Summer Strategies: Organizing Your Funding Search

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Rachel Wishkoski
Graduate Funding Information Service (GFIS)
University of Washington
gfis@uw.edu
Graduate Funding Information Service

One-on-one appointments

Drop-in hours

General workshops

Presentations for depts., student groups, classes

Blog

Funding guide:  http://guides.lib.washington.edu/gfis
Overview: 5 Steps to Success

Goal = Maximize summer to make for a less-stressful fall application season

1. Do a self-inventory
2. Get organized
3. Find opportunities
4. Compile application materials
5. Apply!
1. Do a self-inventory

What type of funding do I need, and when?

Things to keep in mind:

- Different types of funding
- Typical funding needs during my degree
- Annual funding calendar
- My qualities as an applicant
  (degree/program, research interests, identity)
- My status as a student
  (international? fee-based? part-time? online?)
Different types of funding

**UW – internal funding**
- Opportunities for students in your department
- Opportunities open to all graduate students on campus

**External funding from outside UW**
- Dissertation-writing
- Fellowships
- Scholarships
- Research Grants
- Post-Doc Opportunities
- Travel Funding
- Prizes and Awards
✓ Funding needs during degree

- Coursework
- Proposal
- Research
- Writing
- Ph.D. & Beyond

- Master’s Predoctoral
- Dissertation Fellowship/Scholarship
- Postdoctoral/Postgraduate

- Language & Travel
Annual funding calendar

September – December
  Deadlines for NEXT year

January – April
  Deadlines for upcoming summer

April – September (and year-round)
  Organize funding search
  Prepare research proposals, CVs, etc.
  Line up letters of recommendation
  Fall/year-long assistantships posted
My qualities as an applicant

In which domains might I seek funding?

- Degree & program
- Identity
- Research or professional interests
My status as a student

What things might limit my eligibility?

• International students
  Not eligible for U.S. government financial aid
  May not be eligible for some internal and external funding
  May have special opportunities designed for international students

• Fee-based programs
  Not eligible for some internal funding and assistantships
  For basic information about fee-based programs, see:
  http://depts.washington.edu/registra/students/feeBasedFAQ.php

• Part-time or online-only programs
2. Get organized

How will I keep track of opportunities, deadlines, and application progress?

Tips:

- Build an Excel spreadsheet
- Keep a “No” list to refer back to
- Check to see if a FAFSA is required
3. Find opportunities

Where and how should I look?

Tips:

✓ Explore UW resources
✓ Learn to find assistantships
✓ Use funding databases for powerful searching
✓ Be creative
Explore UW Resources

Department funding

GO-MAP
(Graduate Opportunities & Minority Achievement Program)
http://www.grad.washington.edu/gomap/

Office of Fellowships & Awards
https://www.grad.washington.edu/students/fa/calendar.shtml
Some “Fellowships Calendar” Funding by Type

**General Funding**
- American Association of University Women (AAUW) International
- Bullitt Environmental
- DOE Computational Science
- Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral
- Fanny and John Hertz
- National Defense Science and Engineering
- National Physical Sciences Consortium
- NSF Graduate Research
- UWRA Fellowship in Aging

**Dissertation-specific**
- AAUW American
- Graduate School Presidential Dissertation in the Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Social Professions
- Ford Foundation Dissertation
- Gatzer Child Welfare
- GO-MAP Stroum Dissertation
- Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion

**Travel & Language Funding**
- Boren
- Central Europe Summer Research
- Foreign Language Area Study
- Chester A. Fritz and Boeing for International Research and Study
- Fulbright Study/Research Abroad
- German Academic Exchange Service

**Post-graduate**
- Ford Foundation Postdoctoral
- German Academic Exchange Service Fellowship
- Presidential Management Fellowship
Learn to find assistantships

GFIS Blog

2015-2016 GSA Position in the ADVANCE Center for Institutional Change

Application deadline: April 30, 2015

http://grantsandfundinginformationserviceblog.wordpress.com/

Departments & Schools

Academic Departments

http://www.washington.edu/about/academics/departments/

UW Hires

Job Search

- Req #:
- From: To:
- Title:
- Job Location: All
- Category: Academic Student Employee
- Keywords:

https://uw hires. admin.washington.edu/eng/candidates/default.cfm?szLocationID=88

Research Centers

Research Centers and Institutes

http://www.washington.edu/research/centers/
Use funding databases

Subscription via [http://guides.lib.washington.edu/gfis/fundingdatabases](http://guides.lib.washington.edu/gfis/fundingdatabases)

Subject-specific

From other universities
Tips for Searching Databases

Funding databases can be a great central resource to search many different sponsor organizations and funding opportunities based on criteria such as discipline, type of award, and user-generated keywords.

One of the most useful things about searching databases is using your own keywords. These keywords allow you to be as broad or specific as you want. Have at least 3-5 keywords that describe:

1. your discipline/area of study
2. any specific research interests or funding needs.

Outside of finding specific opportunities, searching the funding databases can be a great way to discover organizations that fund work in your field! Always a good idea to follow leads and see what other funding they offer that might not be in the databases.

Subscription Databases

Subscription databases contain many different types of funding for a wide variety of individuals and organizations. Both SciVal and Grant Forward contain opportunities ranging from small scholarhsips to large grants for non-profit and community organizations. These are a great place to start your search! These are available to students with a valid UW NetID and password.

- **Grant Forward**
  Searches for funding opportunities across a wide variety of foundation, federal and other funding sources. Formerly called IRIS.

- **SciVal Funding**
  SciVal is a powerful funding database that allows you to search via many different criteria and includes funding opportunities from government, non-profit, corporate, and other sources.

- **Foundation Grants to Individuals**
  UW-Seattle does not currently subscribe to this database, but individual subscriptions cost around $20/month. The Central branch of the Seattle Public Library has onsite access. If you are able to make the trip, UW-Tacoma also has access to this database in their library.

Databases from Academic Institutions

Several universities maintain databases of external academic fellowships (i.e. they are open to all graduate students, not limited to a specific school). These databases are a great way to really focus on awards offered only to graduate students, and in many databases you are able to filter by citizenship status, academic discipline, and academic level (MA, PhD, dissertation-specific awards, Post Doc opportunities).

- **Columbia University Fellowship Database**
- **Cornell University Fellowship Database**
  Allows filtering by citizenship status and degree level.
- **Duke University Funding Opportunities**
- **Harvard University Graduate Guide to Grants**
  Allows filtering by citizenship, academic level, language study-only opportunities, and application deadline.
- **Michigan State University Grants to Individuals**
  A great place to start your search! Funding broken down by discipline, academic level, and population groups.
- **UCLA Graduate and Postdoctoral Extramural Support (GRAPES) Database**
  Allows filtering by citizenship status, travel opportunities, academic level, and minimum award amount.
Be creative

- Brainstorm search terms
  http://www.googleguide.com
  Dissertation “bilingual education” funding
  “Dissertation funding” “language acquisition” bilingual
  “Funding opportunities” “secondary education” PhD Spanish
  “Public Health” research masters
  “External funding” “public health” fellowship urban
  “Health policy” scholarship women
  Engineer HCI fellowship
  Graduate scholarship “computer science” design
  Research funding design engineering masters
  “Particle physics” travel funding
  Research fellowship “particle physics”
  “Research funding” “high-energy” graduate

- Use your network
- Professional/academic associations
  http://www.cacareercafe.com/association-lessons/
- Leadership, fraternal, religious, cultural groups
- Organizations you want to work or partner with
- Reverse searching
- Funding lists from other university departments
4. Compile application materials

What can I work on over the summer?

Tips:

✓ Work on templates for proposal or statement
✓ Update CV/resume
✓ Line up recommenders
✓ Get feedback (advisors, peers, Writing Center, Career Center, Office of Fellowships & Awards)
5. Apply!

How do I know what to apply for, and when?

Tips:

- Check eligibility criteria
- Apply for both large and small awards
- Be confident!
- Communicate with recommenders early
- Budget time for multi-stepped applications, or applications that require nomination
Questions?
Thank you!

Please fill out our feedback survey:
https://catalyst.uw.edu/webq/survey/gfis/270443

Spring 2015 Drop-In Hours
Mondays: 1:30 - 2:30 pm
Wednesdays: 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Summer 2015 Drop-In Hours
TBA, contact gfis@uw.edu or see
http://commons.lib.washington.edu/services/dropin/gfis

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