Checklist for Grant Application Success

December 11, 2017
Survey Drawing
Announcements: Internal CDA Opportunities

• **BIRCWH – Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women’s Health**
  – 75% protected research effort (verified through chair nomination letter)
  – Strong interest in pursuing an academic research career in women’s health and/or sex/gender life science
  – Application deadline: March 1, 2018

• **Georgia CTSA KL2 Program**
  – 75% protected research effort (verified through chair nomination letter)
  – Research proposal must have a “human component,” i.e. interaction with human subjects or specimens obtained from identifiable humans.
  – Application deadline: March 1, 2018

• **Atlanta Pediatric Scholars K12 Program**
  – 75% protected research effort (verified through chair nomination letter)
  – Eligible candidates must be pediatricians (MD or DO) conducting basic science and/or lab-based translational research.
  – Application deadline: Dec 15, 2017
Today’s presenters:

Stacy Heilman, PhD
Assistant Professor
Director of Pediatric Research Operations & Grants Advocate
Emory University Dept of Pediatrics & Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Kimberly Maune
Assistant Dean for Research Administration
Senior Director, Research Administration Services
Emory University
Rollins School of Public Health & School of Nursing
Outline for Today’s Discussion

Laying the groundwork
• Networking/collaborating/mentors
• Acquiring seed funding
• Publishing

Finding the right mechanism
• NIH K lists, NIH Reporter
• Funding databases
• E-mail listserv’s
• Contacting the PO

Finding the right resources
• Cores
• Mentors & Collaborators – filling in the gaps

Project plan
• Understanding the application requirements
• Timeline
• Grants administration
Laying the Groundwork

Laying the groundwork

✓ Networking/collaboratingfinding mentors
✓ Acquiring seed funding
✓ Publishing
Networking/Collaborating/Finding Mentors
Attend Scientific Seminars

✓ Ask the host before the visit to meet with or have lunch with the speaker
✓ Ask questions at the talk
✓ Introduce yourself to the speaker after the talk
Attend Scientific Meetings

✓ Do your homework on who will be there and find people with complementary expertise
✓ Prepare your elevator speech to sell yourself
✓ Follow up with new acquaintances after the meeting – Make effective use of LinkedIn
Find a Mentor

✓ Pubmed searches
✓ Use NIH RePORT to find funded experts
✓ Network – ask colleagues for recommendations
✓ Request informational interviews
✓ Attend January K-Club on effective and functional mentor teams
Seed Funding Opportunities

✓ Typically $20-$50K towards collecting preliminary data
✓ Some opportunities listed at these links:
  • [http://www.pedsresearch.org/research/resources/funding/pilot-grant-programs](http://www.pedsresearch.org/research/resources/funding/pilot-grant-programs)
  • [http://www.medicine.emory.edu/research/internal-research-resources/funding-opportunities/index.html#Funding_Opportunities](http://www.medicine.emory.edu/research/internal-research-resources/funding-opportunities/index.html#Funding_Opportunities)
  • [http://www.osp.emory.edu/funding/Internal.html](http://www.osp.emory.edu/funding/Internal.html)
✓ Request to be added to relevant listserv’s to learn about targeted announcements
University Research Committee

http://www.urc.emory.edu/

✓ Must have a full time Emory faculty appointment

✓ Proposals are considered that explore all aspects of Health/Biological Sciences

✓ $30K ($40K for interdisciplinary proposals)

✓ Next deadline is Jan 8, 2018
 Publishing in Peer Reviewed Journals

✓ PRODUCTIVITY: Shows you are a good investment — the best predictor of future performance is past performance

✓ TRACK RECORD: Highlights track record with mentor and collaborators

✓ REFERENCE YOUR OWN WORK: Offers an avenue to write a succinct Research Strategy by simply referencing detailed methodologies and conclusions of your prior work

✓ BEEF UP YOUR BIOSKETCH: Provides material for an expanded contribution to science section and the ability to cite your own published data
Publishing – a note about authorship position

Authorship position:

First author = you wrote the publication and/or were the lead conductor of the research (counts towards tenure and promotion)

Middle author/ITM (in the middle) = you were part of a research team

Last author = you are the senior author/mentor and drove the research (counts towards tenure and promotion)
Finding the Right Mechanism

Finding the right mechanism

• NIH K lists, NIH Reporter
• Funding databases
• E-mail listserv’s
• Contacting the PO
Career Dev Award Selection Tool

✓ Information about NIH Career Development Awards including institute/center specific information including success rates

https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/career-development
Career Award Wizard Tool

Allows you to identify an Individual NIH Career Award that might be right for you
Use NIH Reporter

✓ To analyze past funding success per mechanism per institute
✓ Assess what research has been funded via that same mechanism in the past
## K Award Funding Rates - FY 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NIH Institutes / Centers</th>
<th>Activity Code</th>
<th>Number of Applications Reviewed</th>
<th>Number of Applications Awarded</th>
<th>Success Rate</th>
<th>Total Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
<td>K01</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19.2%</td>
<td>$780,612</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
<td>K08</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>$3,392,677</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
<td>K23</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16.1%</td>
<td>$825,671</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
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<td>51</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NHLBI</td>
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<td>48.0%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>43</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>45</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
<td>$8,086,510</td>
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<tr>
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<td>32</td>
<td>25.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIDDK</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>NIDDK</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>40.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>NICHD</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>$389,578</td>
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<tr>
<td>NICHD</td>
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<tr>
<td>NICHD</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEI</td>
<td>K08</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>17</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>47.1%</td>
<td>$1,717,613</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEI</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>$825,134</td>
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</table>
Finding Funding – Active Searching

On-Line Databases & Resources

• Foundation Directory Online & Grant Forward
Two Rich Database Resources at Emory

Online Databases

Funding opportunity databases contain thousands of research funding announcements offered by U.S. federal agencies and private foundations. They include in-depth and up-to-date indexing and abstracting of critical grant information, subject/key word specific searches, and customizable alerts services.

Available Funding Databases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRANTFORWARD</th>
<th>+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOUNDATION DIRECTORY ONLINE</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foundation Directory Online Professional

✓ Very rich searchable online database for private foundation funding

  www.healthlibrary.emory.edu/
  – Databases
  – Find Databases: Foundation Directory

✓ Excellent foundation information - can search grants as well as grant makers

✓ Not exclusive to research funding, but excellent “text” word search capability and drill down/filter features
Grant Forward -
https://www.grantforward.com/index

✓ Contains thousands of active federal and private funding opportunities in the sciences, social sciences, arts, and humanities
✓ Very powerful drill down feature for effective searching
✓ The Database is updated daily
✓ For full power, need to connect to through Emory OSP website: http://www.osp.emory.edu/funding/External.html
Grant Forward – search “autism”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>DoD FY15 Autism Clinical Trial Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dept.</td>
<td>Of The Army - Usarmaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The FY16 Autism Research Program (ARP) Clinical Trial Award seeks applications from all areas in clinical research, and strongly encourages applications that address the critical needs of the autism spectrum disorder (ASD) community in the following areas: Behavioral, cognitive, and other non...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline(s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission Info</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expected Number of Awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated Total Program Funding</td>
<td>$3,200,000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>DoD FY15 Autism Idea Development Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dept.</td>
<td>Of The Army - Usarmaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Autism Research Program (ARP) Idea Development Award supports the development of innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that could lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate progress in improving outcomes for individuals with autism. This award mechanism is designed...</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deadline(s)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eligibility</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission Info</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expected Number of Awards</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated Total Program Funding</td>
<td>$2,176,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Powerful Drill Down Features

Can Drill down by:
• Deadline
• Sponsor Type
• Grant Type
• Applicant Type
Finding Funding Passively
To subscribe to weekly email:

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/listserv.htm

View anytime here:

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/WeeklyIndex.cfm
E-mail Alert Example

Having trouble viewing this email? View it as a Web page.

Funding Opportunity

Youth Violence Prevention Interventions that Incorporate Racism/Discrimination Prevention (R01-Clinical Trial Required)

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) is leading a new funding opportunity announcement (FOA), RFA-MD-18-005, to support research to develop and test youth violence prevention interventions that incorporate racism/discrimination (R/D) prevention strategies for one or more health disparity populations. The target age range includes middle school to high school-aged youth, corresponding to an approximate age range of 11 to 18.
Finding Funding Passively

✓ Subscribe to relevant listservs
✓ Establish Profiles on Grantforward and Foundation Directory Online
Before Applying:
Contact the Program Officer

Establishing a relationship with the PO (emails, phone calls or in person at scientific meetings):

✓ Ensure scope of work is of interest to the agency
✓ Get input on most appropriate opportunity
✓ Confirm eligibility
✓ May receive tips on how best to frame research to appeal to their funding priorities
Finding the Right Resources

Finding the right resources

✓ Cores
✓ Mentors & Collaborators – filling in any gaps
Cores and Centralized Resources

Georgia CTSA
http://georgiactsa.org/index.html

The Pediatric Research Alliance
www.pedsresearch.org

Emory Dept of Medicine Research Resources
http://medicine.emory.edu/research/internal-research-resources/index.html

Emory School of Medicine Supported Cores
http://www.cores.emory.edu/
Biostatistical Resources Available

Georgia CTSA BERD- Biostatistics, Epidemiology, & Research Design
  – http://georgiactsa.org/discovery/biostatistics-research-design.html
  – provides comprehensive biostatistical and epidemiological support including
    support for protocol development, statistical analysis plans, and sample
    size/power calculations

• Pediatric Biostatistics Core
  – http://www.pedsresearch.org/research/cores/biostatistics-core/overview/
  – Provides set # of fully subsidized hours on a preaward basis
  – Post award effort must be built into the budget as % effort

• Biostatistics Collaboration Center (BCC) – offered via the SPH Dept of
  Biostatistics
  – https://www.sph.emory.edu/departments/bios/collaboration/bios-consulting-center/
  – Best for short-term projects.
  – Fee for service per project type
Collaborators & Mentors: Filling in the Gaps
Your Well-Rounded Mentor Team

✓ Use aforementioned strategies to locate expertise/qualities you may still need
  ▪ Complementary strengths and aligned research interests
  ▪ Funded/Stable (NIH funded)
  ▪ Well published/Strong biosketch
  ▪ Time considerations
  ▪ Commitment to mentoring and career development

✓ Utilize Biosketch personal statements effectively to highlight complements and show interrelatedness
Project Planning and Administration

Project planning

✓ Understanding the application requirements
✓ Timeline
✓ Grants administration
Understanding Application Requirements

Review and digest the FOA –

✓ Ask questions for clarification
✓ Program officers & grant administrators are very helpful with clarifying aspects of the FOA
✓ Make sure that eligibility criteria are clearly met
✓ Understand how other received or potential funding could impact the award of your application
Timeline/Project Plan

✓ Starting 3 months in advance is a good rule of thumb
✓ Start with the submission date and work backwards setting date driven milestones
  ▪ Ensure dept/divisional leadership is supportive
  ▪ Alert Grants Administrator
  ▪ Contact program officer
  ▪ Schedule ample time to develop/finalize specific aims (allow adequate time for healthy discussion with mentors and collaborators)
  ▪ Develop/finalize budget & budget justification
  ▪ Collect items from others (key preliminary data, biosketches)
  ▪ Set deadlines for drafts of each section
  ▪ Allow time for circulation for review and editing
  ▪ Final deadline to have everything assembled
QUESTION:
Is the submission deadline really the deadline?

ANSWER:
Not really...there are lots of date driven milestones along the way...
Notify your RAS well in advance of the deadline

Proposal Timeline:

• Dept of Peds — Requires 3 weeks advanced notice
• Dept of Medicine — Requires 30-60 days advanced notice
• School of Public Health & School of Nursing — 30 days notice

• Routing:

At least 15 business days lead time necessary
Benefits to Routing Early

1. Detailed Review by RAS and OSP
2. System Generation & Creation of Final Packet
3. Final Review in Commons
The Alphabet Soup of Routing

- REDCap
- EPEX
- eCOI
- Cayuse
- OSP
The RAS is your BFF

RAS Expertise in Assembling Grant Applications

• Assistance determining eligibility
• Budget draft creation
• Provide input on budget justifications/cost accounting exception requests
• Creates checklist of all the required sections — both customary and obscure
• Resource for boilerplate and example language
• Manages nuts and bolts process of assembling application and routing logistics
Take Home Points

• Find a devoted expert mentor and align with other key contributors
• Publish, Publish, Publish before submitting
• Utilize resources (funding databases, statistical help, etc)
• Get division/department support early and in writing (startup, commitment to cost sharing, space, dedicated time and effort)
• Establish a timeline with milestones and stick to it
• Attend K-Club