Office Of Research And Sponsored Projects <orsp@stmarys-ca.edu>

Grant Opportunities, Winter-Spring 2026-2027--STEM & Social Sciences

1 message

Office Of Research And Sponsored Projects <orsp@stmarys-ca.edu> Mon, Nov 16, 2026 at 1:02 PM
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Dear Colleagues,
We hope this message finds you well.

Below is a curated list of fellowship and grant opportunities that will be accepting applications in the winter and upcoming spring. While this is not an exhaustive list of all open programs, it highlights several strong opportunities that may align with your scholarly goals. We have also attached a Hanover Grants Calendar for more information about additional upcoming opportunities.

National Science Foundation Grants
The **National Science Foundation (NSF)** is an independent federal agency created to promote the progress of science, to advance national health, prosperity, and welfare, and to secure national defense. NSF funds approximately 20% of basic, federally-supported college and university research.

NSF New Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) and Guidelines:

- Under several new NOFOs, a proposal can go in on any date — but each program keeps posted target review dates, and NSF explicitly encourages submitting ahead of one so the proposal lands in that panel's review cycle rather than the next. (Source)
- NOFOs related to SMC disciplines are:
  - BIO — Biological Sciences Core Research (BIO Core)
  - CISE — Expeditions in Computing
  - GEO — Geosciences Core Research (GEO Core), merging what were separate Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences, Earth Sciences, and Ocean Sciences competitions
  - MPS — five separate NOFOs covering Mathematical Sciences, Materials, Physics, Chemistry, and Astronomical Sciences

Mid-Career Advancement (MCA) | NSF

- Submission window dates: February 1 - March 1
- An opportunity for scientists at the mid-career stage to substantively enhance and advance their research program and career trajectory by overcoming constraints caused by service and teaching.
- Eligibility: PIs must be at the Associate Professor rank (or Professor rank for a few selected disciplines), have held that rank for at least 3 years, and have current or proposed research that falls within the purview of a participating NSF disciplinary program. Be sure to review these eligibility requirements.
- Click here to see past awards made through this program.
- Funding Amount: $14,000,000 to $18,000,000

NSF TIP Directorate – Translation to Practice (TTP)

- **Deadline**: Multiple deadlines per year
- Supports use-inspired research and translational activities that move foundational discoveries toward practical application. Aims to foster partnerships between academia and external sectors (industry, government, nonprofits, international entities), support inclusive STEM education and workforce development, and identify emerging societal needs to shape future innovations.
- **Eligibility**: Applicants must have an active NSF award with at least one year remaining, have held an NSF award within the past six years.

NSF STEM K-12

- **Deadline**: Rolling, proposals accepted anytime (solicitation NSF 25-545)
- Supports fundamental, applied, and translational research that advances STEM teaching and learning across formal (preK–12) and informal learning settings. The program favors the use of AI and other emerging technologies to enhance STEM teaching and promote learning for all ages.
- STEM K-12 has two categories: Research/Development proposals (350K–750K for 2–3 years) and Conference proposals (25K–99K for up to 2 years). Approximately 40 awards anticipated totaling ~$30 million.
- **Eligibility**: Two- and four-year IHEs accredited in the U.S., acting on behalf of their faculty members. Nonprofits, state/local governments, and tribal organizations also eligible.

NSF Collaboratory to Advance Mathematics Education and Learning for K-12

- **Deadline:** Full proposal accepted anytime
- The Collaboratory to Advance Mathematics Education and Learning (CAMEL) for K-12 initiative aims to advance mathematics learning and education through purposeful collaboration that draws on the sciences, education practice and teaching, and innovations in the use of data science, AI and technology.
- **Award Amount:** Up to $9.0 million is expected to be available in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. Contingent on the availability of funds and receipt of competitive proposals, NSF expects to make 6-7 awards under this solicitation.

National Institutes of Health Grants

NIH Research Enhancement Award R15

- **Deadline**: Rolling; multiple deadlines per year (Feb., June, Oct.)
- R15 research grants must include a significant student research component and are set aside for institutions that have received ≤$6 million per year in NIH funding in 4 of the last 7 fiscal years.
- **Eligibility**: The PD/PI must have a primary appointment at the R15-eligible organization and may not be the PD/PI of an active NIH research grant at the time of a R15 award

NIH Research Education Program (R25)

- **Deadlines**: Rolling; multiple deadlines per year (Jan., May, Sep.)
- **Award Amount**: Up to $500K over 3 years
- Three new opportunities to support research education and develop the future scientific workforce**:**
  - Courses, Curriculum & Methods (PA-27-034) — R25 supports programs that develop research skills, curricula, or methods, such as courses that build practical research skills; combinations of didactic and hands-on experiences; and cross-disciplinary or cross-institutional partnerships.
  - Mentoring Activities & Networks (PA-27-035) — R25/UE5 supports programs that provide mentoring, professional development, and career guidance tailored to participants' needs and career stages.
  - Research Experiences (PA-27-036) — R25 supports programs that provide mentored, hands-on research experiences for participants' developmental and career-stage needs.

NIH Instrumentation Grant Program for Resource-Limited Institutions (S10)

- **Deadline**: July 2, 2026, and January 26, 2027 (twice a year, Jan. + July)
- **Past Awards**: 18 in Fiscal Year 2025
- **Award Amount**: Up to $250K over 1 year

National Institutes of Health (NIH) R01 Grants

- **Deadline:** Rolling; multiple deadlines per year (Feb., June, Oct.)
- Provides support for health-related research and development aligned with NIH's mission. Open to many disciplines, including behavioral and social sciences.
  - Note: While R01 primarily undergraduate institutions may apply for R01 grants, many recipients are PhD-granting institutions. If you have a collaborator at a research intensive institution, an R01 grant to

your collaborator could be an opportunity for an SMC subaward that engages undergraduates in a larger research project managed at the prime institution.

- **Eligibility**: Ph.D. or equivalent; institutional affiliation required

Vernier Science Education – Inspiration Grants

- **Deadline:** November 30, 2026 (GrantExec listing; verify current cycle)
- Supports innovative science education activities and hands-on learning using scientific technology and equipment.
- **Eligibility:** Educators and educational institutions; confirm whether the current program includes undergraduate instruction and college faculty.
- **Award Amount:** Confirm current award level and whether funding is provided as equipment, cash, or both.

Burroughs Welcome Fund – Career Guidance for Trainees

- **Anticipated Deadline:** January 13, 2027
- Supports career guidance, mentoring, and professional development for scientific trainees.
- **Eligibility:** Verify whether institutions primarily serving undergraduate students qualify and which trainee populations are eligible.
- **Award Amount:** 15,000-25,000

Brady Education Foundation – Research Projects and Existing Program Evaluations

- **Deadline: J**anuary 30, 2027 (LOI; submission window January 15–30).
- Supports rigorous educational research and evaluations of existing programs intended to improve learning, achievement, and cognitive outcomes for children from birth through age 18.
- **Eligibility:** Researchers affiliated with nonprofit colleges, universities, and qualifying research organizations. Strong researcher-practitioner partnerships are encouraged.
- **Award Amount:** Up to approximately $125,000 per year, including indirect costs, for projects collecting new data, with a maximum three-year duration. Smaller awards are expected for secondary-data studies.

American Psychological Foundation – Direct Action Visionary Grants

- **Anticipated Deadline:** January 29, 2027
- Supports psychology-based initiatives addressing social and community needs. The specific program objectives and permitted activities should be confirmed before circulation.
- **Award Amount:** $60,000

American Psychological Foundation – Visionary Grants

- **Deadline:** April 2, 2027
- Supports innovative psychological research, education, and interventions addressing social problems, including behavioral health, violence prevention, stigma, and vulnerable populations.
- **Eligibility:** Early-career psychologists, generally within ten years of receiving their doctoral degree.
- **Award Amount:** Up to $20,000.

Russell Sage Foundation – Core Research Grants

- **Deadline:** February 22, 2027, for invited full proposals; not a new LOI deadline.
- Supports rigorous research addressing social, political, and economic inequality and the future of work, among other designated research priorities.
- **Award Amount:** Varies by project and funding category.

Dr. Scholl Foundation – Grant Program

- **Anticipated Deadline:** March 31, 2027
- Supports charitable initiatives in education, healthcare, social services, and related areas.
- **Eligibility:** Eligible nonprofit organizations;

- **Award Amount:** Up to $25,000

Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation – Program for Transformative Research

- **Anticipated Deadline:** April 27, 2027
- Supports ambitious research with the potential to make transformative contributions to chemical sciences.

Saint Mary's is the official recipient of grant funding, **you must coordinate all grant and fellowship applications through the appropriate office before submission**. Reach out to SMC grants contacts for guidance.

Be sure to check out the Grants Workshop Series being offered during 2026-2027.

Best regards,
Ophelia Guerdad
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