietary intake, physical activity, or sedentary behavior) and/or weight outcomes in an effort to prevent or reduce obesity.”

**Time-Sensitive Obesity Policy and Program Evaluation**
The purpose of this funding opportunity is to “support time-sensitive research to evaluate a new policy or program expected to influence obesity related behaviors (e.g., dietary intake, physical activity, or sedentary behavior) and/or weight outcomes in an effort to prevent or reduce obesity.” All applications must illustrate that the project offers an “uncommon and scientifically compelling research opportunity that will only be available if the research is initiated with minimum delay.” Because the review and funding of these awards are expedited, please consult the announcement for application deadline details.


**Understanding Factors in Infancy and Early Childhood (Birth to 24 months) That Influence Obesity Development**
The objective of this competition is to fund projects that “propose to characterize or identify factors in early childhood (birth-24 months) that may increase or mitigate risk for obesity and/or excessive weight gain and/or to fill methodological research gaps relevant to the understanding of risk for development of obesity in children.” Research projects should focus on children, child caregivers, or family populations.


**Office of Disease Prevention (ODP)**

**Developing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity**
The ODP seeks to fund “highly innovative research aimed at developing multi-level interventions that will increase health-enhancing physical activity: 1) in persons or groups who can benefit from such activity; and 2) that can be made scalable and sustainable for broad use across the nation.” These interventions can include social factors. There are two versions of this award: R21 and R33.


**Testing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity**
Through this competition, ODP hopes to “fund highly innovative and promising research that tests multi-level intervention programs of 1 to 2 years in length that are designed to increase health-enhancing physical activity: 1) in persons or groups that can benefit from such activity; and 2) that could be made scalable and sustainable for broad use across the nation.” This award will support projects through the development, implementation, and analysis stages.


**National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)**

**The Health of Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM) Populations**
The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to support basic, social, and behavioral research to increase scientific understanding of the health status of diverse populations and to improve the effectiveness of health interventions and services for these population. According to the
announcement, priority is given to proposals studying “understudied populations distinctive health risk profiles.” There are R01, R21, and R03 versions of this award.


School Nutrition and Physical Activity Policies, Obesogenic Behaviors, and Weight Outcomes
This opportunity will support projects that propose to: “(1) foster multidisciplinary research that will evaluate how policies (federal, state, and school district levels) can influence school physical activity and nutrition environments, youths’ obesogenic behaviors (e.g., nutrition and physical activity behaviors), and weight outcomes; (2) understand how schools are implementing these policies and examine multi-level influences on adoption and implementation at various levels (e.g., federal, state, school district, and school); and (3) understand the synergistic or counteractive effect of school nutrition and physical activity policies on the home and community environment and body weight.” There are R01, R21, and R03 versions of this award.


National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

Research on the Health Determinants and Consequences of Violence and its Prevention, Particularly Firearm Violence
NIAAAA, in partnership with various other NIH institutes and offices, seeks to support “basic neuroscience and basic behavioral research, clinical and translational studies, intervention development at the individual, family and community level, efficacy trials of interventions based on evidence from basic and translational studies, and research to identify the best ways to disseminate and implement efficacious and evidence-based interventions in real-world settings.” For this award, there are three versions: R21, R03, and R01.


Fogarty International Center (FIC)

Mobile Health: Technology and Outcomes in Low and Middle Income Countries
This funding announcement, initiated by the FIC in partnership with five other NIH offices and institutes, serves as an opportunity to support “exploratory/developmental research applications that propose to study the development or adaptation of innovative mobile health (mHealth) technology specifically suited for low and middle income countries (LMICs) and the health-related outcomes associated with implementation of the technology.” There is a particular interest in multidisciplinary proposals investigating chronic disease. Additionally, this research award helps to foster partnerships in the larger scientific community.
Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH)

Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome: Etiology, Diagnosis, Pathophysiology, and Treatment
The Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH) and co-sponsoring ICs have issued this funding opportunity for research that examines “the etiology, diagnosis, pathophysiology, and treatment of chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS), sometimes referred to as myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), in diverse groups and across the lifespan.” ORWH is interested in research that considers biological and environmental risk factors in understanding the process of the disease. There is an R01 and R21 version of the solicitation.


Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

Behavioral Interventions to Address Multiple Chronic Health Conditions in Primary Care
This funding announcement is aimed at research “in primary care that uses a multi-disease care management approach to behavioral interventions with high potential impact to improve patient-level health outcomes for individuals with three or more chronic health conditions.” Examples of relevant disease groups include mental health disorders, diabetes, obesity, and substance abuse.


Behavioral and Social Science Research on Understanding and Reducing Health Disparities
This program supports “behavioral and social science research on the causes and solutions to health and disabilities disparities in the U.S. population.” According to program materials, emphasis is placed on research in three broad areas: public policy, health care, and disease/disability prevention. Proposals that utilize “an interdisciplinary approach, investigate multiple levels of analysis, incorporate a life-course perspective, and/or employ innovative methods such as system science or community-based participatory research are particularly encouraged.”


Understanding and Promoting Health Literacy
This grant program supports “methodological, intervention, and dissemination research for understanding and promoting health literacy.” In this announcement, health literacy is defined as “the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.”
National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is the largest federal funding source for humanities projects and scholarship. NEH solicitations are announced once per year. NEH often indicates when programs are expected to be reissued on the program website. NEH programs are organized through several divisions and offices, including the Division of Education Programs, Division of Preservation and Access, Division of Public Programs, Division of Research Programs, Office of Challenge Grants, Office of Digital Humanities, and State and Federal Partnerships Office.

A complete listing of grant programs offered by NEH with submission receipt deadlines can be found at http://www.neh.gov/grants/grants.html.

Division of Education Programs
The NEH Division of Education Programs strives to “strengthen humanities education through programs aimed at pre-collegiate and post-secondary levels of study.” The Division of Education Programs sponsors intensive summer, professional, and curriculum development programs.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/divisions/education/about.

Enduring Questions
The Enduring Questions grant program supports “faculty members in the preparation of a new course on a fundamental concern of human life as addressed by the humanities.” This course will “encourage undergraduates and teachers to join together in a deep and sustained program of reading in order to encounter influential ideas, works, and thinkers over the centuries.” Examples of “enduring questions” include: “Are there universals in human nature? What is the source of moral authority? What is evil? Can war be just?” The maximum award size ranges from $20,000 to $38,000, depending on the number of faculty members designing the course, and the program will be funded for 18 to 36 months. With this program, there is not a cost sharing requirement. In the past, the program has funded an average of 21 awards per year, a funding ratio of 11 percent. Applications were due September 10, 2015 for projects beginning May 2016. The deadline for the next competition has not yet been released.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/education/enduring-questions

Summer Seminars and Institutes Program
The Summer Seminars and Institutes Program supports humanities development programs for school teachers and college and university professors. The goal with this summer program is to “extend and deepen knowledge and understanding of the humanities by focusing on significant topics and texts; contribute to the intellectual vitality and professional development of participants; build communities of inquiry and provide models of civility and excellent scholarship and teaching; and link teaching and research in the humanities.” Support will be provided for seminars or institutes for either university faculty or school teachers (K-12). NEH encourages submissions that focus on the areas of foreign language, community-college faculty, and projects that relate to the goals of the NEH's Bridging Cultures Initiative. On average, this program has offered forty-eight awards per competition, a funding ratio of 32 percent. For this award, the NEH offers $75,000 to $150,000 for seminars for a twelve month period or $90,000 to $200,000 for institutes for a fifteen month period. For this program, cost sharing is not required. Applications for the upcoming competition are due on February 25, 2016.
**Division of Preservation and Access**

The Division of Preservation and Access is responsible for supporting efforts to ensure that the “nation’s cultural heritage and intellectual legacy” are preserved. Specifically, this division funds programs aimed at the “good stewardship of cultural resources” and “long-term and wide availability of primary resources in the humanities.”

**Source and Additional Information:** [http://www.neh.gov/divisions/preservation/about](http://www.neh.gov/divisions/preservation/about)

**Humanities Collections and Reference Resources**

This program supports projects contributing to the humanities in scholarship, education, and public programming. Grants awarded through this program can be used to “extend the life” of humanities materials and increasingly ensure that humanities materials are available digitally. There are two types of Humanities Collections and Reference Resources awards: implementation awards; and planning, assessment, and pilot awards. On average, the NEH has funded 37 awards per year, a funding ratio of 16 percent. Applications are due July 19, 2016 for projects beginning May 2017.


**National Digital Newspaper Program**

The National Digital Newspaper Program is striving to establish a “national digital resource of historically significant newspapers published between 1836 and 1922, from all the states and U.S. territories.” Specifically, this program is creating a digital database for the Library of Congress. To support this goal, the program will offer funding for “projects in all states and U.S. territories, provided that sufficient funds allocated for this purpose are available. One organization within each U.S. state or territory will receive an award to collaborate with relevant state partners in this effort.” Successful past projects have been “based on statewide collaborations between major repositories of microfilm of historic newspapers and institutions with the technical capacity to launch long-term digitization efforts.” The NEH will grant cooperative agreements of a maximum of $325,000 for a two year period, and does not require matching funds (although it is encouraged). Historically, this program has sponsored an average of twelve awards per year, a funding ratio of 75 percent. Applications for the upcoming round of grants are due on January 14, 2016 and projects will begin in September of 2016.


**Preservation and Access Education and Training**

The Preservation and Access Education and Training program supports activities that maintain and enhance a strong humanities workforce. This program offers awards to “organizations that offer national or regional (multistate) education and training programs.” The grants strive to “help the staff of cultural institutions, large and small, obtain the knowledge and skills needed to serve as effective stewards of humanities collections.” Furthermore, these grants “support educational programs that prepare the next generation of conservators and preservation professionals, as well as projects that introduce the staff of cultural institutions to new information and advances in preservation and access.
practices.” Programs are supported by these grants for a period of two years, with a maximum award of $100,000 per year ($175,000 per year for field service organizations). Cost sharing for this program is not required; however, it is highly encouraged. In the past, this program has awarded an average of seven awards each year, a funding ratio of 58 percent. Applications for the next round of grants are due on May 3, 2016 and projects will begin in January of 2017.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-and-access-education-and-training

Preservation and Access Research and Development
The Preservation and Access Research and Development program supports activities looking to improve the way cultural artifacts are preserved and accessed. Specifically, this program will investigate “better ways to preserve materials of critical importance to the nation’s cultural heritage—from fragile artifacts and manuscripts to analog recordings and digital assets subject to technological obsolescence—and to develop advanced modes of searching, discovering, and using such materials.” NEH requires that projects “demonstrate how advances in preservation and access would benefit the cultural heritage community in supporting humanities research, teaching, or public programming.” With these awards, there is a strong emphasis on collaboration. Tier I grants, for planning and basic research, have a maximum award value of $75,000. Tier II grants for advanced implementation have a maximum award value of $350,000. Cost sharing for this program is not required; however, it is highly encouraged. In the past, this program has sponsored an average of three awards per year, a funding ratio of 18 percent. Applications are due June 21, 2016 for projects beginning January 2017.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/research-and-development

Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions
This program looks to help small and mid-sized institutions “improve their ability to preserve and care for their humanities collections.” Humanities collections eligible for support include: books and journals, archives, manuscripts, prints and photographs, moving images, sound recordings, architectural and cartographic records, furniture, historical objects, and digital materials. The grant can be used for purposes such as: general preservation assessments; consultations with professionals to address a specific preservation issue, need, or problem; purchase of storage furniture and preservation supplies; purchase of environmental monitoring equipment for humanities collections; or education and training. In this solicitation, there is an emphasis on applications from institutions that have yet to receive NEH funding. The award is for up to $6,000 for a maximum duration of 18 months, and does not require matching funds. Historically, this program has sponsored an average of 90 awards per year, a funding ratio of 32 percent. Updated guidelines will be posted online by March 2016. Applications for the upcoming round of grants are due on May 3, 2016 and projects will begin in January of 2017.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/preservation-assistance-grants-smaller-institutions

Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections
This program strives to ensure “cultural institutions meet the complex challenge of preserving large and diverse holdings of humanities materials for future generations by supporting sustainable conservation measures that mitigate deterioration and prolong the useful life of collections.” Specifically, the program helps “cultural repositories plan and implement preservation strategies that pragmatically balance
effectiveness, cost, and environmental impact.” The planning award is for a maximum of $40,000 for up to two years. However, planning grant applications may apply for $50,000 if the planning team is interdisciplinary. Implementation grants have a maximum award of $350,000 for up to five years. For this program, cost sharing is not required, but is recommended. Historically, this program has sponsored an average of 17 awards per year, a funding ratio of 19 percent. Applications for the upcoming round of grants are due on December 1, 2015 for projects beginning in October 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/preservation/sustaining-cultural-heritage-collections

Division of Public Programs
The Division of Public Programs recognizes and emphasizes the importance of public humanities programs in introducing the general public to the humanities. As the Division describes, “The division supports a wide range of public humanities programs that reach large and diverse public audiences. These programs make use of a variety of formats—interpretation at historic sites, television and radio productions, museum exhibitions, Web sites and other digital media.”


Bridging Cultures through Film: International Topics
This program provides support for documentaries that “examine international themes and subjects in the humanities. The films are meant to spark Americans’ engagement with the broader world by exploring countries and cultures outside of the United States.” In each selected film, the NEH strives for “a core set of humanities ideas developed with the input of scholars, matched to imaginative formats that bring the humanities alive for people of all ages and all walks of life.” Examples of topics include: “an examination of a critical issue in ethics, religion, literature, or history, viewed through an international lens; an exploration of a topic that transcends a single nation-state; a biography of a foreign leader, writer, artist, or historical figure; or an exploration of the history and culture(s) of a specific region, country, or community outside of the United States.” The award is for up to $75,000 for development and up to $650,000 for production. Typically, the program has allocated an average of five awards per year, a funding ratio of 7 percent. Cost sharing for this program is not required; however, it is encouraged for production projects. Deadlines for future competitions have not been released yet, but were due June 10, 2015 for the most recent round of awards.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/public/bridging-cultures-through-film-international-topics

Digital Projects for the Public
The Digital Projects for the Public program supports projects “that significantly contribute to the public’s engagement with the humanities.” These projects can incorporate “websites, mobile applications and tours, interactive touch screens and kiosks, games, and virtual environments.” With all proposals, there should be “broad, general, nonspecialist audience, either online or in person at venues such as museums, libraries or other cultural institutions.” This program offers Discovery Grants, Prototyping Grants, and Production Grants. Awards range from $30,000 (maximum amount allocated for Discovery Grants) to $400,000 (maximum amount allocated for Production Grants). Although cost sharing is not required, it is strongly encouraged. Historically, this program sponsored an average of six awards per
year, a funding ratio of 9 percent. Applications are due on June 8, 2016 for projects starting in January 2017.


Media Project: Development Grants
The Media Project supports projects that involve film and television or projects that involve the radio. “Film and television projects may be single programs or a series addressing significant figures, events, or ideas;” and “radio projects, including podcasts, may involve single programs, limited series, or segments within an ongoing program. They may also develop new humanities content to augment existing radio programming or add greater historical background or humanities analysis to the subjects of existing programs.” Development grants “enable media producers to collaborate with scholars to develop humanities content and to prepare programs for production. Grants should result in a script or treatment and should also yield a detailed plan for outreach and public engagement.” These awards generally range from $40,000 to $75,000 for a period of six to twelve months. While cost sharing is not required, it is encouraged. Historically, the program sponsored an average of three awards per competition, a funding ratio of 11 percent. Applications are due January 13, 2016 for projects beginning in August 2016.


Media Project: Production Grants
The Media Project supports projects that involve film, television, or radio. “Film and television projects may be single programs or a series addressing significant figures, events, or ideas;” and “radio projects, including podcasts, may involve single programs, limited series, or segments within an ongoing program. They may also develop new humanities content to augment existing radio programming or add greater historical background or humanities analysis to the subjects of existing programs.” Production grants “support the production and distribution of films, television programs, and radio programs that promise to engage a broad public audience.” These awards generally range from $100,000 to $650,000 for a period of one to three years. Additionally, “Chairman’s Special Awards of up to $1 million are available for projects that will reach an exceptionally large audience.” While cost sharing is not required, it is encouraged. For this program, the NEH awards an average of six grants per competition, a funding ratio of 14 percent. Applications were due August 12, 2015 for projects beginning April 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/public/media-projects-production-grants

Museums, Libraries, and Cultural Organizations: Planning Grants
This program provides “support for museums, libraries, historic places, and other organizations that produce public programs in the humanities.” These grants can support programs that include: “permanent and traveling exhibitions, book or film discussion programs, historic site or district interpretations, living history presentations, and other face-to-face programs in public venues. All projects must be grounded in humanities scholarship in disciplines such as history, art history, film studies, literature, religious studies, philosophy, or anthropology.” Planning grants “are used to refine the content, format, and interpretive approach of a humanities project; develop the project’s preliminary design; test project components; and conduct audience evaluation.” The program allocates awards ranging from $40,000 to $75,000 for a period of twelve months. While cost-sharing is not
required, it is unlikely that NEH will be able to support the full cost of the project. In the past, there has been an average of six grants allocated per competition, a funding ratio of 11 percent. Applications are due January 13, 2016 for projects beginning August 2016.


**Museums, Libraries, and Cultural Organizations: Implementation Grants**

As mentioned above, this program looks to “provide support for museums, libraries, historic places, and other organizations that produce public programs in the humanities.” These grants can support programs that include: “permanent and traveling exhibitions, book or film discussion programs, historic site or district interpretations, living history presentations, and other face-to-face programs in public venues.” Implementation grants “support final scholarly research and consultation, design development, production, and installation of a project for presentation to the public.” The program typically does not allocate more than $400,000 and awards are usually made for a period of twelve to thirty six months. While cost-sharing is not required, it is unlikely that NEH will be able to support the full cost of the project. In the past, there has been an average of eight grants allocated per competition, a funding ratio of 20 percent. Applications are due January 13, 2016 for projects beginning August 2016.


**Humanities in the Public Square**

The purpose of this new program is to support “scholarly forums, public discussions, and educational resources related to the themes of a new NEH initiative, The Common Good: The Humanities in the Public Square.” The Common Good initiative aims to “bring the humanities into the public square and foster innovative ways to make scholarship relevant to contemporary issues.” Thus, these grants provide funding for projects that consist of “a public forum that engages scholars and humanities practitioners in discussions with a public audience about a theme; subsequent public programs that would use creative formats to engage audiences in reflection on and discussion of a humanities theme for an extended period of time; and educational resources that disseminate materials for ongoing use by teachers, students, and/or lifelong learners.”

The program will allocate a maximum of $300,000 for a period of 12 months. However, projects requesting $150,000 are expected to be extensive, with large geographic and demographic engagement. While cost-sharing is not required, it is unlikely that NEH will be able to support the full cost of the project. The first program deadline was June 24, 2015 for projects beginning January 2016; future deadlines have not yet been announced.


**Division of Research Programs**

The Division of Research Programs aims to support “scholarly research that advances knowledge and understanding of the humanities.” Specifically, grants “are made to scholars working on research projects of significance to specific humanities fields and to the humanities as a whole.” Additionally, the Division strives to promote “humanities education and public programming.”
Collaborative Research Grants
Collaborative Research Grants provide funding for two or more scholars to engage in humanities research. Projects that include “research that significantly adds to knowledge and understanding of the humanities; conferences on topics of major importance in the humanities that will benefit scholarly research; archaeological projects that include the interpretation and communication of results (projects may encompass excavation, materials analysis, laboratory work, field reports, and preparation of interpretive monographs); and research that uses the knowledge and perspectives of the humanities and historical or philosophical methods to enhance understanding of science, technology, medicine, and the social sciences” are all eligible for support. Funding is available for collaborations among scholars, consultants, and research assistants, and can be used for “project-related travel, field work, applications of information technology, and technical support and services.” Grants range from $25,000 to $100,000 per year and are available for periods of one to three years. Additionally, grants “for conferences are typically made for a minimum of one year and normally range from $15,000 to $65,000 per grant.” In the past, 13 awards have been granted per year, a funding ratio of 10 percent on average. With these awards, cost sharing and federal matching are recommended. Applications are due December 9, 2015 for projects beginning October 2016.

Public Scholar Program
The new Public Scholar program provides grants to individuals in order to support “well-researched books in the humanities intended to reach a broad readership.” For this program, scholars are expected to produce books that “present a narrative history, tell the stories of important individuals, analyze significant texts, provide a synthesis of ideas, revive interest in a neglected subject, or examine the latest thinking on a topic. Books supported by this program must be grounded in humanities research and scholarship.” Furthermore, these books are intended to be accessible and of interest to the general public. The program provides $4,200 of support per month for a period between six and twelve months, with a maximum stipend of $50,400. Applications are due February 2, 2016 for projects beginning October 2016.

Fellowships
The NEH Fellowships program provides grants to individuals researching topics of value to humanities scholars or the general public. Generally, recipients “produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources in the humanities.” For the fellowships, NEH will provide stipends of up to $4,200 per month for a period of six to 12 months to support projects at any stage of development. Cost sharing is not required. In the past, the program has awarded an average of 83 fellowships each year, a funding ratio of 7 percent. Applications for fellowships beginning in January of 2017 are due on April 28, 2016.

Fellowships for Advanced Social Science Research on Japan
This fellowship program represents a partnership between the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission and the NEH. Through these fellowships, the program supports, “research on modern Japanese society and
political economy, Japan's international relations, and U.S.-Japan relations.” These fellowships may focus on one of the following areas: “anthropology, economics, geography, history, international relations, linguistics, political science, psychology, public administration, and sociology.” Specifically, “the fellowships are designed for researchers with advanced language skills whose research will require use of data, sources, and documents in their original languages or whose research requires interviews onsite in direct one-on-one contact.” For the fellowships, NEH will provide stipends of up to $4,200 per month for a period of six to 12 months to support projects at any stage of development. Cost sharing is not required. In the past, the program has awarded an average of two fellowships each year, a funding ratio of 8 percent. Applications are due on April 28, 2016 for fellowships beginning in January of 2017.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/research/fellowships-advanced-social-science-research-japan

Scholarly Editions and Translations
Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants provide support for “the preparation of editions and translations of pre-existing texts and documents of value to the humanities that are currently inaccessible or available in inadequate editions.” Projects supported by this grant will incorporate collaboration, as the solicitation describes, “Projects must be undertaken by a team of at least one editor or translator and one other staff member.” Awards range from $50,000 to $100,000 for a period of one to three years. Cost sharing is not required, but it is strongly recommended, as the program “is rarely able to support the full costs of projects approved for funding.” Historically, this program has supported an average of 28 awards each year, a funding ratio of 30 percent. Applications are due on December 9, 2015 for projects starting October 2016.


Summer Stipends
The Summer Stipends program provides grants to individuals “pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both.” For this program, scholars can “produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources.” The program provides $6,000 of support for up to two-months for full-time work on a humanities project at any stage of development. In the past, the NEH has awarded an average of 81 summer stipends each year, a funding ratio of 9 percent. Applications were due October 1, 2015 for projects beginning in May 2016; future deadlines have not yet been announced.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/research/summer-stipends

Office of Challenge Grants
The Office of Challenge Grants offers matched funding opportunities that help “local, state, and national institutions secure their humanities resources and activities for the long term.” The specific goal of this program is to have a positive, long-lasting impact on promoting the future of the humanities. These Challenge Grants are available to museums, libraries, universities, societies, and research organizations, among others.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/divisions/challenge/about
Challenge Grant Program
The Challenge Grant program provides support for institutions to make long-term improvements in their humanities programs. These long-term improvements can include increasing capacity, furthering an endowment, or purchasing humanities-related equipment. Ultimately, the goal is to garner long-term support for the humanities. Specifically, awarded funding can be used through direct expenditure for “capital expenditures, such as the purchase, construction, or renovation of facilities; acquisitions for collections; the purchase of equipment and software; and fundraising costs.” This highly competitive grant has a three-to-one matching requirement from a nonfederal source and individual institutions can only hold one Challenge Grant at a time. Previous grants awarded to institutions have ranged from $75,000 to $500,000, and are dispensed over a four-year period. In the past, 18 awards have been granted each year. Applications were due on May 5, 2015; deadlines for 2016 have not yet been announced.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/challenge/challenge-grants

Next Generation Humanities PhD Planning Grants
The Next Generation Humanities PhD program is a new program announced in October 2015 that aims to transform humanities education at the doctoral level by preparing humanities PhD candidates for diverse career opportunities beyond academia. Planning grants provide support for institutions to “bring together various important constituencies to discuss and strategize, and then to produce plans that will transform scholarly preparation in the humanities at the doctoral level.” These grants may provide up to $25,000 for up to 12 months. This program has a one-to-one matching requirement. Applications are due February 17, 2016 for projects beginning in August/September 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/challenge/next-generation-humanities-phd-planning-grants

Next Generation Humanities PhD Implementation Grants
The Next Generation Humanities PhD program is a new program announced in October 2015 that aims to transform humanities education at the doctoral level by preparing humanities PhD candidates for diverse career opportunities beyond academia. Implementation grants will provide up to 36 months of funding for institutions to enact changes to humanities programs at the doctoral level. Allowable activities for planning grants include “multi-departmental collaboration, transformations in curricula, modifications in stipend structures, altered formats for dissertations, commitment to collection of alumni career information and outcomes, partnerships with non-university entities, as well as a pledge to encourage doctoral students to explore and prepare for multiple career trajectories.” Implementation grants may provide up to $250,000 for up to 26 months. This program has a one-to-one matching requirement. Applications are due February 17, 2016 for projects beginning in August/September 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/challenge/next-generation-humanities-phd-implementation-grants

Office of Digital Humanities
The NEH Office of Digital Humanities lends support to projects that investigate the cultural changes associated with digital technologies. Grants are available for projects that use digital technologies and
methods to advance the humanities, and for projects that study digital technologies from a humanistic lens.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/divisions/odh/about

Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants
Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants are short-term, small awards offered to support the “planning stages of innovative projects that promise to benefit the humanities.” These grants might include projects focused on “research that brings new approaches or documents best practices in the study of the digital humanities; planning and developing prototypes of new digital tools for preserving, analyzing, and making accessible digital resources, including libraries’ and museums’ digital assets; scholarship that focuses on the history, criticism, and philosophy of digital culture and its impact on society; scholarship or studies that examine the philosophical or practical implications and impact of the use of emerging technologies in specific fields or disciplines of the humanities, or in interdisciplinary collaborations involving several fields or disciplines; innovative uses of technology for public programming and education incorporating both traditional and new media; and new digital modes of publication that facilitate the dissemination of humanities scholarship in advanced academic as well as informal or formal educational settings at all academic levels.” With these grants, there is an emphasis on innovation and the NEH is seeking applications that “take some risks in the pursuit of innovation and excellence.” In the past, there has been an average of 24 Digital Humanities Start-Up Grants per competition, a funding rate of 16 percent. These grants are awarded at two different levels of funding, $5,000 to $30,000 or $30,000 to $60,000. For these awards, cost sharing is not required, but recommended if the total budget exceeds the NEH grant limit. The most recent deadline for this solicitation was September 16, 2015 for projects beginning May of 2016; future deadlines have not yet been announced.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-start-grants
Digital Humanities Implementation Grants
The Digital Humanities Implementation Grants program provides support to implement “innovative digital-humanities projects that have successfully completed a start-up phase and demonstrated their value to the field.” The program specifically requests projects that “enhance our understanding of central problems in the humanities, raise new questions in the humanities, or develop new digital applications and approaches for use in the humanities.” Funding through this program can be used to support “innovative digital-humanities projects that address multiple audiences, including scholars, teachers, librarians, and the public.” Awards range from $100,000 to $325,000 over a period of one to three years. In the past, the NEH has awarded an average of seven awards each year, a funding rate of 10 percent. NEH Digital Humanities Start-Up grant recipients are welcome to apply. Applications are due on February 17, 2016 for projects starting in September of 2016.


Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
The Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities program supports the collaboration of humanities and digital technology scholars to enhance and expand how digital technology is used in humanities research. Specifically, the program supports institutes which are “national or regional (multistate) training programs for scholars and advanced graduate students to broaden and extend their knowledge of digital humanities.” Universities are eligible to host these institutes. Suggested topics for institutes to address include: “applications of the Text Encoding Initiative, electronic editing, and publishing; scholarly communication and publishing; e-literature; textual analysis and text mining; immersive and virtual environments in multimedia research, including those for mobile platforms; 3-D imaging technology; digital image and sound analysis; information aesthetics and approaches to visualizations of humanities topics and research; computer gaming and simulations as applied to the humanities; high-performance computing or supercomputing and the humanities; and advanced Geographic Information Systems applications.” Institutes are supported by these grants for a period of one to three years, with awards ranging from $50,000 to $250,000 per year. Cost sharing for this program is not required. In the past, the NEH has sponsored an average of five institutes per year, a funding rate of 36 percent. Applications are due March 15, 2016 for projects beginning October 2016.


NEH/DFG Bilateral Digital Humanities Program
In partnering with the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V., DFG), NEH is offering grants to support “projects that contribute to developing and implementing digital infrastructures and services for humanities research.” Specifically, this partnership is looking to support projects focused on “developing innovative methods—as well as standards and best practices—for building and merging digital collections that are significant and of major current interest, for use in humanities research; developing and implementing generic tools, methods, and techniques for accessing and processing digital resources relevant to humanities research; creating new digital modes of scholarly communication and publishing that facilitate international cooperation and dissemination of humanities scholarship; and developing models for effectively managing digital data generated in humanities research projects (for example, texts, audio files, photographs, 3D objects) and exemplifying those models in case studies.” For these awards, proposals must be a collaboration between one German individual or institution and one U.S. institution. Awards will be granted for up to three years.
and range from $100,000 to $350,000. Cost sharing for this program is not required. In the past, the NEH has sponsored an average of five awards per year, a funding rate of 27 percent. Applications were due September 25, 2014 for projects starting in June 2015; future deadlines have not yet been announced.

National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is the federal resource that supports funding for artistic projects. Support is provided through direct grants, state and regional partnerships, leadership initiatives, literature fellowships, and lifetime honors. NEA provides funding for a wide array of artistic disciplines including visual arts, music, dance, literature, design, theater, musical theater, opera, folk and traditional arts, and media arts including film, audio, animation, and digital art. NEA awards are announced once per year, and most NEA programs are annual initiatives. A complete listing of available grant programs offered by NEA with submission deadlines is available at http://arts.gov/grants. It is important to note that most NEA grants are made to organizations or institutions, not to individuals (with the exception of the Creative Writing Fellowships and the Translation Projects programs).

The majority of NEA funding is awarded through three different grant categories: Art Works, Challenge America, and Our Town. For each of these grant categories, awards are available in various disciplines. The NEA website provides information on which artistic disciplines are funded through each of the three grant categories.

Art Works
Art Works is the broadest funding category offered by the NEA. Within this program, NEA will fund projects that contribute to one of four outcomes—creation, engagement, learning, livability. NEA encourages projects that “are likely to prove transformative with the potential for meaningful change,” offer unique insights, and are likely to produce additional advances in the field, as well as projects that increase access to and enhance public knowledge and understanding of the arts, particularly for underserved populations. With this grant, there is also the potential for institutions to partner on research. Grants generally range from $10,000 to $100,000 based on the platform, complexity, and scope of the project, and can last for up to two years. The grants must be matched 1:1. Applications are due twice annually, in February and in July, and the different project types have different deadlines.

Source and Additional Information: http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/art-works

Research: Art Works
Of particular interest to social science researchers, Research: Art Works awards are made “to analyze the value and impact of the arts in the United States.” NEA seeks applicants from a variety of fields and areas in expertise including health, education, economics, sociology, and urban and regional planning. These awards will allocate between $10,000 and $30,000 in funding for two years. The grants must be matched 1:1. Grant applications are due October 20, 2015 for projects beginning in May 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/research-art-works

Challenge America
The Challenge America program “offers support primarily to small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations – those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.” Grants may be awarded for projects contributing to professional arts programming or emphasizing the role the arts can play in developing communities. Grants should focus on one of two outcome areas, “engagement” or “livability.” With these awards, there is an emphasis on partnership and collaboration. All grants awarded under the Challenge America program are for $10,000 with a required $10,000 match. The
most recent application deadline was in April of 2015 for projects beginning in January 2016. The upcoming competition deadline has not been released.

Source and Additional Information: http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/challenge-america/grant-program-description

Our Town
The Our Town program will provide funding for “creative placemaking projects that help to transform communities into lively, beautiful, and resilient places with the arts at their core.” These awards focus on two areas: “Arts Engagement, Cultural Planning, and Design Projects...; [and] Projects that Build Knowledge About Creative Placemaking.” This program will support creative projects that improve quality of life, encourage creativity, foster a strong sense of community and a sense of place, and bolster local economies by bringing communities and their arts organizations together. Grants will range from $25,000 to $200,000 and are subject to the availability of funding. Additionally, the grants must be matched. Applications were due September 21, 2015 for projects beginning in August of 2016; the next competition has not yet been announced.

Source and Additional Information: http://arts.gov/grants-organizations/our-town/introduction

Creative Writing Fellowships
NEA offers Literature Fellowships that focus on two types of literature: “prose (fiction and creative nonfiction) and poetry to published creative writers.” The Creative Writing Fellowships “enable recipients to set aside time for writing, research, travel, and general career advancement.” This program alternates annually between fellowships in prose and poetry. For the FY 2016 prose competition, applications were due in March of 2015. For these grants, there is no matching requirement and NEA plans to award $25,000. The upcoming deadline for FY 2017 has not yet been released.

Source and Additional Information: http://arts.gov/grants-individuals/creative-writing-fellowships

Translation Projects
The NEA Translation Projects provides funding to “projects for the translation of specific works of prose, poetry, or drama from other languages into English.” With these awards, the NEA is seeking projects that are “creative translations of literary material into English.” For these awards, the NEA allocates between $12,500 and $25,000. Applications are due December 8, 2015 for projects beginning in November 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://arts.gov/grants-individuals/translation-projects
Department of Defense

The Department of Defense (DOD) maintains a limited portfolio of social science work to better understand the cultures, environments, and geopolitical climates in which it operates. While some have questioned the value of social science research to DOD during a time of budget constraints, the rise of non-state actors as key players in global affairs, continued instability in the Middle East and North Africa, and unrest caused by Russian aggression towards its neighbors has reinforced the need for DOD to take a holistic approach to international security challenges. In addition to the Minerva Initiative, DOD’s signature social science program, individual service branch research offices operate programs aimed at improving human performance, training, leadership, and decision-making which involve significant social science elements. Information on these opportunities is available through each of the offices’ broad agency announcements (BAAs).

Minerva Initiative
DOD’s Minerva Initiative is a primary source of behavioral and social science research funding for the defense community. Supported and overseen by the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Minerva Initiative seeks to “improve DOD’s basic understanding of the social, cultural, behavioral, and political forces that shape regions of the world of strategic importance to the U.S.” Unsurprisingly, recent Minerva topics have focused on areas related to continued instability in the Middle East and North Africa and other political transitions across countries where DOD operates. Minerva topics have also increasingly focused on the role of non-state actors on the global scene.

DOD made 11 total awards for the FY 2015 competition totaling up to $14 million over three years. Minerva remains extremely competitive, with DOD indicating that it received 297 white papers and 46 full proposals before choosing the 11 winners. Examples of projects funded for FY 2015 include “Dynamic statistical network informatics,” “The Social and neurological Construction of Martyrdom,” and “Ambiguous and Information Warfare in a Russian and Chinese Age.” The FY 2016 solicitation is expected to be released in December 2015. White papers are expected to be due in February of 2016 and full proposals are expected to be due in May of 2016.

Source and Additional Information: http://minerva.dtic.mil/

Air Force Office of Scientific Research
The Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) administers programs with select behavioral and social science applications. Within the Information and Networks division, AFOSR’s Trust and Influence program supports projects “that will provide the empirical foundation for the science of reliance and contemporary influence.” AFOSR stresses the interdisciplinary nature of the program, which supports researchers in departments “from psychology to computer science.” While many programs are geared heavily towards the psychical sciences and engineering, behavioral and social science opportunities are sprinkled throughout AFOSR.


Army Research Office
The Army funds behavioral and social science research through the Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences (ARI), with the objective to “create and provide innovative behavioral and
social science solutions that enable the Army to provide ready forces and force capabilities.” ARI released its BAA for fiscal years 2013-2018 in February 2013. The BAA outlines social science research topics of interest across the basic research (6.1), applied research (6.2), and advanced technology development (6.3) budget classifications. Many topic areas relate to personnel management, improving warfighter performance, bettering training methods and theories, and maximizing unit efficiency. The current ARI BAA is available by searching opportunity number “W911NF-13-R-0001” at grants.gov.

Additionally, the Army Research Office (ARO) supports research in the life sciences, information sciences, and engineering sciences which can also involve behavioral and social science; for example, research in cultural and behavioral science, institutional and organizational science, and social and cognitive networks. While not all work funded through the Office is social and behavioral science research, these disciplines are a key part of the Army’s efforts to improve soldier performance, enhance use of equipment, and improve system effectiveness.


Office of Naval Research
The Office of Naval Research (ONR) operates a Social, Cultural, and Behavioral (SCB) program focused heavily on the human behavior of American soldiers and of the Nation’s adversaries. Expanded to help the Navy adapt to the irregular nature of modern warfare, the program examines behavior of both individuals and groups across a range of geographic regions where the Navy is active. Investigators apply to the program through the annual ONR BAA, but should connect with SCB program managers ahead of time to discuss synergies between their research interests and ONR priorities. ONR lists the goals of the SCB program as: Influence Attitudes, Forecast Reactions, Combat Radicalization, Reason About Deceiving/Deceivable Agents, and Train.


Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency
The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is charged with supporting high-risk, high-reward research with the ability to make transformational advances for DOD. While much of what DARPA funds is technical, the agency does have programs that occasionally support social science aspects. As with other DOD offices and programs, DARPA program managers enjoy considerable autonomy in making funding determinations. Therefore, it is essential that interested investigators connect with relevant program managers to discuss their ideas.

Department of Education

The Department of Education (ED) offers a number of discretionary grant programs in the social sciences and humanities as they relate to the enhancement of education policy, educational environments, and educator capabilities. Expectations for solicitation announcements and due dates vary by ED program.


Office of Postsecondary Education

The Office of Postsecondary Education is responsible for developing and implementing post-secondary education policy while simultaneously increasing quality and access. The Office of Postsecondary Education offers extramural grants, which can focus on the behavioral and social sciences or the arts and humanities, in support of this mission.

Source and Additional Information: http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/index.html.

Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program

The Fulbright-Hays program supports “training, research, and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and area studies for teachers, students, and faculty engaged in a common endeavor.” Specifically, this program funds “short-term seminars, curriculum development, group research or study, or advanced intensive language programs.” This program does not provide funding for projects or project expenses within the U.S. Each year, a competition is held for short-term seminars, curriculum development teams, and group research or study projects; every four years a competition is held for advanced overseas intensive language projects. These awards are available to “institutions of higher education, state departments of education, and private, nonprofit educational organizations” and vary in duration based on program. Applications for the FY 2015 competition were due March 23, 2015, and information on the next competition has not yet been released.


Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program

The Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language program provides funding to “strengthen and improve undergraduate instruction in international studies and foreign languages.” This funding is available to “Institutions of higher education (IHEs); consortia of institutions of higher education; and partnerships between nonprofit educational organizations and institutions of higher education.” Funds may be used for a wide range of activities, including interdisciplinary international studies programs, research for teaching materials, curriculum development, and programs teaching international studies with professional and pre-professional studies such as engineering, along with many others. Grants traditionally last for a two year period. Information on the next competition has not yet been released; it is expected to be released in spring or summer 2016.


Institute of Education Sciences

The Institute of Education Sciences (IES), the research arm of ED, strives to “support research that contributes to school readiness and improved academic achievement for all students and particularly for
those whose education prospects are hindered by inadequate education services and conditions associated with poverty, race/ethnicity, limited English proficiency, disability, and family circumstance.” The IES offers funding opportunities in June and September of each year. Historically, the IES funds the Education Research Grant Programs listed below annually.

Source and Additional Information: http://ies.ed.gov/funding/.

Cognition and Student Learning
Cognition and Student Learning supports research in cognitive sciences “that capitalizes on our understanding of how the mind works to inform and improve education practice in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and study skills.” The goal of the program is to develop tools and strategies to help improve student learning in a variety of education settings across the K-12, vocational, adult education, or remedial context for underprepared college students. For this award, “eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, non-profit and for-profit organizations and public and private agencies and institutions, such as colleges and universities.” Letters of intent are typically due in late spring, with applications due mid-summer, and projects beginning the following July or September.


Postsecondary and Adult Education Research
The purpose of the Postsecondary and Adult Education research program is to promote higher achievement outcomes at the college level and adult education level. Specifically, the program strives for “increasing student access to, persistence in, progress through, and completion of postsecondary and adult education programs as well as improving specific academic outcomes for students in developmental education, adult education, gateway science and math courses, and introductory composition courses.” The ultimate goal is to develop tools and strategies to help students. As with the other Department of Education programs, this program is available to “non-profit and for-profit organizations and public and private agencies and institutions, such as colleges and universities.” Letters of intent are typically due in late spring, with the application due mid-summer, and projects beginning the following July or September.


Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning
This program supports research on intervention strategies to develop children’s social skills and behaviors that support important K-12 education metrics, for instance, language and mathematics skills, attendance rates, or high school graduation rates. With this award, “non-profit and for-profit organizations and public and private agencies and institutions, such as colleges and universities,” may apply. Letters of intent are typically due in late spring, with the application due mid-summer, and projects beginning the following July or September.

Department of Justice

To support its mission, the Department of Justice (DOJ) provides financial assistance to states and communities to “conduct research, to support law enforcement activities in state and local jurisdictions, to provide training and technical assistance, and to implement programs that improve the criminal justice system.” There are three relevant DOJ offices that provide grants for state law enforcement and crime activities as well as research: the Office of Justice Programs (OJP); the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW); and the Community Oriented Policing Services Office (COPS).


Office of Justice Programs/National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
OJP partners with the justice community in states, cities, and neighborhoods to identify pressing crime-related challenges, and provides grants to implement unique solutions to tackle crime. NIJ is OJP’s primary extramural scientific research arm and seeks to use science to improve the nation’s ability to understand crime and promote justice. NIJ has five strategic goals that influence its mission and research agenda: fostering science-based criminal justice practice; translating knowledge to practice; advancing technology; working across disciplines; and adopting a global perspective. Its research-specific goals include “Understand the causes of crime to more effectively predict, prevent and control crime; Develop practices and policies that improve performance in law enforcement personnel and criminal justice agencies; Develop, test and evaluate ways to limit deaths and injuries of law enforcement and suspects; Develop knowledge on violence and victimization in specific populations to reduce and prevent violence and improve the quality of life for individuals, families, neighborhoods and communities.” NIJ awards grants and agreements in the following categories: “research and development and evaluation,” “forensic laboratory enhancement,” and “research fellowships.” Funding amounts, durations, and deadlines depend on the individual grant opportunity.

For a list of open solicitations, please see
http://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/CurrentFundingOpportunities.htm;
http://www.nij.gov/funding/Pages/current.aspx/

Sources and Additional Information: http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/about/about.htm;
http://www.nij.gov/about/pages/research-agenda.aspx;
http://www.nij.gov/funding/welcome.htm#findafundingopportunity.

Office of Violence Against Women
OVW was established to reduce violence against women. In support of its mission, OVW provides financial and technical assistance to “help provide victims with the protection and services they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while simultaneously enabling communities to hold offenders accountable for their violence.” OVW has four main focus areas: Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking. This office offers both formula grants as well as discretionary grants. The FY 2016 programs have yet to be released; the applications for FY 2015 were due between February and July 2015.

For a list of OVW funding opportunities, please see http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/ovwgrantprograms.htm.

Community Oriented Policing Services Office
Programs in COPS support community policing efforts on the state, local, and tribal level. COPS programs provide resources, such as information and grants, to law enforcement agencies with the goal of addressing public safety issues. The FY 2016 programs have yet to be announced.

For a list of open solicitations, please see http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=46.

Institute of Museum and Library Services

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) places an emphasis on the preservation of, and access to, American cultural artifacts. Proposals for funding from IMLS programs are accepted on a rolling basis.

A complete listing of available grant programs offered by IMLS with submission receipt deadlines for FY 2016 can be found at http://www.imls.gov/applicants/institution.aspx; http://www.imls.gov/assets/1/AssetManager/2016OMSGrantOpps4pager.pdf.

National Conservation Assessment Program (CAP)
The National Conservation Assessment Program is seeking a new partner institution to implement its Conservation Assessment Program. Specifically, this grant is for institutions that operate museums and would create a cooperative agreement “to develop, test, and implement an affordable and accessible conservation assessment program for small and midsize museums to help them care for their collections. IMLS anticipates awarding a three-year cooperative agreement, although funding will be obligated annually with additional amounts subject to the availability of funds, IMLS discretion, and notification to the cooperator. The cooperator will be expected to provide or perform a field-wide needs assessment to inform this work, followed by a pilot of programming to test and evaluate the program before full-scale implementation.” One award will be granted, for a maximum of $500,000 the first year, followed by a maximum of $800,000 for the second and third years. The most recent round of applications was due September 1, 2015.

Source and Additional Information:  http://www.imls.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=6;

Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program
One of IMLS’ programs is the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program. This program strives to support “professional development, graduate education and continuing education to help libraries and archives develop the human capital capacity they need to meet the changing learning and information needs of the American public.” This program focuses on the following project categories: continuing education, programs to build institutional capacity, doctoral programs, master’s programs, research, and early career development. IMLS is particularly interested in proposals investigating national digital platform, learning spaces in libraries, and STEM learning in libraries. These grants will range from $50,000 to $500,000 for project grants, up to $50,000 for planning grants, and up to $100,000 for national forum grants. These grants will last for up to three years. For most projects, there is a cost sharing requirement. IMLS estimates granting 30 awards. The most recent round of applications were due October 1, 2015.


Museum Assessment Program
A partnership between IMLS and the American Alliance of Museums established the Museum Assessment Program (MAP). This program, offered to museums, aims to provide an opportunity for “museums [to] assess their strengths and weaknesses, and plan for the future.” This program includes self-studies, site visits, and a final report. Specifically, the program offers four types of assessments: Organizational Assessment, Collections Stewardship Assessments, Leadership, and Community
Engagement Assessment. Applications are due on July 1 and December 1. ILMS provides funding to the American Alliance of Museums to provide these assessment services, valued between $4000 and $6000, to participants. There is a revenue-dependent cost to participate, a maximum of $750.


Museums for America (MFA)
The Museums for America program (MFA) seeks to fund “projects that strengthen the ability of an individual museum to serve its public.” This program has three main areas: Learning Experiences, Community Anchors, and Collections Stewardship. IMLS anticipates granting 190 awards. The estimated award size is between $5,000 and $150,000 and grants will last for approximately three years. Proposals are due December 1, 2015.

Source and Additional Information:  http://www.imls.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=11

Museum Grants for African American History and Culture
This program strives to “support projects that improve the operations, care of collections, and development of professional management at African American museums.” Specifically for the FY 2015 grants, the IMLS supported programs targeting one of the Institute’s three goals:

- “IMLS places the learner at the center and supports engaging experiences in libraries and museums that prepare people to be full participants in their local communities and our global society.
- IMLS promotes museums and libraries as strong community anchors that enhance civic engagement, cultural opportunities, and economic vitality.
- IMLS supports exemplary stewardship of museum and library collections and promotes the use of technology to facilitate discovery of knowledge and cultural heritage.”

Eligibility is limited to museums and organizations with a primary focus on “African American life, art, history, and/or culture.” Proposals are due on December 1, 2015. Grants range from $5,000 to $150,000 for a duration of up to three years. For proposals requesting over $25,000 in funding, there is a 1:1 matching requirement of federal funds to nonfederal funds.


National Leadership Grants (NLG)
IMLS seeks to support projects with the potential to elevate museum and library practice through its National Leadership Grants (NLG). The Institute seeks to fund efforts that “address challenges faced by the museum, library, and/or archive fields and that have the potential to advance practice in those fields.” For this program, IMLS offers three types of grants: project and research, planning, and national forum grants. For the FY 2016 competition, proposals are due on December 1, 2015 for museum grants and the most recent round of library grants was due October 1, 2015. Funding amounts can range between $10,000 and $100,000 and grants can last for up to three years depending on the type of grant.

Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries
The Sparks! Ignition Grants for Libraries program for libraries provides funding to “encourage libraries and archives to test and evaluate specific innovations in the ways they operate and the services they provide.” In particular, these grants can be used for “deployment, testing, and evaluation of promising and groundbreaking new tools, products, services, or organizational practices.” IMLS advises that “successful proposals will address problems, challenges, or needs of broad relevance to libraries and/or archives.” Also, the program will fund proposals with broad potential impact and significant innovation. The deadline to apply for this program is February 16, 2016. The estimated award size is between $10,000 and $25,000 and grants will last for approximately one year.

Source and Additional Information:  http://www.imls.gov/applicants/detail.aspx?GrantId=19

Sparks! Ignition Grants for Museums
The Sparks! Ignition Grants for Museums is a program offered to museums that aims to “encourage museums to prototype and evaluate specific innovations in the ways they operate and the services they provide.” With each funded project, the goal is to “offer valuable information to the museum field and the potential for improvement in the ways museums serve their communities.” With proposals, IMLS is seeking broad impact, in-depth knowledge, innovative approach, and shared results. The deadline to apply for this program is December 1, 2015. The estimated award size is between $10,000 and $25,000, with an average funding of $23,900 and grants will last for approximately one year.

National Archives and Records Administration

The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) is the grant-making agency of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). The NHPRC promotes the preservation and use of documents essential to the understanding of American history and culture. Grants are made by the NHPRC to assist non-federal institutions, including universities and colleges, in efforts to preserve and make other records of historical value broadly accessible.

A complete listing of grant programs offered by NHPRC with submission deadlines can be found at http://www.archives.gov/nhprc/announcement/.


Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions
This program provides funding for publishing nationally significant historical records to improve access to historical information. For this program, “projects may focus on the papers of major figures from American history or cover broad historical movements in politics, military, business, social reform, the arts, and other aspects of the national experience. The historical value of the records and their expected usefulness to broad audiences must justify the costs of the project.” Awards will range from $30,000 to $200,000 each year. A 50 percent cost share is required. It is expected that the NHPRC will award 25 grants. For this program, U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply and cost sharing is required. Applications for first time support and additional projects currently funded by NHPRC were due October 8, 2015 for projects beginning on July 1, 2016.


State Government Electronic Records
This program “seeks proposals that will accession, describe, preserve, and provide access to state government electronic records of enduring value. Government information maintained by state archives are national assets, serving as important resources for documenting rights and capturing the national experience.” With these projects, there is an emphasis on collaboration. Awards are typically for one to three years and issued for a maximum of $200,000. For these awards, the “state archives in each state, or to another state agency or nonprofit organization responsible for or acting on behalf of the state archives” are eligible to apply. Additionally, cost sharing is required. Three awards are expected and applications were due October 8, 2015 for projects beginning on July 1, 2016.


Access to Historical Records
This program provides funding for proposals seeking to “promote the preservation and use of the nation’s most valuable archival resources.” Funding will support a variety of activities including: “Preservation, arrangement, and online description of historical records in all formats; Digital preservation of electronic records and unstable audio and visual formats.” Awards are typically one or two years in duration with a maximum funding level of $200,000. It is expected that the NHPRC will make 14 awards. U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply for these grants. This program requires
cost sharing. The most recent round of applications was due June 17, 2015 for programs beginning on January 1, 2016.


Digital Dissemination of Archival Collections
This program seeks to “make historical records of national significance to the United States broadly available by disseminating digital surrogates on the Internet.” Proposals should focus on “the papers of major figures from American life or cover broad historical movements in politics, military, business, social reform, the arts, and other aspects of the national experience.” Typically, awards are one or two years in duration and range from $20,000 to $150,000. It is expected that seven grants will be awarded. U.S. academic institutions are eligible to apply and cost sharing is required. For FY 2016, applications were due by October 8, 2015 and projects will begin on July 1, 2016.


Literacy and Engagement with Historical Records
This program promotes “projects that promote access to America's historical records to encourage understanding of our democracy, history, and culture.” Proposals should “encourage citizen engagement with historical records, especially those available online, and/or projects that train people on how to enhance digital literacy skills for using historical records. The development of new online tools for literacy and engagement is highly encouraged.” Projects should “develop partnerships among archives, historical records repositories, educational, and community-based institutions to provide educational opportunities for people, particularly students, to develop their digital literacy skills; create or develop new online tools and applications; or enlist ‘citizen archivists’ in projects to accelerate digitization and online public access to historical records.” Alternatively, they should “develop digital archives curriculum by offering programs online or in person to increase individual understanding of technology operations and concepts so that people can engage in effective personal digital archiving.” Typically, awards are one or three years in duration and issued in amounts ranging from $50,000 to $150,000. It is anticipated that six grants will be allocated. U.S. academic institutions are eligible and cost sharing is required. The most recent round of applications was due by October 8, 2015 for projects beginning on July 1, 2016.

The Smithsonian Institution (SI) does not support projects independent of itself. However, the Institution does offer arts and humanities funding opportunities to the extramural community for collaborative projects with the SI, which may be of interest to university faculty. Depending on the program, proposals are accepted either annually or multiple times a year.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.si.edu/.

Community Grants Program
The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) offers a Community Grants Program, which awards grantees up to $5,000 to collaborate with a currently active SITES exhibit, or create an entirely new project connected to the SITES exhibits. The Program’s objective is to “to deepen connections between SITES’ host venues and their communities by encouraging exhibitors to engage their local audiences in new and exciting ways while creating broader access to our exhibitions.” These exhibits can be short-term or long-term projects crafted to enhance more community involvement. Example programs include: “lecture/film series, family days, student transportation, school tours/workshops, or educational workshops/classes.” Grant proposals are generally due twice annually on May 1, and December 1. Unfortunately, SITES is not accepting applications at this time.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.sites.si.edu/funding/grant2.htm.

Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program
The Smithsonian Institution offers a variety of fellowships for “pre-doctoral, or post-doctoral students” in addition to “visiting professionals, students, scientists, or scholars.” These opportunities can be Smithsonian wide, virtual fellowship, or sponsored by a specific Smithsonian unit. The SI units include the Free-Sackler Galleries; Museum Conservation Institute; National Air and Space Museum; National Museum of American History; National Museum of the American Indian; National Museum of Natural History; National Zoological Park; Office of the Under Secretary for Science; Smithsonian American Art Museum; Renwick Gallery; Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory; Smithsonian Center for Education and Museum Studies; Smithsonian Gardens; Smithsonian Institution Libraries; Smithsonian Latino Center; and Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. The fellowship programs have varying application deadlines, program durations, and stipends based on the program division.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.smithsonianofi.com/fellowship-opportunities/.
Interagency

National Security Education Program (NSEP)
The National Security Education Program (NSEP) is run by the National Security Education Board, chaired by the Secretary of Defense. While the program is implemented by Department of Defense’s Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the Board is comprised of the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Commerce, the Director of Central Intelligence, and the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Overall, this program hopes to “build a broader and more qualified pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills.” Specifically, the programs provide funding for undergraduates, graduate students, and professionals to study languages and cultures with a national security perspective to prepare them for government service. NSEP targets “the critical languages and cultures of Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America.” Within the NSEP, there are nine different initiatives. One unique aspect of this program is that NSEP award recipients are expected to work for the federal government after the expiration of their award. Some of the programs offer institutional awards to universities to enhance their ability to teach language and regional studies for national security purposes.

NSEP consists of the following initiatives that represent broad strategic partnerships with the U.S. education community and are designed to positively promote U.S. national security and national competitiveness:
- David L. Boren Scholarships (http://borenawards.org/boren_scholarship/basics.html)
- David L. Boren Fellowships (http://borenawards.org/boren_fellowship/basics.html)
- The Language Flagship (http://thelanguageflagship.org/)
- English for Heritage Language Speakers (http://www.ehlsprogram.org/)
- National Language Service Corps (http://www.nlscorps.org/)
- Project GO (http://www.rotcprojectgo.org/)
- African Flagship Languages Initiative (http://www.nsep.gov/content/african-flagship-languages-initiative)
- Pilot Flagship/ROTC Initiative
- Language Training Centers (http://www.nsep.gov/content/language-training-centers)

Deadlines, application information, and funding amounts vary for these programs. Further information is available at the individual program sites listed above.

Source and Additional Information: http://www.nsep.gov/.
Additional Funding Agencies

Some agencies that have historically offered grants for the social sciences no longer provide funding for these programs due to limited budgets. While many of these programs will not likely be reissued in FY 2016, it is still valuable to keep these agencies in mind as potential funding sources in the future.

Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) primary mission is to regulate and implement public policy for the nation’s food, nutrition, agriculture, and natural resources. There are offices within USDA which support extramural research opportunities and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is the primary extramural research and grant-making body of the USDA. Through NIFA’s grants, USDA conducts research critical to farmers, consumers, and communities. While NIFA does offer relevant solicitations on a regular basis, the social sciences are not among NIFA’s main priorities. Some past solicitations incorporating the social sciences have investigated agriculture systems, consumer behavior, decision making, demographic changes, and agricultural education. In 2008, NIFA replaced the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES).

Additionally, the Economic Research Service (ERS) within USDA is the primary source of the agency’s economic information and research. In particular, ERS is interested in topics like behavioral economics, healthy choices, and policy research.

A complete listing of grant programs offered by NIFA and ERS with submission receipt deadlines can be found at http://nifa.usda.gov/page/search-grant and http://www.ers.usda.gov/about-ers/grant-funding-opportunities.aspx, respectively.

Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development

The U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) each support limited social science research as part of larger initiatives. However, as both are mission driven and charged with overseeing the country’s diplomacy and development agendas, respectively. With this in mind, the agencies do not explicitly support basic social science research. Instead, the Department of State and USAID are interested in social science to inform advances in U.S. foreign policy, strengthen relations with international partners, or catalyze better global development practices.

With the Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) prioritizing protection of the Fulbright program during difficult budgetary times, other social science opportunities remain limited. The Department of State periodically funds grants in the social sciences to support operations and decision making in its topical and geographic bureaus. Interested faculty should connect with Department of State personnel to discuss opportunities in targeted areas.

USAID also periodically provides an opportunity for social science researchers interested in the international arena. However, as noted above, USAID primarily supports social science research as an aspect of a larger project rather than as a standalone activity. Agency officials often stress the importance of interdisciplinary teams, which can include social and behavioral scientists a key part of the desired makeup. USAID has also begun funding research into “implementation science” for certain programs to evaluate the effectiveness of agency investments. This parallels the previous Administrator Rajiv Shah’s efforts to make the agency more transparent and accountable following a period of
inefficiency and financial mismanagement. Areas where USAID is interested in funding social science research include global health, governance, economic growth/trade, and climate/energy topics.

Sources and Additional Information: Details on programs administered by ECA, which are primarily exchange programs, are available at http://exchanges.state.gov/. More information about USAID’s efforts is available at https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do.

Environmental Protection Agency
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a mission agency tasked with protecting human health and the environment through legislation such as the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. EPA does so by crafting and enforcing regulations on water, air, soils, and hazardous waste; consequently its research largely is intramural and supports these regulatory efforts. Research is critical to informing EPA’s regulatory responsibilities and EPA does offer a modest amount of extramural research opportunities. However, research programs are not principal investigator led; but, rather, EPA carefully designs research questions based on its informational needs.

The most consistent program in which academics can engage is the STAR program. STAR research grants provide funding for projects that complement EPA’s intramural activities as well as other federal agencies’ activities. STAR Requests for Applications (RFAs) are posted throughout the year, but they are infrequent and targeted. A list of current opportunities is available at http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/#CurrentStar. Although social science is not often a component of EPA’s solicitations, it sometimes can be woven in. The current STAR solicitation, “A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet,” addresses sustainability and could have a social science component.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) typically offers extramural funding related to its ocean, atmosphere, and climate change research interests. However, NOAA is also looking to enhance its social science capabilities. The NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB) issued a report in July 2013, NOAA, Society, and the Economy: As Assessment of NOAA’s Social Science Capability and Needs, which calls on NOAA to better understand “how society uses the data, science, and products it provides...” The report found insufficient use of social science in NOAA decision making, and concluded that a standing committee needs to be created within the agency to guide NOAA on how best to fill the gaps in social science research. Therefore, while social science funding opportunities do not currently exist at NOAA through its traditional funding mechanisms, there is an understanding that NOAA will seek out ways to enhance its social science research efforts in the near future.

With this in mind, NOAA is engaging with the National Science Foundation's (NSF) SEES Fellows program. SEES (Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability) is NSF’s suite of interdisciplinary programs geared toward climate change and broader sustainability research. NSF issued a Dear Colleague letter inviting social scientists to gain additional expertise by serving in fellowships at NOAA research facilities.