June 2026

Research Funding Opportunities Bulletin

A Monthly Digest of Funding Opportunities to Fuel your Research

Welcome to the latest funding bulletin, featuring funding opportunities, resources, and announcements to support your pursuit of funding. Navigate funding opportunities by focus: Multidisciplinary, 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.

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- Multidisciplinary Opportunities
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- Proposal & Strategy Support
- Resources and Tools

Upcoming Events

Join us at our Open House to Discuss Your Funding Needs | Friday, June 5, 9 - 11 a.m., Dandelion Café

Join us for our monthly open house and bring questions about foundation funding strategy, corporate engagement strategy, safeguarding your innovations, managing collaborations, etc. Members of OCFR, ORD, and OTT will be there **Friday, June 5 at Dandelion Café, 9-11 a.m.**

This informal drop-in session is a great opportunity to:

- Explore corporate and private funding (OCFR) and public funding (ORD) opportunities.
- Share your research and receive personalized advice on funding strategies.
- Connect with OTT experts who can advise your research commercialization efforts.

As always, coffee is on us! We look forward to seeing you there. (Please note: we will not hold an open house in July 2026.)

Rice OTT Connection Corner | Get Expert Tech Transfer Guidance

Have questions about intellectual property, licensing, or commercializing your research? The new OTT Connection Corner offers virtual drop-in office hours where you can get expert guidance without an appointment.

Whether you're a faculty member with a new discovery, a graduate student exploring entrepreneurship, or staff supporting research commercialization, our experts are ready to help. We can answer questions about the intellectual property lifecycle, research contracts, online forms, and general tech transfer procedures.

- **When:** 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of every month
- **Time:** 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Virtual Zoom Meeting
- **Password:** RiceOTT!

Planning to attend? Let us know ahead of time at techtran@rice.edu so we can have the right expert available for your specific questions.

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.*

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:

- Kleberg Foundation Medical Research: Fall 2026 | **Internal Pre-Proposal Deadline: June 19, 2026**

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

Office of Research Development Primer to AI Research Opps

Federal sponsors continue to expand their interests in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) research. The new calendar year is chock-full of federal research opportunities focused on developing AI & ML tools capable of addressing some of the world's most pressing problems. Click the link below for ORD's library of links and funder resources to help track the sundry AI opportunities that will come out this year.

View AI Opportunities

Multidisciplinary Opportunities

Foundation Opportunities

John Templeton Foundation | Intelligence Venture
The John Templeton Foundation has launched its new Intelligence Venture, a multi-disciplinary, meta-portfolio investigating the nature, purpose, and future of intelligence. This initiative will support projects that explore the history and future of the human understanding of intelligence, the diverse forms of intelligence manifesting today, collective intelligence within humans and across species, and the potential benefits or harms of artificial intelligence. Applicants must address one of the six funding areas in their work: Character Virtue Development, Individual Freedom & Free Markets, Life Sciences, Mathematical & Physical Sciences, Public Engagement, or Religion, Science, & Society. **Funding: Varies | LOI Deadline: July 15**

Simons Foundation | New Ideas Award
The Simons Foundation is soliciting applications for its New Ideas Award, which provides early stage support for bold, exploratory research that tests novel hypotheses and opens new conceptual or experimental directions in the study of autism and related neurodevelopmental disorders (NDD). Proposed research may draw on any scientific discipline, methodology or experimental system (including humans) and may operate at any scale or level of analysis. **Funding: Up to $600,000 | LOI Deadline: Rolling**

The Leakey Foundation | Research Grants on Human Origins
The Leakey Foundation supports research across multiple disciplines related to human origins, evolution, and behavior. This program will prioritize funding for the exploratory phases of promising new research projects and innovative, multidisciplinary approaches that expand the boundaries of our current understanding. Eligible project topics include: Paleoanthropology of the Miocene, Pliocene, and Pleistocene; Primates (Evolution, behavior, morphology, ecology, endocrinology, genetics, isotope studies); and Modern hunter-gatherer groups. **Funding: Up to $30,000 | Application Deadline: July 15**

Wellcome Trust | Mental Health Award: Using physical activity and circadian-based interventions to reduce anxiety and depression in young people
Through its Mental Health Award, Wellcome is funding projects that integrate circadian rhythms and/or physical activity to treat anxiety and/or depression for young people (ages 10 - 18) in the UK and Africa. **Funding: £1,000,000 - 4,000,000| Application Deadline: July 14**

Greenwall Foundation | Making a Difference Grants in Real-World Bioethics Dilemmas
The Greenwall Foundation's bioethics program supports research to help resolve important emerging or unanswered bioethics problems in clinical, biomedical, or public health decision-making, policy, or practice. Projects may be empirical, conceptual, or normative. **Funding: Varies | LOI Deadline: June 22**

Corporate Opportunities

Procter & Gamble | Neuro and bio-signaling technologies to decode emotional responses
Procter & Gamble is seeking emerging neuro- and bio-sensing measurement technologies to capture deep, implicit emotional and cognitive consumer responses during interaction with products and packaging. Moving beyond traditional surface-level biometrics (such as heart rate or eye tracking), the company is looking for advanced modalities—including functional near-infrared spectroscopy (fNIRS), electroencephalography (EEG), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), and sensorial biochemical markers (such as cortisol or oxytocin)—that can translate neural or biological signals into actionable design metrics. Proposals must feature established expertise in interpreting the psychological meaning of these signals and offer a clear path toward handling real-world conditions like movement. Negotiated funding is available via sponsored research, co-development, or trial engagements, with P&G confirming that all scientific evidence (clinical or otherwise) is welcome and that academic publishing terms will be structured within individual collaboration agreements. **Funding: Varies by proposal | Application Deadline: June 26**

Social Sciences & Humanities Funding Opportunities

Foundation Opportunities

William T. Grant Foundation | Research Grants on Improving the Use of Research Evidence
The William T. Grant Foundation is seeking projects that improve the use of research evidence in shaping youth-serving systems for young people ages 5-25 in the United States. The program welcomes studies that build or test strategies for bettering the use of existing research in policy/practice or studies that test how the use of research evidence improves decision-making and youth outcomes. The foundation is especially interested in the use of research evidence to benefit young people concerning politically charged and contested issues, particularly in highly polarized contexts. **Funding: Major Research Grants: $100,000 - $1,000,000; Officers' Research Grants: $25,000 - $50,000 | LOI Deadline: July 29**

William T. Grant Foundation | Research Grants on Reducing Inequality
The William T. Grant Foundation is seeking proposals that aim to reduce inequality in the academic, social, behavioral, or economic outcomes of young people ages 5–25 in the United States, along dimensions of race, ethnicity, economic standing, sexual or gender minority status (e.g., LGBTQ+ youth), language minority status, or immigrant origins. This program welcomes intervention or descriptive studies that clarify mechanisms for reducing inequality or elucidate how or why a specific program, policy, or practice operates to reduce inequality. The foundation is particularly interested in research on uprooting systemic racism and the structural foundations of inequality that limit the life chances of young people. **Funding: Major Research Grants: $100,000 - $600,000; Officers' Research Grants: $25,000 - $50,000 | LOI Deadline: July 29**

Nasdaq Philanthropic Foundation | Economic Opportunity Grant Program
The Nasdaq Philanthropic Foundation is accepting proposals on the following topics for its Economic Opportunity Grant Program: Regional Revitalization and Rural Wealth Building, Investor Identity, Financial Literacy and Resilience, Access to Capital, and Employee and Community Ownership.The Nasdaq Philanthropic Foundation is accepting proposals on the following topics for its Economic Opportunity Grant Program: Regional Revitalization and Rural Wealth Building, Investor Identity, Financial Literacy and Resilience, Access to Capital, and Employee and Community Ownership.. **Funding: Varies | LOI Deadline: July 31**

Russell Sage Foundation | Behavioral Science and Decision Making in Context
This program is soliciting proposals for studies exploring economic, social, political, and psychological decision-making processes, attitudes, behaviors, and institutional practices in public and private contexts such as policing/criminal legal systems, employment, housing, politics, racial/ethnic relations, and immigration. **Funding: Up to $200,000 | LOI Deadline: July 15**

Russell Sage Foundation | Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration
The REI program is seeking multi-disciplinary research exploring the significant changes in the racial, ethnic, and immigrant-origin composition of the U.S. population. A primary goal of the program is to find ways in which researchers from different social science traditions may complement one another and foster an understanding of how we might better achieve the American ideals of a pluralist society. **Funding: Up to $200,000 | LOI Deadline: July 15**

Russell Sage Foundation | Immigration and Immigrant Integration
The Russell Sage Foundation/Carnegie Corporation Initiative on Immigration and Immigrant Integration seeks to support innovative research on the effects of race, citizenship, legal status and politics, political culture and public policy on outcomes for immigrants and for the native-born of different racial and ethnic groups of generations. This initiative falls under RSF's Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration Program and represents a special area of interest within the core program, which continues to encourage proposals on a broader set of issue. **Funding: Up to $200,000| LOI Deadline: July 15**

Russell Sage Foundation | Implications of the 2023 Supreme Court Decision to Ban Conscious Admissions at Colleges and Universities for Educational Attainment and Economic Mobility
RSF, in collaboration with the Hewlett, Spencer, and William T. Grant foundations, is accepting proposals studying the effects of this 2023 Supreme Court decision on a diversity of outcomes extending beyond impacts on the college admission process. The foundation is interested in the downstream effects of such a decision, such as how the college-to-career pipeline that many employers rely on to diversify their workforce may change and the factors associated with public opposition to and support for race-conscious policies. RSF encourages analyses that engage with newly available data, demonstrate novel uses of existing data, and/or collect original data. **Funding: Up to $200,000| LOI Deadline: July 15**

Social Science Research Council | Innovation in Religion and Spirituality Seed Grants
The Social Science Research Council is seeking projects on the wider implications of new forms of religious and spiritual life, inviting proposals that examine the dynamics of religious and spiritual change that fall within the frame of "innovation." Possible topics include innovations within transnational or diasporic religious communities, spiritual innovation's relationship with/impact on gender or economic conditions, and the social mobilization of new religious identities. **Funding: Studies collecting data: Up to $10,000 | Application Deadline: July 1**

Sociological Initiatives Foundation | Research Grants
The Sociological Initiatives Foundation supports research that addresses inequality in the U.S. via: policy development, placement and shaping of the policy agenda; policy adoption or implementation; policy blocking, increasing advocacy capacity and political influence; shaping publc sentiment; and addressing challenges related to language and literacy. Projects must have an explicit research design and a concrete connection to public/community impact. **Funding: $15,000 - $20,000 | LOI Deadline: August 14**

Science and Engineering Funding Opportunities

Foundation Opportunities

Research Corporation for Science Advancement | Cottrell Scholars
The Science of Trustworthy AI program is seeking research that improves our ability to understand, predict, and control risks from frontier AI systems while enabling their trustworthy deployment. **Funding: $120,000 | Application Deadline: July 1**

Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research | Parkinson's Disease Therapeutics Pipeline Program
This MJFF program funds pre-clinical and/or clinical testing of therapeutic developments with the clear potential to prevent, stop, or delay Parkinson's disease progression or reduce the burden of daily symptoms. Pre-clinical research should identify, validate and/or develop novel pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions through pre-clinical development from early screening to pre-clinical characterization and testing. Clinical projects must progress promising interventions exploring pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, safety/tolerability, or early proof of biology and/or clinical efficacy. Only industry and academia-industry partnerships in and outside the United States are eligible to apply. **Funding: $250,000 - $2M | Application Deadline: June 25**

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation | A' Award Grant
The A' Award Grant provides support to early career scientists who want to establish a career in pediatric oncology research. Proposals must be orginal projects that are not currently funded. Demonstration of a future commitment to pediatric cancer investigation as well as institutional support for the career development of the investigator are critical components of a successful application. A mentor is required, and a career development plan must be included. Applicants must be within five years of their first faculty appointment as an Assistant Professor at the time that their application is submitted. MD and MD/PhD investigators must be within 10 years of their terminal research degree or end of post-graduate clinical training (whichever date is later), and PhD appplicants must be within 10 years of their terminal research degree. **Funding: Up to $800,000 | Application Deadline: June 16**

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation | Emergent Phenomena in Quantum Systems Experimental Investigators
The EPiQS Experimental Investigator awards support U.S. experts in experimental studies of quantum materials to pursue discovery of new emergent electronic and magnetic phenomena in solids, elucidate the origin of previously known emergent pheomena, develop new experimental techniques for probing or controlling quantum materials, or substantially enhance the performance of existing techniques. **Funding: $1.8M - $2M | Pre-application Deadline: June 5**

Cures Within Reach | Clinical Trials to Validate AI-Driven Drug Repurposing
If you are interested in scheduling a call with a program officer, contact Ted Walker at tkw1@rice.edu.
This RFP is seeking investigator-initiated, proof of concept, Phase I or Phase IIA clinical trials to validate artificial intelligence (AI)-driven repurposing opportunities in any unsolved disease from anywhere in the world, where the therapies (approved drugs, biologics, eligible cellular/gene therapies or combination therapies) supported by AI models are already approved. One award features **funding specifically for Texas-based clinical trials and/or Texas-based AI models.** Eligible clinical repurposing trials must include AI-generated data as part of the preclinical support for the trial. The results of the overall AI workflow should clearly support the repurposing hypothesis and/or any existing preclinical data and be explainable in a clinical setting. CWR is particularly interested in Texas-based clinical trials and/or Texas-based AI models. **Funding: $100,000 (with additional funds available for community engagement) | LOI Deadline: June 26**

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation | Symbiosis in Aquatic Systems Initiative
This initiative supports interdisciplinary collaborations advancing discovery within the origin, function, and evolution of aquatic organisms' symbiotic relationships. Areas of interest include aquatic environments, evolutionary ecology, and novel methods for studying aquatic symbioses. Teams must include one researcher with demonstrated expertise in aquatic symbiosis and one researcher with expertise in a complementary area such as AI, Bioengineering, Biophysics, Oceanography, Ecology, etc. **Funding: Varies | Application Deadline: July 31**

Arnold & Mabel Beckman Foundation | Beckman Young Investigator Program
The BYI program funds early-career faculty in chemistry and the life sciences who have not yet received a major award from another organization. Proposals should be innovative, high-risk, and show promise for contributing to significant advances in chemistry and the life sciences. Applications that cut across traditional boundaries of scientific disciplines are encouraged, and projects opening new research avenues via the invention of methods, instruments, and materials will be given additional consideration. **Funding: $600,000 | Application Deadline: LOI Deadline: July 31**

Burroughs Wellcome Fund | Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease
The PATH program supports assistant professors using multidisciplinary approaches to study human infectious diseases. Burroughs is looking to fund research that elucidates the outcomes of human and infectious agent contact. That is, how colonization, infection, commensalism, and other relationships play out at levels ranging from molecular interactions to systemic ones. **Funding: $505,000 | LOI Deadline: July 16**

Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation | Damon Runyon-Rachleff Innovation Award
This award supports early carer researchers who have an innovative new idea but lack sufficient preliminary data to obtain traditional funding. Projects should be novel, exceptionally creative and have the strong potential for high impact in the cancer field. Eligible applicants must be tenure-track Assistant Professors within the first 5 years of obtaining their initial tenure-track Assistant Professor position. **Funding: $400,000 - $800,000 | Application Deadline: July 1**

Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation | Research Grants
The Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation funds research directed toward a cure for paralysis, secondary health effects, and technologies associated with spinal cord injury or disease (SCI/D). The grant funds the following categories: Basic sience, Clinical applications, Design and development of new SCI/D technologies, and Fellowships for postdoctoral scientists, clinicians and engineers. To be eligible for a fellowship, applicants must have received their PhD within the past 8 years. **Funding: Fellowships: $150,000; Other Research Grants: $200,000 | Application Deadline: July 1**

BrightFocus Foundation | Macular Degeneration New Investigator Grant Program
The Macular Degeneration New Investigator Grant Program supports investigators during their early years as an independent investigator involved in studies that have an impact on the causes and/or treatment of macular degeneration. This mechanism is restricted to new and early investigators who have received their MD, PhD or equivalent degree within the past 10 years at the time of application. **Funding: Up to $450,000 | LOI Deadline: July 30**

BrightFocus Foundation | Standard Award in Macular Degeneration Research
The Standard Award is open to tenure- and non-tenure track investigators greater than 10 years post-terminal degree who are appropriately trained to lead an independent research study (basic, translational and/or clinical in nature) that has an impact on the causes, prevention, and/or treatment of macular degeneration. This award is intended for investigators who are either 1) new to the macular degeneration field, 2) have been in the field of vision research, but not macular degeneration, or 3) have worked in the macular degeneration field but are proposing a new idea that is significantly different to prior work. **Funding: Up to $300,000 | LOI Deadline: July 30**

Society Of Family Planning | Documenting the Effectiveness, Safety, and Acceptability of Ulipristal Acetate and Misoprostol for Medication Abortion
This grant funds projects that evaluate the effectiveness, safety, and acceptability of UPA with misoprostol for medication abortion. The Society welcomes a range of study designs, including both interventional and observational approaches, and a range of settings where medication abortion is dispensed (i.e., telehealth, in-person clinic, and pharmacy). Proposals must be positioned to produce empirical evidence with a clear path to influencing clinical practice, public policy, and/or health services delivery. **Funding: Up to $150,000 | Application Deadline: June 22**

Foundation Fighting Blindness | Brint Family Translational Research Program
BFTRP accelerates preclinical translational research for inherited retinal degenerations (IRDs) and dry age-related macular degeneration (dAMD). The program supports the advancement of novel therapeutic and device-based approaches from lead optimization to preclinical and clinical development. Proposed projects should demonstrate a credible path toward clinical utility and patient outcomes. **Funding: Up to $1,000,000 | LOI Deadline: June 18**

Charles Pankow Foundation | Design and Construction Research Grants
CPF awards grants to research fostering innovative advances in the design and construction of buildings and facilities. The research products are intended to be of immediate and practical use within the industry. **Funding: $10,000 - $400,000 | LOI Deadline: Rolling**

Thrasher Research Fund | E.W. "Al" Thrasher Awards
E.W. "Al" Thrasher Awards support novel approach to problems plaguing pediatrics. The program funds applications focusing on any disease or topic within the umbrella of pediatrics, both in and outside the United States. Projects should be innovative and have the potential for broad applicability with low barriers to implementation. Proposals that focus on severe or high incidence diseases and research with a shorter distance to clinical applicability are given priority. **Funding: Up to $600,000 | LOI Deadline: July 14**

Harrington Discovery Institute | Harrington Scholar-Innovator
The Harrington Discovery Institute is seeking breakthrough discoveries defined by innovation, creativity, and potential for clinical impact, including: Discoveries deemed to address unmet medical needs; Modulators of novel targets; Small molecule, biologic, or other therapeutic modalities; Diagnostics and devices; Projects with potential to be developed into a commercial program; and Projects with strong intellectual property (IP) or protection strategy. **Funding: $100,000 | Application Deadline: June 22**

Coefficient Giving | Humane Fish Slaughter Research/Prototypes
Coefficient Giving is soliciting proposals for technologies and prototypes that materially improve the welfare of fish at capture and slaughter: rendering pre-death insensibility instantaneous, long-lasting (ideally permanent), verifiable, and scalable under the physical constraints of aquaculture and fisheries operations. The foundation is placing particular emphasis on solutions that are practical on fishing vessels with limited power and space available, work for small wild fish caught in large quantities, or are alternatives to or improvements upon existing electrical stunning technologies for farmed fish. Successful teams will likely be somewhat interdisciplinary, combining expertise in biology, electrical/mechanical engineering, aquaculture, and/or animal welfare science. **Funding: Varies | LOI Deadline: July 1**

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations |
Innovations to Prepare for Future Epidemics and Pandemics: Exploratory Award
CEPI is soliciting proposals for Focus Area 2 of its Innovations to Prepare for Future Epidemics and Pandemics program. Exploratory Awards will support the design and early-stage testing of new vaccine candidates for the foundation's priority pathogens and viral families. In-scope activities include immunogen design, candidate characterization studies, and immunogenicity studies. **Funding: Up to $1,000,000| Application Deadline: July 13**

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations |
Innovations to Prepare for Future Epidemics and Pandemics: Preclinical Development Award
CEPI is soliciting proposals for Focus Area 2 of its Innovations to Prepare for Future Epidemics and Pandemics program. Preclinical Development Awards will support preclinical efficacy studies, studies that support regulatory filing (e.g., IND-enabling studies), and CMC development related to analytical methods, process optimization, characterization, and scale-up, and/or formulation. **Funding: Up to $5,000,000 | Application Deadline: July 13**

Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations |
Innovations to Prepare for Future Epidemics and Pandemics: Preclinical Development Award
CEPI is soliciting proposals for Focus Area 2 of its Innovations to Prepare for Future Epidemics and Pandemics program. Clinical Development Awards will support clinical testing of a vaccine candidate. In-scope activities include conduct of Phase I through Phase III studies, production of clinical trial material, immunobridging studies, and CMC development related to analytical methods, process optimization, characterization, and scale-up, and/or formulation. **Funding: Varies | Application Deadline: July 13**

Internet Society Foundation | Common Good Cyber Fund
CGCF is funding proposals that address at least one of the following objectives: Maintenance of critical cybersecurity infrastructure, Delivery of scalable support to secure Internet users from digital harm, and Advancement of a safer Internet for vulnerable groups and high-risk communities, including civil society and journalists. This program will prioritize organizations capable of ecosystem building, especially those based in the global majority. For Objective 1 or 2 projects, CGCF will give priority to organizations who demonstrate a history of addressing issues of gender equity, including technology-facilitated gender-based violence. **Funding: $100,000 - $300,000| Application Deadline: August 4**

National MPS Society | Research Grants: Tier I
Tier I Research Grants support complex, multidisciplinary projects or unmet needs in Mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS) or Mucolipidosis (ML). Beyond the allocated grant. one competitive renewal of up to $200,000 is allowed. **Funding: Up to $200,000| LOI Deadline: August 7**

National MPS Society | Research Grants: Tier I
Tier I Research Grants support complex, multidisciplinary projects or unmet needs in Mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS) or Mucolipidosis (ML). Beyond the allocated grant. one competitive renewal of up to $200,000 is allowed. **Funding: Up to $200,000| LOI Deadline: August 7**

National MPS Society | Research Grants: Tier II
Tier II Research Grants support defined Mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS) or Mucolipidosis (ML) research such as drug repurposing, analysis of existing data, or expanding validated therapies to a new syndrome. Beyond the allocated grant. one competitive renewal of up to $100,000 is allowed. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | LOI Deadline: August 7**

National MPS Society | Research Grants: Tier III
Tier III Research Grants support smaller Mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS) or Mucolipidosis (ML) projects such as studies using existing data/biospecimens or clinical consensus initiatives (e.g., Delphi studies). **Funding: Up to $25,000 | LOI Deadline: August 7**

Corporate Opportunities

Cargill | Enhancing material recovery and water efficiency in industrial processes
Cargill is seeking industrial-scale equipment, process innovations, and digital tools to reduce yield loss and improve water efficiency during the chemical modification and multi-stage washing of corn and wheat starches. The initiative targets technologies capable of minimizing the formation of unrecoverable, partially degraded fine starch fractions, recovering dissolved solids from effluent streams to decrease chemical oxygen demand (COD), and optimizing counter-current hydrocyclone washing systems to enable partial water reuse. Solutions must be ready for industrial deployment within 3 to 24 months (TRL 5–9), and any recovered starches should ideally maintain compatibility for human food intake. Selected partners will receive between $50,000 and $300,000 in funding to support proof-of-concept trials within pilot or commercial production facilities, alongside opportunities for long-term co-development or direct technology licensing. **Funding: $50,000 - $300,000 | Application Deadline: June 26**

Procter & Gamble | Non-bleach whitening technologies for safe daily use
Procter & Gamble is seeking non-peroxide compounds, full formulations, or device-enabled delivery systems (such as light-based or ultrasonic devices) that provide highly visible teeth whitening with a daily-use safety profile. The initiative focuses on breakthrough materials science, optical technologies, or enamel-safe chemistries that can shift, remove, or optically mask discoloration without causing the tooth sensitivity or gum irritation associated with traditional bleach. Proposals must include validation against positive controls showing measurable change on the yellow-blue color axis, targeting a -Δb*>2 within 3 to 7 days, or -Δb*>1 within one day. Solutions requiring extensive regulatory approval cycles or lacking rigorous control data are out of scope. Selected proof-of-concept projects will receive up to $100,000 in sponsored research funding, a dedicated internal technical mentor, and access to P&G's global production feasibility and consumer testing divisions.. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | Application Deadline: June 26**

Procter & Gamble | Sustained oral care protection and repair of enamel and dentin
Procter & Gamble is seeking products, technologies, or individual active ingredients that deliver prolonged performance on tooth surfaces to enhance enamel and dentin repair beyond conventional fluoride systems. The campaign targets innovative delivery systems, protective barriers, or gel/film-based formats that improve active ingredient deposition, retention, and sustained release—specifically aiming for extended contact times such as overnight protection and sub-gingival reach. Proposals must include preliminary efficacy data demonstrating a measurable benefit against caries, erosion, or hypersensitivity compared to current standards of care, alongside credible safety validation (e.g., GRAS or food-grade status). Over-the-counter and device solutions are highly encouraged, whereas prescription-only (Rx) metrics or methods requiring extensive, long-term clinical trials are considered out of scope. Selected proof-of-concept projects will receive up to $100,000 in sponsored research funding, a dedicated bi-monthly corporate mentor, and access to P&G's internal clinical testing and consumer validation facilities. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | Application Deadline: June 26**

Private Company | In-situ removal of selenium in a groundwater plume
A leading global mining and materials company is seeking in-situ technologies and subsurface management approaches to reduce dissolved selenium (selenate and selenite species) in large, diffuse groundwater plumes. A strict, non-negotiable requirement is that the treatment must not inadvertently mobilize or resolubilize co-occurring arsenic due to changes in the local geochemistry. The company is exploring bioremediation/biostimulation (carbon injection), permeable reactive barriers (PRBs using zero-valent iron or biochar), in-situ chemical reduction, or novel reactive-media injections. Above-ground pump-and-treat methods or infrastructure requiring continuous energy feeds are entirely out of scope. In an extensive public disclosures loop, the company revealed the target site features three distinct plumes with a near-neutral pH (6 to 8), oxic to sulfidic redox zones, and deep vertical migration. Selected projects will receive up to $150,000 USD for an initial 12–18 month proof-of-concept study, with institutional indirect costs capped at 15% and potential follow-on funding for field-scale demonstrations. **Funding: Up to $150,000 | Application Deadline: June 26**

Private Company | Advanced sustained-release materials and technologies
This company is seeking novel coating and non-coating technologies to achieve sustained nutrient release from residential turf fertilizers while moving away from energy-intensive, solvent-dependent manufacturing methods. Traditional slow-release options are heavily constrained by high processing costs and persistent environmental footprints, prompting a shift toward alternative materials like UV-curable systems, biopolymer matrices, hydrogels, and biochar carriers. Open to academic researchers, startups, suppliers, consultants, and service providers (CROs/CMOs) with technologies sitting at a Technology Readiness Level between TRL 4 and TRL 9 (technologies more than approximately 5 years from potential market entry are excluded). Applicants must be able to provide physical coating or matrix samples for internal testing, possess an acceptable environmental safety profile aligning with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-3 and SDG-13), and deliver baseline performance data (such as nutrient release curves or Scanning Electron Microscopy imaging). Reproducible, industrial-grade synthesis routes are mandatory, meaning any processes relying on hazardous inputs or generating hazardous by-products are strictly out of scope. **Funding: Up to $50,000, inclusive of institutional indirect costs (capped at 10% for academic and nonprofit research institutes only) | Application Deadline: June 26**

NVIDIA | Academic Grant Program
NVIDIA's Academic Grant Program is seeking proposals from full-time faculty members at accredited academic institutions who are using NVIDIA technology to advance work in three interest areas: Simulation and Modeling, AI Training and Model Development, and AI Inference, Agents, and Systems Software. The call for proposals (CFPs) for each interest area outlines eligibility, available compute resources, and includes submission instructions with the required proposal template. Proposals must incorporate pre-trained models from the NVIDIA AI catalog (ai.nvidia.com) and/or utilize NVIDIA software distributions (e.g., CUDA-X, PhysicsNeMo, DGX platforms). PIs or research groups are limited to one proposal per quarter (maximum of four annually). Previous grant recipients must submit their research results through the program portal before becoming eligible for another award (capped at one award per calendar year). **Funding: Varies by CFP | Application Deadline: Application Deadline: June 30**

Procter & Gamble | Delivery technologies and actives for gum health and oral care
Procter & Gamble is seeking innovative products, individual ingredients, or delivery systems designed to improve the health, function, and appearance of oral soft tissues—specifically focusing on repairing, regenerating, or enhancing the gums. The campaign highlights a strong interest in novel actives that treat or prevent gingivitis (reducing bleeding, inflammation, and pain), reverse gum recession, and improve sub-gingival delivery of key therapeutic compounds like stannous fluoride and cetylpyridinium chloride. Additionally, technologies that increase the deposition, retention, and sustained release of flavors and sensates to enhance the user experience (e.g., providing long-lasting protection or "morning mouth" prevention) are highly sought after. Proposals must include in vitro, ex vivo, or clinical data validating efficacy and human safety (GRAS or food-grade status), alongside a clear pathway to US OTC monograph compliance. Prescription-only (Rx) approaches or transient solutions are considered out of scope. Selected proof-of-concept projects will receive up to $100,000 in sponsored research funding, a dedicated bi-monthly corporate mentor, and access to P&G's extensive clinical testing and manufacturing feasibility divisions. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | Application Deadline: July 10**

Procter & Gamble | Novel oral care solutions for interdental cleaning
Procter & Gamble is seeking safe, effective alternatives to traditional string flossing that can remove food debris and plaque from interdental spaces and along the gumline. The initiative focuses on solutions that eliminate or minimize reliance on traditional mechanical forces, instead leveraging advances in chemistry, fluid dynamics, or novel delivery systems (such as targeted enzymatic/active compounds, microbubble devices, or hybrid chemical rinses and gels). Proposed solutions must demonstrate the ability to dislodge debris and minimize plaque maturation without damaging teeth or gums, and must utilize well-characterized, biocompatible ingredients (e.g., GRAS or food-grade status) with a clear path to US FDA approval. Over-the-counter (OTC) or device-integrated methods are highly encouraged, while solutions requiring professional dental office administration or prescription-only status are considered out of scope. Selected proof-of-concept projects will receive up to $100,000 in sponsored research funding, a dedicated internal corporate mentor meeting bi-monthly, and access to P&G's global clinical and consumer testing divisions. **Funding: Up to $100,000 | Application Deadline: July 10**

Private Company | Low-temperature technologies for ultra-high-purity chemical recycling
An anonymous global leader in advanced semiconductor materials is seeking novel, energy-efficient recycling technologies to reclaim ultra-high-purity sulfuric acid used in semiconductor cleaning and surface preparation. Traditional recycling workflows struggle to maintain the extreme purity levels required by the industry due to limitations in removing microscopic organic, particulate, and metallic contaminants. Open globally to academic researchers, startups, materials suppliers, consultants, and specialized service providers (CROs/CMOs). The proposed solution must strictly operate at a process temperature below 100°C, achieve a target metal impurity concentration below 10 ppt (parts-per-trillion), and possess a Technology Readiness Level between TRL 3 and TRL 6. Standard spent acid combustion and any high-temperature distillation systems operating above 100°C are out of scope. **Funding: Proposal-dependent, typically $50,000 - $100,000 | Application Deadline: July 24**

Federal Opportunities

NASA | ROSES 2025: Astrophysics Research and Analysis
ROSES25: D.6 Astrophysics Research and Analysis supports basic research in astronomy and astrophysics aligned with NASA's missions, covering investigations across photons, gravitational waves, and particle astrophysics. **Funding: Varies | Application Deadline: June 25**

NIH | BRAIN Initiative: Data Archives for the BRAIN Initiative (R24 Clinical Trial Optional)
This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) solicits applications to develop web-accessible data archives to capture, store, and curate data related to the Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies® (BRAIN) Initiative activities. The data archives teams will work with the research community to incorporate software tools that allow users to analyze and visualize the data, and will use appropriate standards to describe the data, but an application with major focus on the creation of such software tools and data standards is not responsive to this NOFO. A goal of this program is to advance research by creating a data archive with appropriate standards and summary information that is broadly available and accessible to the research community for furthering research. **Funding: Varies | Application Deadline: June 24**

DOD | Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program Impact Award
The Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) Impact Award supports mature research that will have a near-term impact on clinical cancer care in one of the congressionally directed FY26 PRCRP Topic Areas. Applicants must consider how the research project will lead to the advancement of knowledge in cancer research, patient care and/or treatment options in the Military Health System (MHS). Distinctive Features:

- Applications must include preliminary data to support feasibility of the study.
- Projects must have strong potential to result in a near-term impact in cancer.
- The funding mechanism allows clinical trials.

This funding mechanism allows for a single Principal Investigator (PI), or two partnering PIs referred to as the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI. Only the Initiating PI will submit a pre-application, but both PIs will need to submit full applications. The Partnering PI's application is an abbreviated package specific to their distinct portion of the research project. Be advised, both applications for a research project may be withdrawn if the initiating or partnering application is rejected or administratively withdrawn. **Funding: Up to $2,000,000 | Pre-Proposal Deadline: June 26; Application Deadline: October 5**

DOD-ONR | Office of Naval Research (ONR) Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematic (STEM) Education and Workforce Program
This NOFO is for STEM education programs and activities, which is formal or informal education that is primarily focused on physical and natural sciences, technology, engineering, social sciences, and mathematics disciplines, topics, or issues (including environmental science education or stewardship). STEM education programs and activities that could be supported by this NOFO include one or more of the following as the primary objective:

- Develop learners' knowledge, skill, or interest in STEM.
- Attract students to pursue certifications, licenses, or degrees (two-year degrees through postdoctoral degrees) or careers in STEM fields.
- Provide growth and research opportunities for post-secondary, college and graduate students in STEM fields, such as working with researchers or conducting research that is primarily intended to further education.
- Improve mentor/educator (K-12 pre-service or in-service, post-secondary, and informal) quality in STEM areas.
- Improve or expand the capacity of institutions to promote or foster STEM fields.

This NOFO will not consider applications for research, with the exception of those whose primary purpose is intended to further education (as described in third bullet above) and that are not expected to generate intellectual property. Efforts for research, including those supporting STEM, should be submitted under the current fiscal year Long Range BAA. **Funding: Varies | Application Deadline: June 30**

NIST | Precision Measurement Grant Program
The PMGP was established in 1970 to support research in the field of fundamental measurement or the determination of fundamental constants, enabling the faculties at universities and colleges and laboratory researchers to conduct significant research in this area. By funding the research projects of eligible applicants through this program, NIST supports advances in fundamental measurement, the determination of fundamental constants, and fosters extramural collaboration with NIST scientists. The PMGP also is intended to make it possible for researchers to pursue new ideas for which other sources of support may be difficult to find. There is some latitude in research topics that will be considered under the PMGP. **Funding: Up to $150,000 | Application Deadline: June 22**

*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

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 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.

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 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 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.

This email was sent by the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations

OCFR works with faculty to develop proposals, navigate the proposal process, coordinate campus visits, research potential funders, and analyze data to inform strategy.

P.O. Box 1892 MS-84 | Houston, Texas 77251-1892 | 713-348-4376

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