RICE

August 2025

Research Funding Opportunities Bulletin

A Monthly Digest of Funding Opportunities to Fuel your Research

The Welch Foundation Q&A Session for Faculty

Save the Date for a Q&A Session with The Welch Foundation at **noon on Tuesday, September 30, in room 510 of the Ralph S. O'Connor Building for Engineering Science**.

The Welch Foundation is one of the nation's largest private funding sources for **fundamental chemical research** at universities, colleges, and other education institutions in Texas. It runs a long-established research grants program as well as a newer catalyst grants program designed to accelerate progress in fundamental chemical research.

President Adam Kuspa and **Director of Grant Programs Carla Atmar** will provide an overview of these programs and answer questions from interested faculty members. Lunch will be provided. To ensure we have enough meals for everyone in attendance, please RSVP here. If you have any dietary restrictions, please contact Paula Willrich.

OCFR's Private Foundation Limited Submissions Resource

As you plan your research and funding endeavors, we wanted to draw your attention to a key resource from OCFR: **our Limited Submissions webpage**.

This page is dedicated to private foundation opportunities for which Rice has a limited number of submissions, requiring an internal selection process. This is a comprehensive calendar that outlines the timelines for these opportunities throughout the year. We hope this overview supports your funding goals and helps you to identify potential fits for your work far in advance.

If you have questions about any of these private foundation limited submissions, please reach out to Ashley Booher, Associate Director of Foundation Relations.

Helpful Links

- *Access the archive of bulletins **here**.*
- *Check out the private foundations limited submissions calendar **here**.*
- *Explore the **early career webpage** for timely resources and support.*
- *Check out the **Private Foundations Limited Submission Funding Opportunities** web page.*

Anchor links

Multidiscipline Opportunities

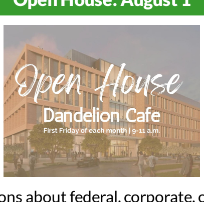
Science & Engineering Funding Opportunities

Social Sciences & Humanities Funding Opportunities

Proposal & Strategy Support

Resources and Tools

Open House: August 1



Have questions about federal, corporate, or private funding? Do you want to learn more about Rice's internal submissions process, possible funding opportunities for your research, or how to navigate the Pivot database?

Join us at the Dandelion Café this **Friday, August 1, anytime from 9 to 11 a.m.** to talk to someone on our staff!

Active Limited Submissions

For certain funding opportunities, Rice can only submit a limited number of proposals. When this occurs, we hold **internal competitions** to determine which application(s) will be submitted to the sponsor. If you're interested in a **limited submission opportunity**, you must complete and submit an internal **Notice of Intent** and/or an internal **Pre-proposal** before the internal deadline(s). An interdisciplinary **Research Awards Committee** will then review all pre-proposals and inform applicants if they've been selected to move forward.

Currently active limited submission opportunities:

- Searle Scholars Program in Biomedical Science - $300,000 | Early Career Scientists
  Internal Deadline: August 4
- Mark Foundation's Endeavor Award for Cancer Research - $3,000,000 | Natural Sciences and Engineering
  Internal Deadline: August 4
- Rita Allen Foundation Scholars Program - $550,000 | Natural Sciences and Engineering
  Internal Deadline: August 11
- Mathers Foundation Research Funding Program - $600,000 - $700,000 | Natural Sciences and Engineering
  Internal Deadline: September 1

If you have any questions about the limited submissions process, please contact Jalon Martin, the Research Development Coordinator in the Office of Research.

Welcome to the latest funding bulletin, featuring funding opportunities, resources, and announcements to support your pursuit of funding. We've refined the layout to make it easier to navigate, now sharing funding opportunities by focus: **Multidiscipline**, **Science & Engineering**, and **Social Sciences & Humanities**. You'll also find helpful icons that indicate the funding vehicle, whether it's from a private foundation, a corporate source, or a federal/state agency.

Multidiscipline Opportunities

John Templeton Foundation
General Grants Program - The John Templeton Foundation supports interdisciplinary research and conversations that explore fundamental questions about the universe, human purpose, and ultimate reality. They fund projects that integrate scientific rigor with philosophical and theological inquiry, aiming to inspire "awe and wonder." Funding areas include: Character Virtue Development, Individual Freedom & Free Markets, Life Sciences, Mathematical & Physical Sciences, Public Engagement, and Religion, Science, and Society. Detailed information about funding areas, grants process, timeline, and FAQs is available on their website. **Funding is project-based, with some focus areas, such as Mathematical & Physical Sciences, funded in the $2-4 million range. Check the grant database for more information. | Application Deadline: August 15**

National Eczema Association
Childhood Eczema Challenge Grant - This program supports **targeted clinical research investigations focused on pediatric eczema, aiming to improve the health and quality of life for young patients and their families**. It seeks to stimulate **early and mid-career scientists** in building research careers within this critical field, prioritizing proposals that address eczema heterogeneity, innovations in clinical practice and care, understanding and alleviating disease burden, and eczema prevention. Preference is given to clinical or translational research that is broadly applicable, includes a patient-centered or comparative effectiveness framework, and promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion within the research. **Funding: Up to $50K | Application Deadline: August 15**

Learning Variability Network Exchange (LEVANTE)
Understanding Learning Variability in Child Development - Funding supports projects focused on understanding **learning and developmental variability in children aged 5–12**. LEVANTE's overarching objective is to identify how individual variability, group heterogeneity, and contextual variability influence children's learning and development. By collecting longitudinal, global data on common measures, the initiative aims to enhance understanding of child development across individuals, groups, and contexts, ultimately improving learning outcomes for diverse children worldwide. This RFP particularly emphasizes internationalization and strongly encourages applications interested in implementing projects using LEVANTE measures in underrepresented regions or countries in the Global South. **Funding: Up to $1M over a four-year term | Pre-Application Deadline: August 19**

National Science Foundation (NSF)
Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics - The Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics (MMS) Program is an interdisciplinary program in the Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences that supports the development of innovative analytical and statistical methods and models for those sciences. MMS seeks proposals that are methodologically innovative, grounded in theory, and have potential utility for multiple fields within the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. As part of its larger portfolio, the MMS Program partners with a consortium of federal statistical agencies to support research proposals that further the production and use of official statistics. **Funding: Unspecified | Application Deadline: August 28**

Kaiser Permanente Center for Gun Violence Research and Education
Funding to Reduce Firearm-Related Harm - This opportunity supports research that advances health-focused solutions to prevent firearm injuries and deaths, with a strong emphasis on health system approaches, clinical interventions, and suicide prevention. It seeks to expand the evidence base for effective strategies to mitigate firearm harm, identify at-risk individuals, and improve clinical care for survivors, particularly within communities most impacted by firearm violence. The initiative encourages applications from individual researchers and organizations engaged in relevant research, prioritizing efforts that meaningfully involve and are centered on the leadership of affected communities. **Funding: Up to $300K over a two-year term | Application Deadline: September 3**

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)
Exploring Equitable Futures - This opportunity from RWJF seeks new, unconventional ideas to radically advance health equity, with a strong focus on dismantling structural racism. It targets visionary thinkers from diverse fields to explore how emerging trends can shape the future of health. Projects should align with RWJF's goals (Economic Inclusion, Equitable Public Health/Healthcare, Healthy Community Conditions) and particularly seed ideas within, or reimagine, the Health Science Knowledge System to integrate equity and justice. **Funding: Up to $500K | Application Deadline: October 15**

Science & Engineering Funding Opportunities

Corporate Opportunities

Haleon
Recyclable, monomaterial pump systems for sprays & semi solids - This opportunity seeks innovative, recyclable pump systems for healthcare and personal care products, like sprays and creams. The aim is to overcome the challenges of current multi-material pumps, which are difficult to recycle, contributing to landfill waste. Haleon is looking for mono-material pumps, ideally made from a single polymer type, that can dispense various formulations while being compatible with existing recycling streams. Solutions for sprays (up to 0.5 mL per actuation) and/or creams/gels (up to 1 mL per actuation) are of interest. Must-have requirements include proven curbside recyclability, compatibility with target formulations, defined dose dispensing, and no leakage. Reusable and refillable formats, as well as the inclusion of recycled content, are nice-to-haves. **Funding: Up to $100,000 for a six-month proof-of-concept project | Application Deadline: August 31**

PepsiCo
Biodegradable spray coatings for fiber-based packaging - This opportunity seeks biodegradable, spray-applied polymer coatings or resins for fiber-based beverage packaging. The aim is to deliver effective barrier performance while ensuring high fiber recovery for recyclability, aligning with PepsiCo's commitment to reducing new plastic and improving packaging sustainability. Solutions of interest include PHA-based coatings, biodegradable nanocomposites, resin systems, and biopolymer crosslinked networks. Must-haves are compatibility with standard spray nozzles, specific water vapor transmission rates and oxygen transmission rates, renewable sourcing, biodegradability, and compliance with FBA/AF&PA repulpability standards. **Funding: Proposal-dependent, $25,000 - $100,000 | Application Deadline: August 31**

Funding Highlight

TAMEST

Hill Prize in Artificial Intelligence (AI)

This prize recognizes bold, high-impact AI innovations—from foundational science to commercial applications—with funds directly supporting the recipient's institution. This opportunity is open to Texas-based researchers and teams focusing on areas like advanced platforms, hardware, training methods, pioneering applications, and theoretical developments. Applicants must have 15+ years of experience post-first independent position (on or before 2010), have conducted research in Texas for at least two years, and commit to staying active in the state for at least one year after receiving the prize. Institutional approval is also required. Submissions are judged on the uniqueness of the idea, its potential for real-world impact, the strength of the research leader/team, and the availability of resources to execute the work.

- **Funding: $500,000**
- **Deadline: September 2**

Yakult + Nature
Global Grants for Gut Health - This program supports investigator-initiated research worldwide focusing on the human gut microbiota. The 2025 cycle specifically seeks studies on how nutrition modulates the human gut microbiome and barrier function, exploring the interplay between diet, microbial composition, and barrier homeostasis. Projects can be laboratory investigations or clinical studies aiming to advance understanding of gut microbiota's impact on human health. Applicants must have at least five years' postdoctoral research experience at the time of application. **Funding: Up to three grants will be awarded, each providing up to $100,000 USD for a one-year research project | Application deadline: September 9**

Takeda + Nature
Takeda Innovators in Science Award with Nature - This award recognizes groundbreaking research by early-career scientists in **Gastrointestinal and Inflammatory Diseases, Neuroscience, and Oncology**. The program aims to support emerging scientific leaders who are advancing discoveries with the potential to transform lives. Eligible applicants must be early-career researchers employed at a university or research institute, hold a PhD, MD, or equivalent doctorate, and be within 10 years of completing their highest doctorate degree by December 31, 2026. **Funding: Category winners receive $75,000 each; one grand prize winner receives an additional $175,000 | Application Deadline: September 16**

Elsevier Foundation
Chemistry for Climate Action Challenge - This challenge supports projects that implement novel green and sustainable chemistry solutions in the Global South. Proposals must address urgent climate-related problems, demonstrate applicability and suitability for low- and middle-income countries, and include an impactful gender component, recognizing the role of women in combating climate change. Projects should be replicable, scalable, and sustainable, with a preference for new ideas or concepts in early development. For more information, please read the full description of the Challenge and the evaluation criteria. The winners will be announced at the 10th Elsevier Green & Sustainable Chemistry Conference (May 18 - 20, 2026) in Dresden, Germany. **Funding: Two winning projects will each receive $25,000 | Application Deadline: October 1**

Federal and State Opportunities

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
Microsystems Technology Office (MTO) Office-Wide Broad Agency Announcement - MTO seeks to develop high-risk, high-reward technologies that continue DARPA's mission of creating and preventing strategic surprise, help to secure the Department of Defense's (DoD's) technological superiority, and address the complex threats facing U.S. national security. Proposed research should investigate innovative approaches that enable revolutionary advances in science, devices, or systems. Specifically excluded is research that primarily results in evolutionary improvements to the existing state of practice. **Funding: Up to $2,000,000 | Abstract Deadline: August 9; Proposal Deadline: October 9**

National Science Foundation (NSF)
Verticals-enabling Intelligent Network Systems (VINES) - The VINES program seeks to support both fundamental research and verticals-driven technology development, demonstration, and translation activities that will lead to leaps in performance and capabilities of next generation (NextG) advanced intelligent network systems that span the user-edge-core-cloud continuum. The program seeks to go beyond the current research portfolios within individual participating NSF directorates and partner organizations by simultaneously emphasizing gains in performance and capabilities without compromising resilience and interoperability across all layers of the networking protocol and computation stacks. Innovations are sought across the various aspects of next generation communications, networking, and computing systems. **Funding: Up to $6,000,000 | Application Deadline: August 25**

Department of Defense (DOD)
Quantum Characterization, Calibration, and Control (QC3) - This is a proposed four-year program and is primarily focused on three topic areas in the field of quantum computing (QC).The topic areas are as follows:

1. Characterization: Primary Research Goal: Advance the state-of-the-art to quantitatively assess the performance of qubit operations in multi-qubit circuits and to extract error-models.
2. Calibration: Primary Research Goal: Advance state-of-the-art for bring up of multi-qubit circuits for high-performance operations near or better than fault-tolerance thresholds.
3. Control: Primary Research Goal: Advance state-of-the-art control techniques to operate multi-qubit circuits operating near or better than fault-tolerant thresholds, accounting for the specifics of error-models for the circuit.

Research proposals to these topics are sought that address the circuit gate-based model of quantum computation overhead and inefficiencies, as well as improve the accuracy and stability of characterization, calibration, and control schemes, in a manner relevant for qubit arrays in the 10s-100s of qubits scale for early fault-tolerant quantum computing (FTQC) applications. **Funding: Up to $7,000,000 | Application Deadline: August 26**

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
CoasterChase - The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is soliciting innovative proposals that leverage a novel understanding of the enteric nervous system as well as emerging neuromodulation technologies to selectively target neurons in the small intestine and alter the body's stress response. The CoasterChase program aims to develop a multimodal, ingestible, sensing and stimulation platform for use in monitoring and modulating biomarkers of acute stress from within the small intestine. Proposed research should investigate innovative approaches that enable revolutionary advances in enteric neuromodulation and sensing, ingestible electronics, and modulation of the stress response. Specifically excluded is research that primarily results in evolutionary improvements to the existing state of practice. **Funding: Unspecified | Application Deadline: August 28**

Foundation Opportunities

Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation | Postdoctoral Fellowship
Fellowship Award - This award offers **postdoctoral research fellowships** to encourage theoretical and experimental research relevant to the study, causes, mechanisms, therapies, and prevention of cancer. This award supports promising scientists under the guidance of a Sponsor (mentor) to foster their development in independent, innovative, and substantive cancer research. The program emphasizes the quality of the research proposal, the qualifications of both the candidate and Sponsor, and the potential of the training environment to broaden the candidate's skills. **Funding: $300,000 over a three-year term | Application Deadline: August 15**

Hirshberg Foundation for Pancreatic Cancer Research
Seed Grant Program - This program is designed to provide start-up funding for basic scientists and clinicians pursuing innovative ideas in pancreatic cancer research. Funding aims to generate preliminary data for future larger grants, deepen the understanding of pancreatic cancer biology, and foster collaborations. Research areas of interest include treatment/therapy, patient care, early diagnosis, detection, cancer biology, basic science, prevention/metabolism, and research core facilities. **Funding: $75,000 | Application Deadline: August 15**

Heising-Simons Foundation
Science Events and Gatherings - This open call invites proposals for events like meetings, workshops, conferences, and summer schools in **astronomy, cosmology, fundamental physics, and climate change science**. The goal is to enable basic scientific research, connect key stakeholders, and communicate scientific results. The funding aims to facilitate discussions, collaborations, and shared learning, particularly for those early in their careers or from underrepresented groups, fostering a sense of belonging and sparking new ideas. **Events focused on climate change science should emphasize physical mechanisms, drivers, and impacts**. Events must be 15 days or less, take place in the U.S. (including territories if in-person), and target an audience of undergraduate level and above within the scientific community. **Funding: Up to $80,000 | Application Deadline: August 15**

National Ataxia Foundation
Pioneer SCA3 Translational Research Award - This program supports proposals from independent researchers focused on **preclinical, translational, or clinical research directly relevant to Spinocerebellar Ataxia Type 3 (SCA3)**, with components related to other forms of ataxia also considered. Priority is given to projects accelerating disease-modifying therapies, supporting clinical trial readiness and biomarker discovery, bridging scientific discovery to therapeutic application, and significantly advancing the understanding of SCA3 pathogenesis. Applicants must have completed postdoctoral training and hold a full-time appointment. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | LOI Deadline: August 15**

National Eczema Association
Eczema Champion Research Grant - This grant is intended to support established investigators with a recognized record of productivity and national-level funding, helping them to build on discoveries and secure larger-scale funding from organizations like the NIH. Research priorities include cutting-edge basic and translational science, eczema heterogeneity, novel insights, innovations in clinical practice and care, understanding and alleviation of disease burden, and eczema prevention. The grant is open to associate professors (or above) and previous NEA award recipients, and the PI does not need to be a U.S. citizen. **Funding: $100,000 | Application Deadline: August 15**

Cures Within Reach
AI-driven Repurposing Opportunities - This program invites investigator-initiated, proof-of-concept, **Phase I or Phase IIA clinical trials to validate AI-driven drug repurposing opportunities** for any unsolved disease, with a preference for rare diseases. Projects must involve approved therapies tested in a new indication and include AI-generated data as part of the preclinical support, utilizing AI models from various sources, including open or proprietary systems. The opportunity seeks to leverage the speed and cost-effectiveness of repurposing already approved therapies to bring new treatments to patients more quickly. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | LOI Deadline: August 25**

Elsa U. Pardee Foundation
Cancer Research Funding - This foundation funds one-year research projects by investigators focusing on **identifying new treatments or cures for cancer**. The grants aim is to establish the capabilities of new cancer researchers or support new approaches by established cancer researchers, with the expectation that this early-stage funding will lead to subsequent government or other major funding. Project relevance to cancer detection, treatment, or cure must be clearly identified, and applications requesting more than 5% overhead are generally not considered. **Funding: ~$160,000 | Application Deadline: August 31**

Education and Research Foundation for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
Nuclear Medicine Pilot Research Grant - These programs aim to bridge funding gaps for **early-career innovators, allowing them to demonstrate the feasibility of novel ideas for future larger grants**. Currently open is the Nuclear Medicine Pilot Research Grant in Neuroendocrine Tumors (NETs) for **basic or clinical scientists no more than five years post-training**. Funds can be used for salaries, research costs, and/or travel, with indirect expenses capped at 5%. Preference is given to research focusing on translational in vivo studies that include radionuclide imaging or therapy for NETs. **Funding: $100,000 over a two-year term | Application Deadline: August 31**

Whitehall Foundation
Research Grants - Research grants are available to **established scientists of all ages**. Applications will be judged on the scientific merit and the innovative aspects of the proposal as well as on the competence of the applicant. Research grants of up to three years will be provided. A renewal grant with a maximum of two years is possible, but it will be awarded on a competitive basis. Research grants will not be awarded to investigators who have already received, or expect to receive, substantial support from other sources, even if it is for an unrelated purpose. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | Application Deadline: September 1**

Target ALS
Springboard Fellowship - This program supports **senior lab fellows transitioning to independent academic positions in ALS and FTD research**. It aims to advance careers in these neurodegenerative diseases, specifically seeking proposals addressing fundamental ALS/FTD disease biology (sporadic and genetic forms). Research should focus on mechanistic studies of motor neuron degeneration, including areas like TDP43 pathology, CNS synapses, immune system role, DNA damage, and aging. **Funding: Up to $220,000 over a three-year term | Application Deadline: September 2**

Burroughs Wellcome Fund | Postdoctoral Funding
Career Awards at the Scientific Interface (CASI) - This program is designed to foster the **early career development** of researchers with backgrounds in the **physical, mathematical, computational sciences, and/or engineering** who are transitioning into postdoctoral work in the biological sciences and are dedicated to pursuing a career in academic research. It targets interdisciplinary scientists who bring innovative approaches from their original fields to address significant questions in biology, including proposals that incorporate deep or machine learning applications of artificial intelligence, or investigate the connection between climate change and human health. **Funding: $560,000 over a five-year term | LOI Deadline: September 2**

Thrasher Research Fund
Pediatric Research - Funding supports clinical, hypothesis-driven research that promises significant advancements in preventing, diagnosing, and treating children's diseases, especially those with broad applications. Their **Early-Career Awards program** supports new researchers, including physicians in residency/fellowship or post-doctoral researchers, under the guidance of a mentor. This funding aims to help them become independent principal investigators in children's health. **Funding: $50,000 | Concept Paper Deadline: September 2**

Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI)
2025 Data Analysis - This award aims to increase the utilization of large, publicly available data resources in autism and related neurodevelopmental disorders by supporting investigators in analyzing and publishing from these existing datasets. The goal is to ask new questions and extract new knowledge from previously collected data, without funding new data collection. Priority will be given to applications that leverage SFARI-supported resources (e.g., SPARK, Simons Searchlight, Autism Inpatient Collection, Simons Sleep Project, Simons Simplex Collection), though all applications using publicly accessible data relevant to SFARI's mission will be considered. **Funding: Up to $300,000 | Application Deadline: September 4**

Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation
Postdoctoral Fellows Award Program - This program supports postdoctoral research in fundamental chemistry or chemical instrumentation, aiming to foster independent researchers. It has two tracks: Chemical Sciences (advanced research) and Chemical Instrumentation (innovative instrument development, 2-year scope). Applicants must be U.S. Citizens, permanent residents, or DACA recipients, either current PhD students (graduating by May 2026) or postdocs with under 18 months of experience (exceptions for COVID/leaves). An identified mentor in chemical sciences is required. **Funding: $224,000 over a two-year term | LOI Deadline: September 5**

March of Dimes Foundation
Discovery Research Grants - These grants support **established scientists in maternal and infant health for translational discoveries to improve clinical care**. Research must lead to evidence-based prevention, diagnosis, or intervention, aligning with three priorities: spontaneous preterm birth, improving access to high-quality healthcare (decreasing morbidity/mortality), and pregnancy-related cardiovascular conditions. Studies can be human, tissue, or population-level, encouraging multidisciplinary and community collaborations. **Funding: $200,000 over a two-year term | Application Deadline: September 8**

McKnight Brain Research Foundation
Translational Research Scholarship - This scholarship supports **early-career investigators conducting clinical studies relevant to age-related cognitive decline and memory loss**. The program emphasizes rigorous training in clinical research and encourages recipients to establish long-term careers in human cognitive aging. While the primary focus is not solely on neurodegenerative dementias (like Alzheimer's disease), proposals that combine the study of cognitive aging with a neurodegenerative dementia may be considered. Research is broadly defined to include patient-oriented studies, translational research for treatments or enhanced diagnosis, epidemiologic or behavioral studies, clinical trials, and the development of new technologies. **Funding: $150,000 over a two-year term | Application Deadline: September 9**

ALS Association
Clinician Scientist Development Award in ALS - This award is designed to recognize the importance of strong clinical research and foster **early-career investigators** committed to academic careers in neurological research focused on ALS. This scholarship supports patient-oriented or translational neurological research aimed at developing treatments or improving diagnoses. This encompasses a wide range of studies, including epidemiologic, behavioral, clinical trials, disease mechanisms, new technology, and health services/outcomes research. Even disease-related studies not directly involving humans are eligible if their primary goal is developing therapies or diagnostics for neurological diseases. Applicants must be AAN members having completed their residency or PhD no more than seven years prior to July 1, 2026. **Funding: $240,000 | Application Deadline: September 9**

American Brain Foundation (ABF)
ABF offers two main categories of grants to fund world-class research across the spectrum of brain diseases, based on their philosophy that progress in one area can lead to breakthroughs in many others. Their Next Generation Research Grants support innovative investigations by **early-career researchers aiming for academic careers in various neurological fields**. Additionally, the ABF provides Cure One, Cure Many Awards, which are large-scale, multi-million dollar initiatives for **high-risk, high-reward translational research with significant clinical impact**, like the 2025 awards that **focused on neuroinflammation and Lewy Body Dementia biomarkers** (though pre-proposal periods for these have concluded). **Funding: Up to $2,000,000 over a two-year term | Application Deadline: September 9**

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Equity in Access Research - This program funds **research to generate evidence for policy and practice changes, aiming to reduce barriers to care for blood cancer patients and survivors, especially for underrepresented groups**. The current RFP seeks studies to increase therapeutic cancer clinical trial accrual by implementing and evaluating interventions that: a) mitigate multilevel barriers, and b) quantitatively measure impact on accrual. LLS is particularly interested in proposals addressing systemic, institutional, and clinician-related barriers. **Funding: Up to $2,500,000 over a five-year term | LOI Deadline: September 11**

Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research
Pediatric Cancer Research Awards Program - This collaborative program offers various grant mechanisms for pediatric cancer research, including Postdoctoral and Clinical Research Fellow Grants, Independent Investigator Grants, and Consortium Grants. These opportunities prioritize innovative, basic science, under-studied cancer types, quality of life, personalized medicine, and data utilization in children, adolescents, and young adults up to age 24. **Funding: Up to $200,000 over a two-year term | LOI Deadline: September 12**

Scleroderma Foundation
New Investigator Grant - This program supports promising **new investigators in research related to scleroderma**, aiming to facilitate their entry into the field and help them secure future funding. Applicants must hold a doctoral degree and have completed a postdoctoral fellowship, with eligibility limited to those who have not previously served as a principal investigator on major grants. **Funding: $200,000 over a three-year term | Application Deadline: September 15**

LAM Foundation
Career Development Research Grant - The foundation actively seeks to accelerate research into Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM) by funding innovative projects, particularly those focused on new therapeutic agents, preclinical models, and deeper insights into disease pathogenesis. Funding is aimed at **basic or clinical scientists, including early-career investigators**, with a strong encouragement for those new to LAM research. **Funding: $60,000 | Application Deadline: September 15**

Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
IBD Ventures Initiative - This program is a dedicated funding mechanism designed to accelerate the discovery and development of novel products with the potential to improve the quality of life for patients with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). This program welcomes applications from both companies and academic investigators who are engaged in product-oriented research and development. In addition to financial support, funded programs will receive accelerator resources and advising. **Funding: Up to $500,000 | LOI Deadline: September 17**

Wings for Life
Project research grants - The Foundation gives preference to **projects with a clear translational perspective from the laboratory to the clinical setting, aiming to provide real benefits to spinal cord injury patients**. There is also a focus on chronic spinal cord injury where applicable. While medical complications (e.g., bladder/bowel function, neuropathic pain) are a secondary focus, applications in these areas are considered if they offer novel, original, and innovative treatment perspectives or enhance clinical trial effectiveness. Technological advancements like exoskeletons and brain-spinal interfaces are considered if their focus is on rehabilitation/plasticity, not solely technological development. **Funding: €390.000 (~$456,000 USD) over a three-year term | Preliminary Proposal Deadline: September 15**

Simons Foundation
Fellows in Mathematics Program - This program aims to **enhance the productivity of sabbatical research leaves by extending them from a single term to a full academic year**. The foundation expects to award up to 50 mathematics fellowships for 2026. Awards are based on the applicant's scientific accomplishments in the five years preceding the application and the potential scientific impact of their proposed work during the leave. A Simons Fellowship provides salary replacement for up to 50% of the Fellow's current academic-year salary, plus up to an additional $10,000 for leave-related expenses. **Funding: Up to $125,000 | Application Deadline: October 3**

Social Sciences & Humanities Funding Opportunities

Foundation Opportunities

Working for Inclusive and Transformative Healthcare (WITH) Foundation
This funding opportunity supports projects that defend, strengthen, and expand Medicaid and Medicare supports for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in the United States. Proposals must prioritize the leadership and expertise of self-advocates, employ a cultural humility approach, and aim to create inclusive, culturally responsive, and disability-competent healthcare systems, with a strong encouragement for collaborative projects and those led by or including BIPOC-led organizations. Projects can focus on policy advocacy to expand access, resource and tool development for understanding and utilizing supports, community-driven organizing that elevates I/DD perspectives, or applied research and data strategies to identify gaps and evaluate outcomes related to Medicaid and Medicare access for this population. **Funding: Up to $150K | Application Deadline: August 15**

Ploughshares Fund
This opportunity supports organizations and individuals dedicated to **building a safe, secure, and nuclear weapons-free world**. Grantmaking and programmatic activities are structured around **four key areas**: driving near-term policies and actions to eliminate nuclear threats and address regional conflicts; strengthening and diversifying the nuclear field; building new partnerships by aligning with social justice movements and exploring intersections with other issues; and supporting transformational thinking that challenges the nuclear status quo. The fund explicitly encourages applications from women and people from diverse communities. The fund does not support the production of films, videos, books, art projects, scholarships, or academic dissertations. **Funding: ~$50,000 | Application Deadline: August 21**

Arthur Vining Davis Foundations
Higher Education & Interfaith Leadership - This foundation supports two distinct but related program areas for higher education. One area focuses on strengthening private colleges and universities that prioritize undergraduate and liberal arts education, particularly through projects that improve student outcomes or enhance faculty leadership, including initiatives for civil discourse across differences and advocacy for the liberal arts. The other program area seeks to foster religious literacy and create opportunities for courageous multi-faith conversations and collaborations, particularly at a national or broader institutional level, by supporting efforts in digital media, inter-campus student group collaborations, and religious publications. **Funding: Up to $300,000 | LOI Deadline: August 28**

American Psychological Foundation
Grant for Psychoanalysis - This grant supports **projects designed to increase public awareness of psychoanalytic principles and treatments, and their applicability to clinical, organizational, and social issues**. The program aims to recognize and promote psychoanalysis within psychology as both a science and a profession, encouraging and supporting educational, research, and service initiatives. Special consideration is given to proposals from early career professionals, students from diverse backgrounds, and therapists who serve underserved populations, all of whom must demonstrate a strong understanding of psychoanalytic principles and a commitment to public communication about the field's value. **Funding: $12,000 | Application Deadline: August 31**

Samuel H. Kress Foundation
European Art Projects - Projects should aim to enhance the appreciation and understanding of European art and architecture from antiquity to the early 19th century. This initiative supports the creation and dissemination of specialized knowledge through various means, including archival projects, scholarly databases, documentation projects, museum exhibitions and publications, photographic campaigns, scholarly catalogs, and technical and scientific studies. It also facilitates international exchanges, professional meetings, conferences, symposia, and research presentations, enabling art historians to share their expertise. **Funding: ~$20,000 | LOI Deadline: September 1**

Andy Warhol Foundation
Curatorial Research Fellowships - Funding supports **innovative research about art and its histories**, specifically for projects that will manifest at least two years after a grant is made. It funds curators at **any career stage**, with or without institutional affiliation. Strong proposals explore understudied topics and experimental or less-known artists, with grants covering research expenses like travel, discussions, and research assistants, but not salary replacement. **Funding: Up to $50,000 | Application Deadline: September 1**

William T. Grant Foundation
Institutional Grants - This program is designed to support the building of sustained research-practice partnerships with public agencies or nonprofit organizations. The core mission of this grant is to reduce inequality in youth outcomes by encouraging institutions to shift their policies and practices to value collaborative research. The grant aims to address inequalities based on race, ethnicity, economic standing, sexual or gender minority status, language minority status, or immigrant origins, impacting young people ages 5-25 in the U.S. Proposed research should build, test, or increase understanding of programs, policies, or practices in youth-serving areas such as education, justice, child abuse and neglect prevention, foster care, mental health, immigration, and workforce development. **Funding: $650,000 over a three-year term | Application Deadline: September 15**

Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts
Grants to Individuals - Funding will support the creation, development, and communication of challenging ideas about architecture and the designed environment. The program prioritizes original, impactful projects that demonstrate critical thinking, advanced scholarship, or new experimental approaches, while also aiming to contribute to an applicant's creative, intellectual, and professional growth. The Foundation particularly encourages first-time applicants to amplify emerging and underrecognized perspectives. **Funding: Up to $20,000 | LOI Deadline: September 15**

Arnold Ventures
Causal Research on the Impacts of Legalized Sports Betting - This RFP seeks rigorous, causal research to address the significant evidence gap surrounding the financial, social, and behavioral impacts of legalized sports betting. It supports both Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) and rigorous Quasi-Experimental Designs (QEDs) to produce actionable insights for policymakers, regulators, and advocates, especially at the state level. Register to attend the Sports Betting RFP Information Session happening on August 13. **Funding: ~$400,000 | LOI Deadline: September 15**

Robert Lehman Foundation
Visual Arts Access and Education - This foundation exclusively supports initiatives within the visual arts, aiming to enhance their role in American and global culture through grants to museums, arts organizations, and educational institutions. Funding priorities include visual arts exhibitions that offer strong intellectual and scholarly contributions to both classical and contemporary art, as well as art education programs specifically designed for underserved communities with limited access to arts learning. The foundation also supports art history lectureships that bring noted art historians and artists to colleges to enrich curricula and broaden exposure for students and faculty, and occasionally provides funding for impactful capital projects that expand cultural programming and audience access. **Funding: Up to $50,000 | Application Deadline: September 15**

American Council of Learned Societies
ACLS Fellowship Program - This program invites proposals from scholars across all disciplines of the humanities and interpretive social sciences, aiming to support outstanding scholarship at all **postdoctoral career stages, both on and off the tenure track**. The fellowships facilitate six to twelve months of full-time research and writing toward a major scholarly work, which can include monographs, articles, publicly engaged humanities projects, or digital research. The program is committed to inclusive excellence, welcoming and encouraging applications from eligible scholars regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, disability, age, or any aspect of identity, as well as those from a wide range of academic institutions and independent scholars. **Funding: $60,000 | Application Deadline: September 25**

Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood
This grant incubator seeks imaginative and innovative **proposals likely to improve the welfare of young children, from infancy through age 7, in the United States**, with a direct benefit and potential for national application. Funding is provided for projects in parenting education to foster nurturing environments, early childhood welfare to perfect child-rearing practices and identify creative models for thriving children, and early childhood education and play, aiming to improve teaching quality, develop innovative curricula, and design imaginative learning materials. The foundation prioritizes seed money for bold ideas that challenge the status quo and push boundaries in academic, social, and cultural studies and practices related to early childhood. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | LOI Deadline: September 30**

The Getty Foundation
Getty Scholars - Funding is for **established researchers and professionals** to conduct innovative research on art and its histories, broadly defined. Scholars are immersed in a vibrant intellectual community at either the Getty Center or Getty Villa, with access to extensive library and collections resources. The program fosters collaborations across disciplines and aims to develop new audiences for scholarly work. The annual theme for the 2026-2027 academic year is "Provenance." **Funding: $65,000 | Application Deadline: October 1**

Social Science Research Council | Policy Research
Economic Research Rescue Fund - This initiative offers emergency funding to **economic research projects whose NSF grants were unexpectedly terminated**. To be eligible, **a project must have received NSF funding before June 1, 2025, had that award officially terminated, and be economics-related**, evidenced by the inclusion of a practicing PhD economist's CV in the original NSF proposal. Applicants must submit their original NSF proposal, communication regarding the termination, previous reports, a one-page cover sheet and budget request, and a compelling five-page narrative letter detailing the project's importance and societal value for a public review panel. **Funding: $25,000 to $250,000 | Application Deadline: Rolling**

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*Internal funding opportunities can be found on the **Rice University Creative Ventures Fund** webpage.*

Proposal & Funding Strategy Support

Navigating the landscape of funding opportunities can be complex, but you're not alone! The Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations **(OCFR)** and the Office of Research Development **(ORD)** are here to support faculty in developing compelling proposals and crafting effective funding strategies for the RFPs shared in this bulletin and beyond.

How we can help:

- Identifying Strategic Funding Matches: We can help you analyze potential funders to determine alignment with your research or program goals and identify the most promising funding avenues.
- Proposal Development Guidance: We offer guidance throughout the proposal process, from outlining your project and developing a strong narrative to addressing sponsor requirements.
- Corporate and Foundation Engagement (OCFR): For opportunities involving corporate or private foundations, OCFR provides support in understanding funder priorities, tailoring your approach for successful engagement, and cultivating relationships.
- Research Development Resources (ORD): ORD offers a range of resources, including workshops, individual consultations, and proposal review services, to enhance the competitiveness and impact of your applications.

We encourage you to reach out early in the process so we can provide the most impactful support. Let us partner with you to turn your innovative ideas into funded realities!

Contact Us:

- Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations (OCFR): ocfr@rice.edu
- Office of Research Development (ORD): Proposal assistance request form

Available Resources

ExLibris Pivot-RP

When developing your fundraising strategy, it can be advantageous to see what opportunities are posted by sponsors, including private foundations and government agencies. To enable you to do so effectively, Rice subscribes to Pivot-RP, a global database of open research funding opportunities available for faculty and staff..

To learn more about Pivot-RP, how to successfully access the database, or receive technical support from an OCFR partner **visit our internal website.**

HALO

Halo is a platform developed specifically to connect companies to university researchers to work on answers to urgent needs. These projects are specific and range from $25K - $200K generally, but ultimately these projects can lead to broader relationships and continued partnership. Halo releases RFPs monthly. You can sign up for regular updates and access is free and open to anyone who creates an account.

If you have questions about Halo or how to navigate it, please contact OCFR at **ocfr@rice.edu**.

UIDP Strengthening University-Industry Partnerships

Rice University is a member of the **University-Industry Demonstration Project (UIDP)**, a professional organization fostering connections between universities and industry partners. UIDP focuses on developing innovative approaches to collaborative endeavors, providing a wealth of resources accessible on their comprehensive website.

This resource is available to anyone working at Rice, and we strongly encourage you to make an account to receive updates.

Candid.

Candid offers a comprehensive understanding of the social sector by providing extensive data and insightful analysis. Their platform integrates information on nonprofits, foundations, and grantmaking activities, alongside current news and in-depth research. Faculty can utilize Candid's robust tools to thoroughly research and verify nonprofit organizations, effectively identify potential funding opportunities that align with their work, and explore a diverse array of valuable datasets and information related to the philanthropic landscape.

Visit Candid's website to discover their free training programs and a wide range of other valuable resources designed to support those working within and alongside the social sector.

FOUNDATION DIRECTORY ONLINE by Candid.

Foundation Directory is a comprehensive database providing detailed profiles of grantmaking foundations, corporate giving programs, and federal funders. It serves as a crucial resource for identifying potential funding sources aligned with diverse research areas and scholarly activities. The directory offers insights into funders' priorities, past grant recipients, application guidelines, and contact information, empowering faculty to strategically pursue external funding opportunities to support their work at Rice University.

Note: Rice University faculty interested in accessing the Foundation Directory should email OCFR at ocfr@rice.edu to request login credentials.

Research Data Management

This presentation equips researchers with the skills to effectively manage their research data. Throughout the session, explore the importance of data management and creating a data management plan, and delve into best practices for organizing, documenting, storing, sharing, and archiving your data. The presentation was curated by the Fondren Library and draws on best practices and resources from the University of Minnesota Libraries, the New England Collaborative Data Management Curriculum, and MIT Libraries.

Access the **Research Data Management Presentation** here.