Tips for Using Grants.gov Effectively

First we cover some simple techniques that Research Services have found helpful in finding opportunities effectively without losing results through restrictive searches and then summarise how to read the information available about the opportunity.

Finding a funding opportunity

From the main page, select Find Grant Opportunities then Advanced Search
Limiting the search by keyword, eligibility, agency or funding instrument type can produce unexpected results, often omitting opportunities which may be of interest. We recommend the search be kept unrestricted except by the Dates to Search option and that the search is performed regularly to limit the number of results to be scanned.

*Dates to Search* refers to the opportunity announcement date.
The resulting list will include opportunities across the spectrum of US federal funding from research to road transport programs to conservation programs.

Filtering is best done by eye, scanning the Agency and Title for those likely to be of interest in the field and for which Oxford might be eligible.
Selecting an NIH opportunity will produce a summary of the call. This summary is often not particularly detailed, except for the indicator on eligibility. Under **Additional Information on Eligibility** will be the phrase “Non-domestic (non-US) Entities (Foreign Institutions) are/[are not] eligible to apply.”

For more detailed information click the **Link to Full Announcement**.
The Full Announcement is usually in a standard format.

For the call shown:-

- There are three participating sub-agencies: NIAID, NCI and NIMH. Normally an application will be relevant to only one of these. Contact details for Programme Officers for each sub-agency are given at the end of the page (not shown) and applicants should contact the Programme Officer relevant to their application prior to submission.

- Deadlines are found by following the link to Standard dates and looking up the deadlines corresponding to the Activity code, in this case R01 or the separate AIDS deadline as appropriate. For a call specifying Standard dates an application may be submitted at any of the three “Cycle” deadlines in the year.

- The call expires on 8th January 2015 so the last possible submission date is the Cycle III AIDS deadline on 7th January 2015.
Many calls will have little information on the maximum level of funding that can be requested. In general, an application to an R01 call may request up to $500k in direct costs per year. Funding above this level may be requested but only with the prior permission of the relevant NIH Programme Officer.
Information on eligibility for Oxford can be found in the *Foreign Institutions* section.

### Section III. Eligibility Information

1. **Eligible Applicants**

   **Eligible Organizations**

   Higher Education Institutions
   - Public (State-Controlled Institutions of Higher Education)
   - Private Institutions of Higher Education

   The following types of Higher Education Institutions are always encouraged to apply for NIH support: Public or Private Institutions of Higher Education:
   - Hispanic-serving Institutions
   - Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
   - Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs)
   - Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions

   Nongovernmental Organizations Other Than Institutions of Higher Education
   - Nongovernmental non-profit organizations (other than Institutions of Higher Education)

   For-Profit Organizations
   - Small Businesses
   - For-Profit Organizations (Other than Small Businesses)

   Governments
   - State Governments
   - County Governments
   - City or Township Governments
   - Special District Governments
   - Indian/tribal American Tribal Governments (Federally Recognized)
   - Indian/tribal American Tribal Governments (Other than Federally Recognized)
   - Eligible Agencies of the Federal Government
   - U.S. Territory or Possession

   Other
   - Independent School Districts
   - Public Housing Authorities
   - Native American Tribal Governments (Federally Recognized or Federally-recognized tribal governments)
   - Faith-based or Charitable Organizations
   - Regional Organizations

   **Foreign Institutions**

   Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions) are eligible to apply.
   Non-domestic (non-U.S.) components of U.S. Organizations are eligible to apply.
Interpreting DoD Opportunities

From the call summary screen select the middle tab, Full Announcement, to access details of the call. Occasionally you will instead need to follow a link to the DoD sub-agency page from the summary screen as for NIH opportunities.
Page 3 of each full announcement gives an overview of the call including deadlines, anticipated award level, award type, and contact details.

Part I: Overview Information

- Federal Agency Name – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), Microsystems Technology Office (MTO)
- Funding Opportunity Title – Chip-Scale Combinatorial Atomic Navigator (C-SCAN)
- Announcement Type – Initial Broad Agency Announcement
- Funding Opportunity Number – DARPA-BAA-12-44
- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA) – 12.910 Research and Technology Development
- Dates:
  - Posting Date: April 16, 2012
  - Proposal Abstract Due Date: May 16, 2012
  - Proposal Due Date: July 10, 2012
- Concise description of the funding opportunity: DARPA is soliciting innovative research proposals in the area of co-integration of inertial sensors with dissimilar physics of operation in a single micro-scale inertial measurement unit (IMU). In this context, the program seeks to address challenges associated with the long-term drift, dynamic range, and start-up time of chip-scale components for positioning, targeting, navigation, and guidance tasks. Specific interest is in the development of a Chip-Scale Combinatorial Atomic Navigator (C-SCAN) that combines inertial sensors with dissimilar, but complimentary, physics of operation into a single microsystem. The main objectives of the C-SCAN program are to (1) explore the miniaturization and co-fabrication of atomic sensors with high-performance solid-state inertial sensors, and (2) develop combinatorial algorithm and architectures that seamlessly co-integrate components with dissimilar physics in a single ensemble. The deliverables of this program is a miniature IMU that co-integrates atomic and solid-state inertial sensors in a single microsystem with a volume of no more than 30 cubic centimeters (30 cc) and power consumption of no more than 1 Watt (1 W). The performance of C-SCAN is expected to be above and beyond what is currently available, combining a high resolution of motion detection ($10^{-4}$ degree/hour for rotation and $10^{-6}$ g for linear acceleration), exceptional long-term bias and scale-factor stability ($1$ ppm with respect to the full-scale of operation), and start-up time performance orders of magnitude better than available today (less than 10 seconds from a cold start).
- Anticipated individual awards – Multiple awards are anticipated.
- Types of instruments that may be awarded – Procurement contract, grant, cooperative agreement or other transaction.
- Agency contact
  - Dr. Aalder Stelzer, Program Manager
  - DARPA MTO
  - The BAA Coordinator for this effort can be reached by electronic mail: DARPA-BAA-12-44@darpa.mil
Eligibility can be opaque. The text shown here is standard and usually indicates that Oxford is eligible to apply. Nonetheless applicants should confirm with the relevant Programme Officer and ensure that no Export Control regulations are applicable which would prevent UK participation.