Proposal Development & Funding

Key Resources at VCU

Web: http://www.research.vcu.edu/research_development/index.htm

Get Prepared through Mentoring

School of Medicine mentoring resources: This webpage includes links to information about mentoring for faculty and students. http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/career_dev/mentoring

Academy of Mentors: The Academy of Mentors is a formal mentoring pool identified by the VCU Center for Clinical and Translational Research as faculty likely to provide exemplary mentoring in clinical and translational research. http://www.cctr.vcu.edu/education/mentors.html

Unit level mentoring opportunities: Review the mentoring programs and opportunities within your unit.

Find Funding Opportunities

Pivot: Pivot combines the most comprehensive database of funding opportunities worth an estimated $33 billion with a unique database of 3 million pre-populated scholar profiles. Users can search for a funding opportunity, instantly view matching faculty, and generate opportunities automatically based on their own profiles. http://library.vcu.edu/search/1145

Internal funding opportunities: Units across VCU support faculty research, scholarship, and service. http://www.research.vcu.edu/research_development/funding.htm

Limited Submissions: To prevent any potential disqualification of submissions, VCU requires that investigators notify the Office of Sponsored Programs if a limited submission is planned or there is an intention to apply for a limited program. Sign up to receive notifications of limited submissions at http://www.research.vcu.edu/osp/res-adm.htm.

Schedule a one-on-one grant search appointment: In addition to regular group training the Office of Research Development Services dedicates one day per month on each campus to meet with investigators in order to customize a grant search strategy based on their research interests. http://www.research.vcu.edu/research_development/assistance.htm

Access Proposal Development Resources

VCU Funded Proposal Library: The Funded Proposal Library provides investigators with examples of successfully funded research grants from VCU faculty. The library includes a broad range of research topics from various funding agencies. https://www.vcu.edu/research/protected/examples.htm

Proposal writing guides: Get advice from VCU and other sources on how to develop a successful grant proposal. See http://www.research.vcu.edu/osp/submissions.htm and http://www.research.vcu.edu/research_development/grant_proposal.htm

Foundation funding: Before contacting or submitting any proposal to a private sponsor, be sure to follow the guidelines established by the Corporate and Foundations Relations Office. http://www.research.vcu.edu/research_development/funding.htm
Learn Proposal Submission Procedures

Office of Sponsored Programs: The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) is VCU’s office authorized to submit research proposals and receive awards from all sources on behalf of the University. The Blue, Green, and Gold Teams are assigned by Department and work on Government and Non-Profit proposals and awards; the Red Team works on Industry-funded proposals and awards. http://www.research.vcu.edu/osp/index.htm

Submission paths: There are three main proposal routing “paths” (based on Submission Type) to initiate Office of Sponsored Programs review and submission. Familiarize yourself with the requirements of each path. http://www.research.vcu.edu/osp/submissions.htm

Forms: Be sure that you have signed, routed, and submitted the proper forms with your grant to OSP. http://www.research.vcu.edu/forms/index.htm#osp_forms

RAMS-SPOT: RAMS-SPOT is VCU’s electronic research administration database through which you can create funding proposals and route them for approval, submit documents for review, and manage your award. http://www.research.vcu.edu/osp/submissions.htm

Attend Training and Workshops

Training and Workshops: The VCU Office of Research and Innovation and the VCU Center for Clinical and Translational Research offer a variety of live educational workshops for faculty, staff, postdoctoral scholars and graduate students. These sessions provide assistance in finding funding, research development, proposal preparation, proposal submission, human participant and animal subjects research, post-award management, and responsible conduct of research. See the Office of Research and Innovation Calendar of Events: http://www.research.vcu.edu/events/index.htm

Mandatory Training: There are several mandatory training modules that investigators, research staff, and research administrators must complete before awards can be processed.

- Mandatory training programs in sponsored project compliance and effort certification have been developed to increase awareness and accountability and to reduce risk to the University. http://www.research.vcu.edu/osp/training.htm
- CITI training in either Biomedical or Social-Behavioral Research provides baseline entry and refreshers into human subjects research at VCU. http://www.research.vcu.edu/human_research/citi_requirements.htm
- Investigators and animal handlers at VCU are required to complete education and training modules before protocol submissions will be approved. https://www.vcu.edu/research/acup/training.htm

Receive Communications

Research Administrators: “RES-ADM” is a place to share information, ask questions about theory and/or practice, and to find out how others have solved the problem you are facing. Examples of postings include special program announcements, sponsor-issued changes, notices of and instructions for limited submissions funding opportunities, and training opportunities. http://www.research.vcu.edu/osp/res-adm.htm


Get to Know Research Support Staff

For more information about Research Resources available through the Office of Research and Innovation, contact Dr. John J. Ryan, Associate Vice President for Research Development (jryan@vcu.edu). Identify and contact your unit’s proposal development personnel to find out processes and resources: http://www.research.vcu.edu/research_development/getting_started.htm