

Partnering Directly with Federal Agencies through MOAs or MOUs vice Competitive Awards



Disclaimers

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USU Snap Shot

- F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine
- Graduate School Nursing
- Post Graduate Dental College
- Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute
- College of Allied Health Science

A Unique Academic Health Campus



Traditional

- Traditional Federal Government Funding Pathways are competitive:
 - Broad Agency Announcements
 - Requests for Proposals
 - Requests for Applications
 - Funding Opportunity Announcements
- Titles and mechanisms of Announcements are specific to the Agency e.g., DoD vs NIH and can vary within a Department/Agency e.g., HHS (CDC vs FDA vs NIH) and within an Agency: e.g., NIH (NIAID, NHLBI, NCI etc)
- Successful competitive applications typically result in the award of a: Grant or Contract, depending on the Agency and funding mechanism, the funding may be lump sum or incremental

Alternative

- Alternative Federal Government Funding Pathways can be non competitive:
 - Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs)
 - Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)
 - Cooperative Agreements
 - Awarded directly or as a sub award
- Awards can be Institution to Institution, based on Principal Investigator relationships
 - Collaborative, based on mutual interest
 - Shared Responsibility and resources
- Awards can be Institution to an “execution partner” e.g., a Foundation and sub awarded to the academic partner

USU as an Example

- Examples of collaborative non competitive awards between USU (as the FED) and other Academic Partners:
 - Duke
 - Emory
 - Harvard
 - UC San Francisco
 - Michigan
- Annual value of non competitive awards ~\$250M
- The science is peer reviewed and the decision to send the dollars to the University is deliberative, the selection of execution partners is discretionary.

Other Opportunities

- Federal agencies have different mechanisms available to them to partner with academia and industry, and the mechanisms come with unique rule sets.
- The list of potential Federal and quasi Federal Partners is “endless” some examples:
 - DoD: USU, CDMRP, MRDC, DARPA, DTRA, etc
 - FFRDCs: RAND, IDA, etc
 - UARCs: APL at Hopkins, etc
 - National Labs: Lawrence Livermore, Sandia, Los Alamos, etc
 - Health and Human Services: NIH, CDC, FDA, BARDA, etc
- Essentially, most Federal entities on the discretionary side of the budget have a non competitive mechanism: you just have to find it, figure out how it works, and make it work for you. Finding “it” starts with relationships and shared interests. Good hunting !