

Finding Funding Opportunities

What is a Funding Opportunity?

A funding opportunity, in basic terms, is when an institution or an organization says, “we want to give money to someone somewhere to do research”. An agency awarding funds has the right to name any number of stipulations regarding said funds, such as: “the research conducted must study renal failure” or “no more than \$500,000 in total direct costs will be allowed.”

In the same vein, a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is a publicly available document by which an agency officially makes known its intentions to award discretionary grants or cooperative agreements. Funding opportunity announcements may be known as program announcements, requests for applications, notices of funding availability, solicitations, or other names depending on the agency and type of program.

How to Find an FOA

There are multiple avenues for locating an FOA – this document will highlight two of the more common ways.

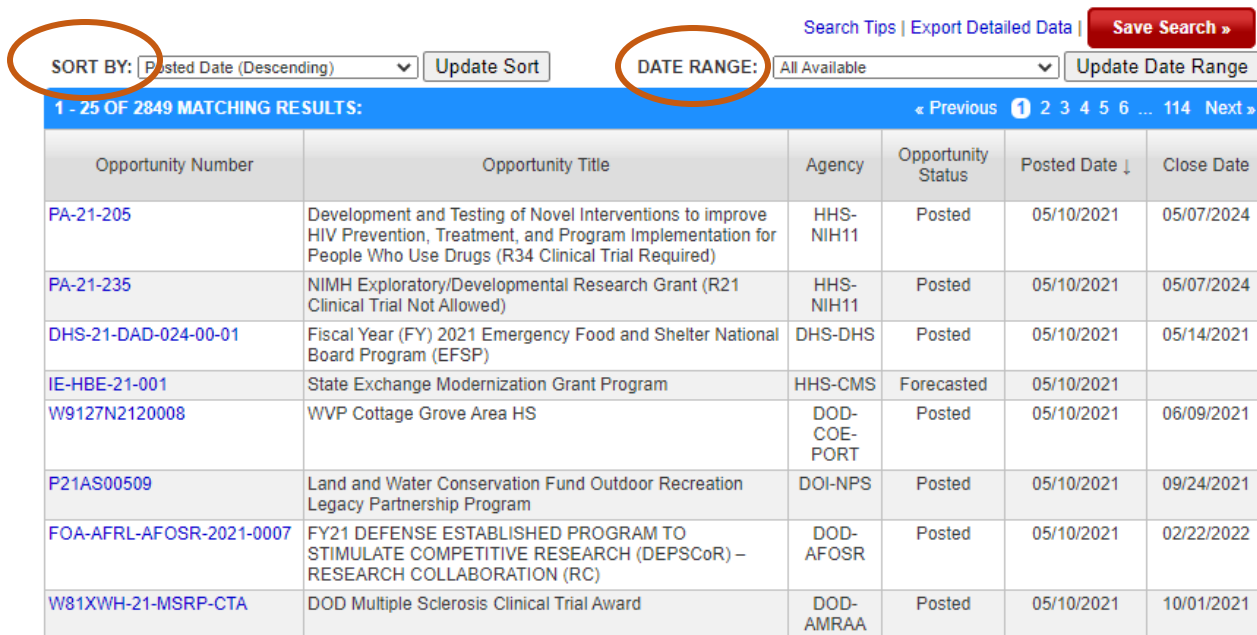
Grants.gov

- 1) Go to <https://www.grants.gov/> and click on Search Grants.



Figure 1: Grants.gov homepage

- 2) From this page you will see a list of current funding opportunity announcements. The default setting for the list is most recent posted FOA – oldest, but this can be changed using the SORT BY drop-down menu. You can also modify the list by posting date using the DATE RANGE drop-down menu.

The image shows a screenshot of the Grants.gov search results page. At the top right, there are links for "Search Tips", "Export Detailed Data", and a "Save Search" button. Below these are two dropdown menus: "SORT BY:" with "Posted Date (Descending)" selected, and "DATE RANGE:" with "All Available" selected. Both dropdown menus are circled in orange. Below the filters, there is a table with 6 columns: "Opportunity Number", "Opportunity Title", "Agency", "Opportunity Status", "Posted Date", and "Close Date". The table contains 7 rows of data, with the first row being "PA-21-205".

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date	Close Date
PA-21-205	Development and Testing of Novel Interventions to improve HIV Prevention, Treatment, and Program Implementation for People Who Use Drugs (R34 Clinical Trial Required)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	05/10/2021	05/07/2024
PA-21-235	NIMH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)	HHS-NIH11	Posted	05/10/2021	05/07/2024
DHS-21-DAD-024-00-01	Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program (EFSP)	DHS-DHS	Posted	05/10/2021	05/14/2021
IE-HBE-21-001	State Exchange Modernization Grant Program	HHS-CMS	Forecasted	05/10/2021	
W9127N2120008	WVP Cottage Grove Area HS	DOD-COE-PORT	Posted	05/10/2021	06/09/2021
P21AS00509	Land and Water Conservation Fund Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program	DOI-NPS	Posted	05/10/2021	09/24/2021
FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0007	FY21 DEFENSE ESTABLISHED PROGRAM TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE RESEARCH (DEPSCoR) – RESEARCH COLLABORATION (RC)	DOD-AFOSR	Posted	05/10/2021	02/22/2022
W81XWH-21-MSRP-CTA	DOD Multiple Sclerosis Clinical Trial Award	DOD-AMRAA	Posted	05/10/2021	10/01/2021

Figure 2: Default FOA listing

- 3) If you would like to narrow your results even further, the left-hand side of the screen has a variety of options for filtering available grants.

BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:
 Keyword(s):
 Opportunity Number:
 CFDA:
 SEARCH

If you have a specific keyword in mind, or you know the CFDA or opportunity number of the FOA you are looking for, enter it here.

OPPORTUNITY STATUS:
 Forecasted (275)
 Posted (2,576)
 Closed (3,934)
 Archived (57,190)

Forecasted and Posted statuses are highlighted by default. If you would like to see Closed or Archived opportunities, click the appropriate box.

Figure 3: FOA search filters

You can also limit results by selecting options from the FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE, ELEGIBILITY, CATEGORY (subject/topic), and AGENCY menus. (Note: to see only those opportunities for which HHRI is qualified, choose “Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education” from the ELEGIBILITY menu.)

- 4) Click on a listing’s funding opportunity number to see more specific information. Use the four tabs to navigate the details of that particular FOA.

VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY

RFA-NS-21-024
 BRAIN Initiative: Clinical Studies to Advance Next-Generation Invasive Devices for Recording and Modulation in the Human Central Nervous System (UH3 Clinical Trial Optional)
 Department of Health and Human Services
 National Institutes of Health

SYNOPSIS | VERSION HISTORY | RELATED DOCUMENTS | PACKAGE

Figure 4: FOA details page

- Synopsis – includes information on FOA significant dates, who can apply, funding caps, and which agency posted it. An additional information section typically provides a brief description of the opportunity, as well as a link to the original posting on the agency’s website. This link is typically where things such as application page limits can be found.
- Version History – shows details of any past versions of the opportunity, if the agency has made changes since originally posting the FOA.
- Related Documents – includes any extra clarifying documents that have been uploaded for viewing.
- Package – allows users to either preview the application package (required and optional forms for download) or apply for the opportunity (note: you will need to sign in or create an account to exercise this option).

NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices Bulletin

Weekly NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices

NIH publishes an email bulletin every Friday to communicate any new notices, application requests, and program announcements it may have. You can either visit their website each week or click on [this link](#) to see instructions for subscribing to the listserv and getting it emailed to you.

Other Resources for FOAs

[NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices](#)

[U.S. Department of Defense](#)

[U.S. Department of Education](#)

[U.S. Department of Justice](#)

Research and Pharmaceutical Companies

Next Steps

Once you've found a federal or industry FOA you'd like to pursue, immediately contact your grant administrator and let them know you'd like to apply.

Questions on who your grant administrator is? Check the Grant Administrator Assignments page on the HHRI website [here](#). If you do have any other questions feel free to email us at researchinquiry@hhrinstitute.org.