



## Types of Proposals:

**Pre-proposal or Letter of Intent:** This is a short description of the proposed project, including how the PI will do and why the proposed work is important. The goal of the pre-proposal is to generate interest from the foundation, with the goal of receiving a request for a full proposal. Foundations will review pre-proposals and assess their fit within priority areas.

**Solicited proposals:** The PI submits a proposal in direct response to a program that solicits proposals for a specific research area. Foundations may make announcements for a Request for Proposals (RFP), or Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), and researchers write proposals in direct response to these announcements. The proposed work must fit the needs as described by the announcement and conform to formatting and technical requirements, as well as budgets and conditions. Solicited proposals typically have a deadline that PIs must meet for their proposal to be considered.

**Unsolicited proposals:** The PI submits a proposal to a foundation that has not issued a specific request for proposals. In this case, the proposal should match the foundation's interests and required guidelines/format for unsolicited proposals, but there are often no specific guidelines or requirements to follow. Unsolicited proposals are often reviewed on a rolling basis, but some foundations do have set deadlines for submission. In many cases, foundations do not accept unsolicited proposals.

**Continuation proposals:** In some cases, foundations will support multi-year projects, but funds are awarded one year at a time. In this case, PIs may be requested to annually submit a progress report and/or new proposal for the project.

**Limited Submission proposals:** Some funding opportunities limit the number of proposals that each institution can submit. The number of proposals allowed by each institution will vary by foundation. In this case, the University uses an internal submission process to select a PI (or PIs) as Ohio State's applicant.

**Multi-institutional Proposals:** If PIs from two or more institutions work together on a single project, one must serve as the lead applicant for the project. If awarded, the lead institution will issue a subaward to the other collaborating institutions.

