



An introduction to research funding

**This is going to be a
“discussion.”**

**Please ask lots of
questions.**

A little bit about each funding source

What is a Program Manager?

“Unsolicited proposals”

Announcements of opportunity (aka “Solicitations”)

NSF -- pure, mostly



DOE --mission agency



NASA -- mission agency



NOAA -- mission agency



DoD -- mission agency



Private -- agenda



Budgets

(Cindy)

“Direct charges”

How much do things cost?

What kinds of things do you have to pay for?

Categories of stuff

“Justifications”

What kinds of things are you not allowed to pay for?

“Cost accounting standards”

What are "indirect costs?"

Cost-sharing

University paperwork and the Office of Sponsored Programs

Multi-institutional proposals

Subawards

Accounting and record-keeping

Grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements

A grant is an agreement to perform proposed research based on your ideas, with an expected outcome. The agency “throws the money over the wall.”

If your idea works as proposed, great. If you have to change strategy mid-stride, that's fine. If your results are nothing like you expected, that's okay too. If your idea fails altogether, that's okay.

Most funding to universities is the form of grants.

A contract is an acquisition (a procurement).

There is a deliverable. There is a buyer and there is a seller. Failure to deliver has specific penalties. Subawards are often made in the form of contracts.

A cooperative agreement is much like a grant, but with more agency involvement.

Compared to a grant, more things are direct-chargeable.

CMMAP and SciDAC are Cooperative Agreements.

Dos and Don'ts of proposal writing

(<http://www.englishforums.com/English/ProperApostrophesDontsAboutDonts/lzkx/post.htm>)

How is a proposal different from a paper?

Ideas

Selling your ideas

Structure of a proposal, with example

Submitting a proposal

(Cindy)

Letters of Intent

Pre-Proposals

Deadlines

**Mechanics of submission,
by agency**

**New proposals and
continuation proposals**

What happens after you submit the proposal?

Mail reviews and panel reviews

From the Reviewer's point of view

From the Reviewee's point of view

How long does it take to get the money?

Hiring

Categories

Students

Postdocs

Research staff

Administrative staff

Searches

Job description

Advertising

Search Committees

OEOD

Computing

In-house

Desktops and laptops

Clusters

Software

Supercomputer centers

Travel

Team meetings

Workshops

Conferences

Miscellaneous

International versus domestic

Proposals from labs versus proposals from universities

Labs may restrict which agencies you can propose to.

Does a proposal to NASA from a NASA lab have an inside track?

**Sometimes labs discourage proposal writing.
This is something you should ask about.**

What you can pay for is subject to lab rules as well as agency rules.

Lab bureaucracies are worse than university bureaucracies (but this may be changing).

Often labs have “taxes.”

Annual reports and final reports

A pain in theory, but not so bad in practice.

Can recycle text and figures from other sources.

Input from other people has to be chased down.

Late reports can hold up continuation funding or new funding.

What can go wrong?

Proposal disqualified right away

Not enough funding

Too much funding

No results

Management issues

Experience

Time

Audits