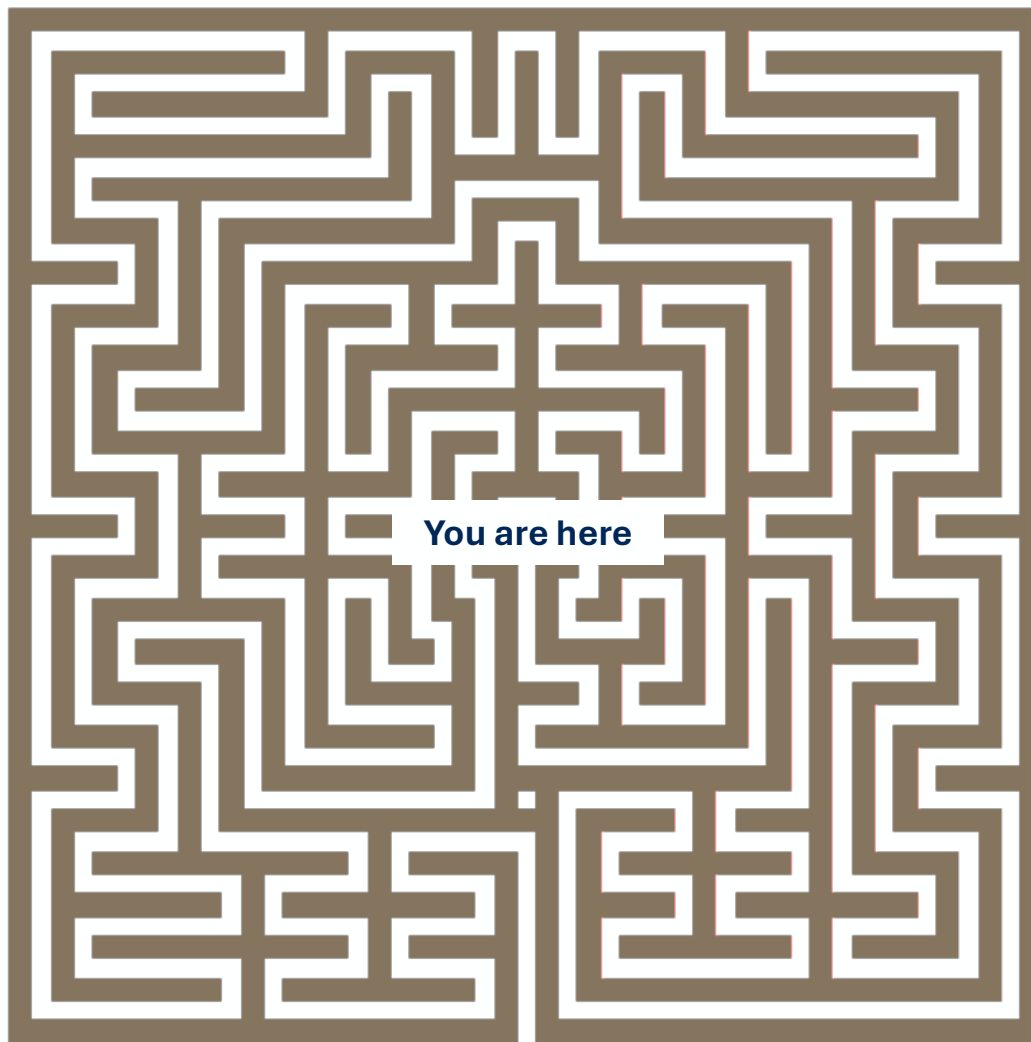
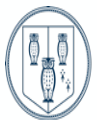


Applying for Grants and Fellowships as a Graduate Student





Where do you want your degree and your research and scholarship to take you?

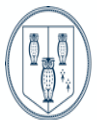


BRYN MAWR
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Step 1: An Idea

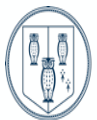
- Do you have an idea? Great! Now tell people about it! Discuss with your mentor, your colleagues, your friends, your smart cousin.
- Determine if you have a good idea versus a fundable ideas



Develop Your Idea

Develop terms that describe your project

- Keywords related to your topic, area of interest
- Outcomes
- Type of activity
- Location of activity
- Who is involved in the activity
- Necessary/obvious expenses
- Facility or equipment needed to support activity
- Scale of project
- Timeline



Start Early

- Allows time for feedback
- Allows time to ask questions
- Allows time to ask for help/collaborations/access to equipment/unique circumstances
- Allows time to conduct necessary research
 - Preliminary information
 - Funder (Mission, RFPs, Grant cycle)



Find Your Idea a Home



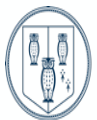
Step 2: Finding a Funder

- Identify the best fit funder and cause for your idea
- Review their mission, their advisors, their reviewers, their previously funded grants
- Do the funding levels and timelines match your needs?
- Do you have the niche experience necessary to fit with the funder?



Where to Look for Funding

- Talk to mentors/colleagues for suggestions – don't reinvent the wheel
- Check [Office of Sponsored Research](#) Resources
 - Monthly Newsletter
 - GrantForward
 - Complete a funding search [request form](#) for individualized help
- Private Funders and other organizations
- Sign up for newsletters
 - Professional organizations
 - Private funders
- Colleague's publications - acknowledgements



GrantForward

- Create a login using your @brynmawr.edu email address
- Update your profile to include keywords that are specific to your research interests and topic of study
- Use the filters to home in on the most appropriate opportunities
- Create weekly recommendation lists emailed directly to your inbox

The screenshot shows the GrantForward search engine interface. The browser address bar displays "grantforward.com/search". The website header includes the "BRYN MAWR COLLEGE" logo and the text "GrantForward Service for Bryn...". The navigation menu contains links for Home, Pre-solicitations, Grants, Awards, Sponsors, Researchers, Administrator Console, Supports, and How-to. Below the navigation menu, there are links for Search Grant Opportunities, Saved Searches, Recommendations, Grant Lists, History, Shared, and Internal Submission. The main content area is titled "Grant Search". It features a search bar with the text "Art History" and a button for "Advanced Keyword Search". Below the search bar, there are buttons for "Search" and "Reset To Default". To the left of the search bar, there is a section for "All of the Keywords/Phrases" with a "Go to" dropdown menu. Below this, there are filters for "Sponsors" and "Categories". To the right of the search bar, there is a section for "Found 33940 results in 1.26 seconds." with a "Sort by" dropdown menu set to "Relevance", an "Export" button, and a "Save/Load" button. Below the search results, there is a list of filters: "Amount", "Sponsor Types", and "Grant Types". The "Grant Types" filter is expanded, showing a list of options: Fellowship / Scholarship / Dissertation, Internship / Work-study, Research Project, Training / Course, Travel, Workshop / Conference, Post-doctoral (highlighted in red), Collaboration / Cooperative Agreement, and Equipment / Facility.

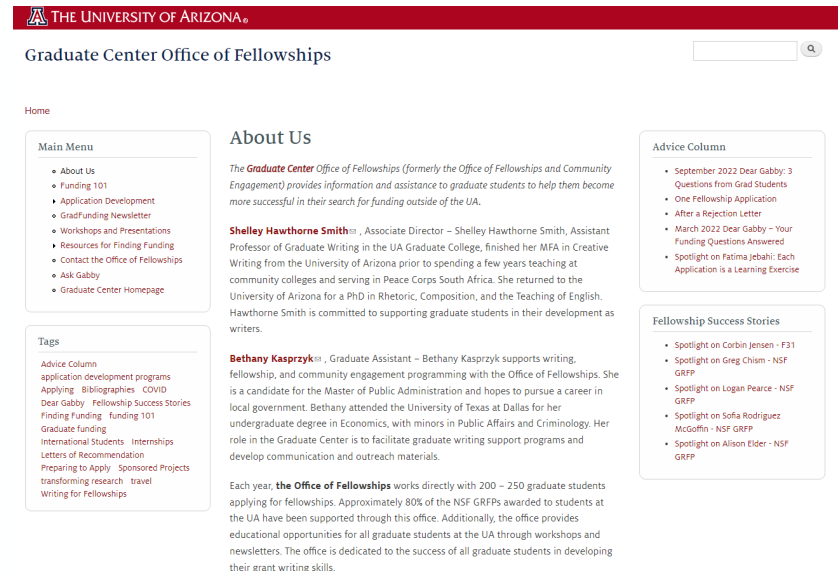
Other Places to Search

University of Chicago Fellowship Database

- <https://grad.uchicago.edu/fellowships/>

University of Arizona – Graduate Center Office for Fellowships

- <https://gradcenter.arizona.edu/gcof/welcome>



The screenshot shows the homepage of the University of Arizona Graduate Center Office of Fellowships. The header features the University of Arizona logo and name. Below the header, the page is divided into several sections:

- Main Menu:** A list of links including About Us, Funding 101, Application Development, GradFunding Newsletter, Workshops and Presentations, Resources for Finding Funding, Contact the Office of Fellowships, Ask Gabby, and Graduate Center Homepage.
- About Us:** A section titled "The Graduate Center Office of Fellowships (formerly the Office of Fellowships and Community Engagement) provides information and assistance to graduate students to help them become more successful in their search for funding outside of the UA." It also features a bio for Shelley Hawthorne Smith, Associate Director.
- Advice Column:** A section titled "Advice Column" with a list of links including September 2022 Dear Gabby: 3 Questions from Grad Students, One Fellowship Application, After a Rejection Letter, March 2022 Dear Gabby - Your Funding Questions Answered, and Spotlight on Fatima Jebahi: Each Application is a Learning Exercise.
- Fellowship Success Stories:** A section titled "Fellowship Success Stories" with a list of links including Spotlight on Corbin Jensen - F31, Spotlight on Greg Chism - NSF GRFP, Spotlight on Logan Pearce - NSF GRFP, Spotlight on Sofia Rodriguez McGoffin - NSF GRFP, and Spotlight on Alison Elder - NSF GRFP.

[Home](#) > [RFPs](#)

RFPs

Philanthropy News Digest publishes Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and notices of awards as a free service for U.S.-based nonprofit and grantmaking organizations.

To have your RFP considered for publication, please email pndrfp@candid.org with a Word document, text-only file, or link to a Web site explaining the program scope, grantee qualifications, application instructions, and deadlines. We require notice of funding opportunities four weeks in advance of their deadline.

New RFPs

Arts / Culture

Alaska Wilderness League invites applications for inaugural Adam Kolton Alaska Storytelling Grant Award

Posted: September 29, 2022

The grant is a merit-based, unrestricted award of \$20,000 to be awarded to a practicing professional storyteller of exceptional talent and ability who has experience living in Alaska and tells a uniquely Alaskan story....

Deadline:
October 19, 2022

 **Get RFP alerts**

 **Submit an RFP**

Search RFPs

Subject

All

Keyword

Search RFPs

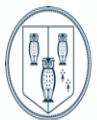
Advertisement

Candid.



Common Student Opportunities and Fellowships

- American Association of University Women Fellowships
- Smithsonian
- Specific member associations
- Fulbright
- Metropolitan Museum of Art
- ACLS and Luce
- American School of Classical Studies at Athens
- Kress Institutional Fellowships: History of Art
- Dedalus Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
- Lemmermann Foundation
- Center for Advanced Study of Visual Arts (National Gallery of Art)



Funder Specifics

- Samuel H. Kress Foundation
 - US citizen or individuals matriculated at an American university; Visas for overseas study during the fellowship will need to be secured by the awardee
 - ABD by time fellowship begins
 - Must be nominated by your academic department chair; each institution is only allowed 2 nominees per department and the nominees must be applying for different research centers
 - Language proficiency list (Speaking, Reading, and Writing in relevant languages)



Funder Specifics

- The Met Fellowship Program
 - Available to US and non-US citizens; all non-US citizens need to have work authorization (visa)
 - Can only apply to one opportunity per application cycle
 - Can be at any stage of the dissertation
 - Offers weekly programs for fellows to connect with colleagues in field
 - Opportunities to travel while being based in New York
 - Extensive collection and vast library for research
 - FAQ section is very helpful



Grant Writing Advice



brynmawr.edu

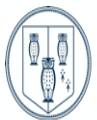
The main objective of grant writing is to show
the reviewers

WHAT it is you want to do and
WHY it is important to the field

Everything else should support this

Grant Writing in a Nutshell

- Find your fundable idea a home
- Prove that the work **SHOULD** be done
- Prove that the work **CAN** be done
- Start early
- Have others read what you write
 - Someone in the field AND outside of it
- If the proposal isn't ready, don't submit



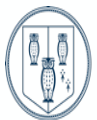
Ask Yourself: So What?!

- Your idea may be interesting to you, but is it interesting to anyone else?
- Why does your idea matter?
- Should there be an answer to your question? Is there a gap?
- Can you find a funder to help you answer the question?
 - Consider political landscape and where you can/should apply

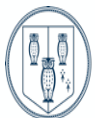


Gap of Knowledge and Future Impact

- Your proposal needs to show that you are **CONTRIBUTING** something to the field
- What are the next steps of your project and how will this build upon the gaps
- Has this already been done?

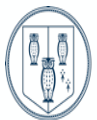


Clearly Show Your Vision



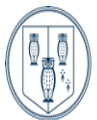
Prove You Know Your Stuff

- Strong understanding of background and current literature
 - Show that you have experience and resources
- Proposed idea expands on existing research
 - Your idea is clearly supported by your literature review
- Mentors
 - The right guidance is necessary for new researchers or those entering a new field



Miscues and Missteps

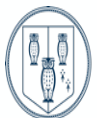
- Lack of significance
 - Why is this important?
 - How will it push the field forward?
 - What is the potential long-term impact?
- Poorly defined project or strategy
 - Lack of original ideas
- Do you have the expertise to propose the topic?
 - Show you understand and can address knowledge gaps
- Do you know what your funder considers innovative?
- Adapt to fit the needs of the funder
 - You can't fit a square peg in a round hole



Writing the Proposal – Style Tips

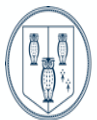
- Prose should be crisp, clear, and direct. Avoid long, winding prose
- Grab the readers' attention quickly
 - Reviewers appreciate brevity if/when sufficient detail is provided
 - Use flow charts to outline strategies, if possible
- Avoid long sentences and overuse of perfect tenses
- Avoid jargon – have an outsider read your proposal
- Break up the text on pages with pictures
- Avoid vagueness
- Use examples of previously funded work

Let your enthusiasm show!



Office of Sponsored Research

- Follow funding alerts
- Budget development and assistance
- RFP and proposal review
- Browse previously funded proposals
- Attend grad- and field-specific trainings/events
 - Watch the Daily Digest and OSR emails for more info
 - <https://www.brynmawr.edu/inside/academic-information/research/sponsored-research-office>



Contact

Abby Gilman agilman@brynmawr.edu

Billie Jo Ember bember@brynmawr.edu

Sarah Robertson serobertso@brynmawr.edu

For general questions: Grants@brynmawr.edu



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Grant Peer Review Process

Reviewer Selection

- Expertise recruited
- May have standing committees

Submission

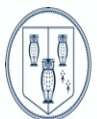
- Admin Review
- Further expertise recruited, if needed
- Assignments; conflicts of interest managed

Review Period

- Reviewing done independently and anonymously
- Comments/Scores submitted
- Funder determines discussion order

Review Meeting

- Reviewers meet to discuss comments
- Rank order primary deliverable
- ~3 months after submission



Grant Writing Overview

Once done, what is accomplished?

- Big picture thinking
- Future publications or plans mapped out
- Identified new information or plans needed
- Collaborations built
- Project management

Every application should have other uses



Grant Writing Essence

You must communicate your excitement

- If you are not excited or view grant writing as a chore, your reviewers will know.
- You are talking about your favorite thing!

Grants supply you with resources to make your dreams come true!

- Both supplies, travel, and CV building!

It's a tool

- Organize your thoughts and plans

