# **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### What is the UAHS Top Foundations List?

Our office can assist you in navigating your approach or interest in applying to one of the grantmakers on this list and we may be able to provide valuable information to help increase your likelihood of success. Many grantmakers are on the UAHS Top Foundation List because they require special attention and coordination. Some of the foundations on the list are reserved strictly for top institutional priorities and projects (as defined by the UAHS Senior Vice President and other senior leadership). Others are on this list because UAHS would like to develop a relationship due to mutual interest areas and funding capacity.

UAHS Development and Foundation Relations helps build relationships with private foundations on this list in collaboration with UAHS leadership, UA Foundation leadership, faculty and staff. For organizations on the Top Foundations List, UAHS Development has high involvement—and likely current significant activity—and should be aware of any planned or current activity between these organizations and UAHS.

While we understand that some of these organizations have an open RFP process and we encourage investigators to apply, UAHS Development/Foundation Relations must be notified in these cases. Our goal is to increase the likelihood of your project being funded by providing comprehensive institutional information about UA's relationship with the organization. By using the UAHS Top Foundations List process and notifying us, you will obtain valuable information that may help you better target your application. In addition, UA, UAHS, and UA Foundation leadership will be better prepared to support your specific efforts with these organizations when they interact with these organizations in other contexts. Our office will make our best effort to collaborate

At any time, this list may be added to or updated based on shifting institutional priorities and changes in the relationships UA/UAHS may have with these and other organizations.

### What is the purpose of the UAHS Top Foundations List?

The purpose of the Notice of Interest and UAHS Top Foundations List is to help you and ensure coordination and alignment when approaching our top funders to raise more philanthropic funding for the University of Arizona. To the best of our ability, our office will:

- Ensure that multiple investigators or competing applications are not submitted concurrently (in collaboration with the Research Development Services/ORD if a limited submission proposal)
- Provide comprehensive information about previously submitted and funded proposals including those outside of health sciences
- Provide first-hand information about foundations often not found on their website
- Connect applicants with program officers and other funded investigators across the UA
- Make connections to appropriate stakeholder across campus for collaborative proposals
- Engage key leadership in moving discussions forward about the project
- Help strategize about how to approach the organization
- Contact organizations to share project ideas
- Arrange meetings and site visits when appropriate
- Provide help with writing and editing for some proposals

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### When should I contact UAHS Development/Foundation Relations?

Please work with UAHS Foundation Relations:

- as soon as you identify that you would like to submit a proposal or engage with one of the foundations on the UAHS Top Foundations List; submit a Notice of Interest Form;
- before you submit your application or proposal to any of the organizations on this list;
- if you have any foundation-related funding questions about organizations on the list;
- if you identify a funder not on the UAHS Top Foundations List and would like guidance or additional information;
- if you are contacted by an organization or grantmaker on this list;
- if you are contacted by an organization or grantmaker not on this list, and they would like to make a significant investment in your research, clinical, or educational program

Contact us at uahsfr@email.arizona.edu

#### Do we go through your office now or the GIFT Center?

Our office works in close alignment with the UA Foundation GIFT Center, UAHS Research Administration, and Office of Research & Discovery, Research Development Services. You can contact us or the GIFT Center and we will route your request appropriately. The UAHS Foundation Relations office is primarily targeting applications to the funders outlined on this list. The GIFT Center will still maintain all of their primary functions and provide necessary information for all your foundation-related applications.

# There is a foundation listed that has an open RFP process. Why do I need to get clearance to apply from your office?

Yes, many organizations have open RFP processes and any qualified and eligible applicant is encouraged to apply. However, many of the organizations and grantmakers on this list also like to understand the full funding picture of a particular institution, like the University of Arizona. Our goal is to track submissions and successes with these type of organizations (new and familiar) and provide applicants within health sciences and beyond feedback about ways in which you might craft a successful proposal based on previous interactions with the organization.

Additionally, our office may have useful information to share with you to help you prepare your application. (For example, the Gates Foundation might have an open call for proposal. Eligible applicants across the university are encouraged to apply. While you are crafting your application, UAHS leadership or others is in the process of meeting with executives from this foundation may have an opportunity to expand a partnership holistically by being aware of your project. Understanding the current status of activity and proposals is important for these types of meetings to demonstrate that we are coordinated and aligned. UAHS leadership may also be in a position to help advance your proposal during such meetings.)

#### What is the criteria for selecting organizations on this list?

This list comprises foundation and organizations of many different kinds. Primarily it includes foundations that have a close relationship with the University of Arizona and specifically with Health

Sciences. It also include organizations that have the capacity to make principal gift level (\$1M+) contributions as well as aspirational organizations where we would like to develop a closer relationship.

## What should if I know a board member or program officer at one of the organizations on this list (professionally or personally)?

Let our office know! Contact uahsfr@email.arizona.edu. We love to help make connections and use existing relationships to help leverage new ones.

#### What if I'm collaborating with a scientist outside of UAHS?

Great! Funders are typically more likely to fund collaborative proposals. We encourage you to let us know about any application involving health sciences to any of these funders whether you are the lead investigator or not. If you are the lead investigator on a proposal to one of these funders please fill out and submit a Notice of Interest form as early as you can in your application process.

# I'm a co-investigator on a grant to one of the foundations on this list, but not the lead PI. Does this still apply to me?

We encourage you to let us know about any application involving health sciences to any one of these funders whether you are the lead investigator or not.

### My primary appointment is outside of UAHS – do I still need to coordinate with you to apply to an organization on this list?

This is a new process as of March 2016. As of now, the Notice of Interest and UAHS Top Foundations List only applies to applicants with primary appointments in health sciences, however that may evolve over time. If you do not have a primary appointment in health sciences, you are not required to go through this process. We encourage collaboration however, and if you have any questions we are happy to help. Again, our goal is to increase your likelihood for success by providing additional information, when possible, that will help your application and provide a larger institutional context for key submissions. If your primary appointment is outside of health sciences, we will gladly offer any information that we may have on a particular funder and also connect you with other known resources at the UA Foundation, Office of Research Discovery or within your department.