



## Funding Opportunities: A Strategic Consultation

There are a number of questions that may be helpful as you evaluate a sponsor and/or funding opportunity:

Considerations	Suggestions/Resources
<b>Mission:</b> <i>Does the sponsor's mission include the activities or research you wish to pursue?</i>	For <a href="#">federal sponsors</a> , review their mission statements and priorities. For <a href="#">other sponsors</a> , such as foundations and corporations, discuss the opportunity with the relevant GW offices.
<b>Priorities:</b> <i>Does your project fall within the sponsor's current priorities?</i>	
<b>Limited submission:</b> <i>Does the sponsor's funding opportunity only allow one application submission per institution requiring internal coordination?</i>	<a href="#">InfoReady portal</a> for limited submission and intramural funding competitions
<b>Deadlines:</b> <i>Is the application submission deadline hard or continuous, and allow sufficient time for proposal preparation, departmental/institutional approval, and submission?</i>	
<b>Eligibility:</b> <i>Are you (and/or GW) eligible to receive funds from this sponsor (i.e. residency, applicant type)?</i>	
<b>Sponsor type:</b> <i>Does the sponsor actually fund others "like" you (i.e., university faculty)?</i>	Talk with colleagues - who is funding their work? Look at journals in your field for acknowledgement of sponsor funding.
<b>Type of support:</b> <i>Are you applying for a grant, cooperative agreement, or a contract?</i>	Sponsor's role on a grant (patron), cooperative agreement (partner), and contract (purchaser of services/goods).
<b>Geographic area:</b> <i>Is the conduct of the research activity in your geographic area?</i>	
<b>Funding range:</b> <i>Does the sponsor make awards in the dollar range you require to conduct the proposed research?</i>	

<p><b>Ongoing funding:</b> <i>Does the sponsor make one-time, one-year only awards, or is continuation and/or renewal funding possible?</i></p>	<p>Use <a href="#">COS Pivot</a> as well as federal agency websites like NIH's <a href="#">Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tool</a>. This may give you a better understanding of what projects particular sponsors favor.</p>
<p><b>Committed funds:</b> <i>Of the funding available for the current fiscal year, how much has the sponsor committed to continuation funding for awards made in preceding years?</i></p>	
<p><b>Cost sharing:</b> <i>Is cost sharing prohibited or allowed (voluntary or mandatory)?</i></p>	
<p><b>Competition:</b> <i>What is the anticipated application to award ratio? How many awards will be made?</i></p>	<p>Where possible, determine review criteria and mechanisms the sponsor uses. This information may be provided in the proposal guidelines or on the sponsor's website.</p>
<p><b>Motivation and intent:</b> <i>Does the sponsor have special or undefined criteria that are used for awards? Is this a competitive opportunity or has the sponsor identified possible recipients (earmarking)?</i></p>	
<p><b>Staff:</b> <i>Does the sponsor have staff to provide information prior to proposal submission?</i></p>	<p>It may be appropriate to contact a sponsor before submitting a proposal. Program staff contacts are often identified in the program announcement or in the guidelines.</p>
<p><b>Pre-submission review:</b> <i>Will the sponsor review either an outline or a draft proposal if provided with reasonable lead time?</i></p>	
<p><b>Collaboration:</b> <i>Are multidisciplinary efforts or collaborations (multi-PIs/PDs) strongly encouraged?</i></p>	<p>Internal/external collaborators can be found through GW offices or <a href="#">PIVOT</a>. Make a multi-PI/PD plan to submit with your application.</p>
<p><b>Management plan:</b> <i>Does your research project require dedicated administrative coordination/support or data sharing/management components?</i></p>	<p>Be sure to account for and justify staff and/or technology equipment/component needed to properly conduct your research. If applicable, provide a data sharing plan with your proposal. Contact GW offices for further consultation.</p>