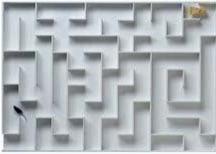




**What OSPR (really) does:** 

 <b>Navigate</b>	<p>FARS • A-133 • SF424 • AOR • F&amp;A • PAR • IDC • ORCA • SFI • COI • T&amp;E • IRB • IBC • FWA • OHRP • IP • DUNS • FFATA • JIT • OLAW • OMB • OMG</p> <b>Translate</b>
 <b>Troubleshoot</b>	<p><i>Community Chest</i> GET OUT OF JAIL FREE  <small>THIS CARD MAY BE KEPT UNTIL NEEDED, OR SOLD</small></p> <b>Keep you out of jail</b>

Source: Sherie Donahue, Loma Linda University. "Pre-Award Services." Power Point, Oct. 2012.

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## What OSPR (really) does



- Help faculty identify funding opportunities
- Help interpret sponsor guidelines
- Assist with proposal and budget development
- Review applications for consistency with sponsor and MSU requirements
- Submit completed proposals
- Work with the University Research Committee to make Intramural Grants



> Funding Opportunities



> Intramural Awards

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## What OSPR doesn't do:



- Write proposals
- Review proposal content
- Seek quotes from vendors
- Upload proposals for submission
- Manage funded grants



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## Developing a “fundable” idea



- Locating the right funding opportunity requires you to start with a clear and focused idea. Ask yourself the following questions:
  - What do you want to do?
  - Why do you want to do it?
  - Who cares about “it” or its outcomes?
  - How much money do you need and what do you need it for (e.g. personnel: faculty, students; travel; materials or supplies; equipment)?
  - Is there anything unique about you or your project?

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## Tips



- A proposal with a strong chance at getting funded starts with an idea or project that has the following attributes:
  - A clear plan
    - Know what you want to accomplish and what steps you will take to do it
  - Realistic and measurable goals
    - Establish clear and focused goals and objectives
    - Don’t over-promise—be realistic about your expected outcomes.
    - Consider your timeline, budget, and any other factors that might influence success.
  - A reasonable (but sufficient!) budget
    - Ask for what you need to complete the project—but don’t pad the budget.

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## When considering sponsors



- Evaluate the request for proposals (RFP) to ensure your idea fits with sponsor guidelines.
  - Consider the type of funding (capital, program, research, etc)
  - Make sure your request EXACTLY matches any guidelines
  - Make sure the size of your funding request matches with funding limits
  - Check for eligibility issues (geographic, citizenship, nonprofit status, etc)
- Consider your timeline for proposal development carefully
  - Some applications take longer to prepare than others
  - Some faculty can put together a competitive application quickly, but most will need at least a few months to prepare a federal grant
- If a deadline is too short, check:
  - Is this a program with annual (or quarterly, etc.) deadlines? If so, aim for a later deadline date.
  - If not, consider whether or not a rushed proposal can \*really\* be finished, and if so, if it will be competitive. If not, consider alternate funding sources instead.

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## Some tips on finding funders



- Start with SPIN, MSU's funding opportunity database.
- Look at the acknowledgment section of articles, presentations, etc. Who has funded others who do similar work?
- Sign up for professional society newsletters and check websites
- Ask colleagues, peers, mentors, etc. how their work has been supported
- Look at previously funded grants on sponsor websites
- Use grants.gov, a database of more than 1,000 grant programs offered by all federal agencies.
- Contact OSPR—I'm happy to help with the funding search

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## How to Search for Funding Opportunities



- Use SPIN, MSU's funding opportunity database. You can register for an account at <https://spin.infoedglobal.com> (you must use the campus network to access)
  - SPIN is a searchable database for funding opportunities
    - Set up and save searches that match your research interests
  - SMARTS is an email subscription service that delivers new and updated funding opportunities that match your saved searches to your inbox on a daily or weekly basis.
- Contact Brittany Norman ([sponsoredprograms@msutexas.edu](mailto:sponsoredprograms@msutexas.edu)) in OSPR for a detailed demonstration and assistance setting up saved searches.

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## Upcoming Events

- **OSPR Brown Bag #1:**
  - Topic: *First Steps in Grant Writing: Crafting a concept paper*
  - Friday, Oct. 19, 12-1pm, CSC Kiowa
  - RSVP by Wednesday, Oct. 17
- **Faculty Research Retreat**
  - Join OSPR to escape distractions and dedicate time to your scholarly work.
  - Saturday, Oct. 20, 8:30 am- 4pm, Sikes Lake Center
  - RSVP by Thursday, Oct. 11
- **Coffee Talk:**
  - Topic: TBD
  - Tuesday, Nov. 6, 3-4 PM, Moffett Library Leisure Reading Room
- **OSPR Brown Bag**
  - Topic: TBD



## Final notes



- You can download the slides and handouts on the OSPR website under “Events, Workshops, and Networking.” There is a link on the OSPR homepage (<http://msutexas.edu/academics/ospr>)
- Suggested topics? Please let me know!
- Any questions?

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## It's time to....



- What are your research interests?
- Do you have any ideas that you might like to seek funding for (now or in the future)?
- Have you searched for funding in the past?
  - If so, how did you search and what were the outcomes?
- What are some of the challenges or barriers to seeking grant funding?
- Are there any grant-related topics you'd like to learn about in the future?

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