

The following is a list of available funding sources in the US for educational research. Hyperlinks are provided for easy access to more detailed information. The reader should access the individual funding agency websites, as the information provided here may become outdated over time. Special reference is made to search engines for research funding in medicine.

Online Search Engines for Grant Funding (none specific to medical education)

Community of Science (COS) - www.cos.com

This is the most comprehensive source of funding information available on the Web, with more than 23,000 records representing 400,000+ funding opportunities totaling more than \$33 billion dollars.

Grants.gov - www.grants.gov

Grants.gov is the distinct access point for 900+ grant programs offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies.

GrantsNet – www.hhs.gov/grantsnet

This Web-based application tool offers information on 300 Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and other federal grant programs.

The Foundation Center – <http://foundationcenter.org/>

The Foundation Center seeks to spread knowledge about US philanthropy. The center conducts and facilitates research on developments in the field and maintains a database on more than 2.3 million grants and more than 75,000 currently active grant makers.

ResearchResearch - www.researchresearch.com

This site provides news and information for the international research community. It offers comprehensive news coverage of research policy and politics and detailed listings of funding opportunities and sponsors across all disciplines.

Funding Sources Specific to Surgical Education

A few surgical societies offer grants that can be used for educational research projects.

CESERT grant

The best example is the Center for Excellence in Surgical Education, Research and Training (CESERT) grant offered by the Association for Surgical Education Foundation. These grants aim to distribute funds that support groundbreaking research and education projects and programs, which will advance surgical education in North America. Association for Surgical Education members are given funding precedence, but non ASE members can also apply in collaboration with an ASE member.

Funding priorities include Innovations in Surgical Education that Improve Patient Care Research, Innovations in Performance Evaluation and Assessment, Innovations in Medical Student Programs, Innovations in Resident and Faculty Development, and Innovations in Educational Administration. The level of funding is currently up to \$25,000 for the duration of the project. Submission deadline is June 1.

Detailed information can be obtained at:
www.surgicaleducation.com/cesert-grants

SAGES research grants and Career Development Awards

Another society that regularly awards grants for education research is the Society of American Gastrointestinal and Endoscopic Surgeons (SAGES). The funding level is up to \$30,000. These grants focus on motivating original research in gastrointestinal and endoscopic surgery. In general, the topics chosen for funding are based on a research agenda that was developed by the SAGES membership. The deadline for grant submission is in November. SAGES also offers a career development award in the amount of \$60,000 that could be applied to continued education in educational research methods.

Detailed information can be obtained at:
sages.org/leadership/committees/research/grants.php

Other educational research funding sources

AERA Grants Program

The American Educational Research Association (AERA) with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) awards grants of \$20,000 to \$35,000 to education researchers whose projects are quantitative in nature; include the analysis of existing data from NCES, NSF or other federal agencies; and have US education policy significance. The program also offers training to researchers through its annual training institutes. There are three funding cycles.

Detailed information can be obtained at:
www.aera.net/ProfessionalOpportunitiesFunding/FundingOpportunities/AERAGrantsProgram/ResearchGrants/tabid/12813/Default.aspx

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) supports an extensive program of health services research and works with partners to promote improvements in clinical and health systems practices that benefit patients. Besides simulation, other education research requests explicit to areas of interest to the agency may be issued. A

list of previously funded projects is available on the AHRQ website via a searchable database that is named GOLD (Grants On-Line Database).

Detailed information can be obtained at:

www.ahrq.gov/fund

Stemmler Medical Education Research Fund

This fund is offered by the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) and supports research or development of innovative assessment approaches that enhance the evaluation of persons preparing to or continuing to practice medicine. Funding is made available to both pilot and more comprehensive projects. Requests for up to \$150,000 for a project period of up to two years are considered. Submission deadline is typically in May for letters of intent and July for full proposals if requested.

Detailed information can be obtained at:

www.nbme.org/research/stemmler.html

Philip Manning Research Grant in Continuing Medical Education

The Research Endowment Council of the Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education (SACME) sponsors original research studies related to physician life-long learning and physician change. Submitted proposals must use either quantitative or qualitative methods in an arduous scientific design. One award of up to \$50,000 is made every two years for proposals lasting two years. Primarily a letter of intent must be submitted and be accompanied by a letter of support from the director of the CME program at a SACME member's organization.

Detailed information can be obtained at:

www.sacme.org/SACME_grants

Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education

The Institute of Education Sciences of the US Department of Education offers funding opportunities for education research that contributes to improved academic achievement for all students, and particularly for minorities. The institute supports a series of specific research programs and also accepts unsolicited research applications. A little more interesting and relevant to medical education may be the annual competition for the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) grant that is designed to support inventive reform projects that hold promise as models for the resolution of important issues and problems in postsecondary education. These grants may be in support of any academic discipline, program or student support service.

Detailed information can be obtained at:

www.ed.gov/programs/fipsecomp/index.html

Southern Group on Educational Affairs

The Southern Group on Educational Affairs (SGEA) of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) supports and encourages scholarship in medical education by sponsoring small educational research projects. The SGEA provides up to two \$3,000 research grants per year, to be used to produce new opportunities for its members to initiate research projects. Submission deadline is typically in July.

Detailed information can be obtained at:

www.aamc.org/members/gea/regions/sgea/awards/66884/sgea_research.html

AACOM Medical Education Mini-research Grants

The American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) supports small medical education research grants. Applicants must be educators at Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, including their OPTI programs. Research proposals are supported to the maximum amount of \$10,000 for one year, and the submission deadline is in early January.

Detailed information can be obtained at:

www.aacom.org/InfoFor/educators/Pages/aacomgrants.aspx

Other Potential Funding Sources

National Institute of Health - <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/index.html>

Although the NIH does not have an identified funding category for education research, appropriate projects may be funded if they fall under any of its supported research programs. One example that targets mainly K-12 education is the NIH NCRR Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) (R25):

grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-206.html

Health Resources & Services Administration - <http://www.hrsa.gov/grants/default.htm>

The Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) of the Department of Health & Human Services offers funding for health professions education and training programs. The agency makes funds accessible to support area health education centers.

National Science Foundation – www.nsf.gov/dir/index.jsp?org=ehr

The National Science Foundation (NSF) accounts for about 20 percent of federal support for basic research conducted by America's colleges and universities.

The Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation - www.josiahmacyfoundation.org

The Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation supports programs designed to improve the education of health professionals in the interest of the health of the public and to enrich the representation of minorities in the health profession. Funding priorities include:

(1) Projects to improve medical and health professional education in the context of the changing healthcare system, (2) Projects that will increase diversity among healthcare

professionals, (3) Projects that demonstrate or encourage ways to increase teamwork among healthcare professionals, and (4) Educational strategies to increase care for underserved populations. The foundation requires a three-page preliminary letter of inquiry that includes a description of the project, the names and qualifications of the responsible individuals, and an initial budget before submission of a full proposal. There is no specified deadline for proposal submission.

W. K. Kellogg Foundation - www.wkkf.org

The mission of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation is to create communities, systems and nations in which all children have an unbiased and promising future and can thrive. The foundation provides grants to tax exempt organizations but not to individuals.

Other funding agencies that might support educational research projects include:

Rockefeller Foundation - www.rockfound.org/grants/grants.shtml

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation - www.rwjf.org/grants

Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation - www.kff.org

PEW Charitable Trust - www.pewtrusts.org/program_investments.aspx

Arnold P. Gold Foundation - humanism-in-medicine.org/index.php/programs_grants

Arthur Vining Davis Foundation - www.avdf.org/FoundationsPrograms/HealthCare.aspx

George Washington Institute for Spirituality & Health (Gwish) -

www.gwumc.edu/gwish/awards/index.cfm

Industry sponsored grants

Some industry partners may also provide grant funding for education research-related projects. Several examples include the AstraZeneca, Genentech and Pfizer medical education grants, which sponsor projects related to patient education and also projects that examine the effectiveness of such educational efforts.

Detailed information can be obtained at:

www.astrazenecagrants.com/

www.gene.com/gene/imed/areas-interest.html

www.pfizer.com/responsibility/grants_contributions/medical_education_grants.jsp

Reading List

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