

Economic Inequality, Disparities and Opportunity Prospects

Funder	Deadline Timeline/ Eligibility	Program Summary
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation	Ongoing LOI's (some programs do not accept unsolicited LOIs)	<p>In each of our economics grantmaking programs, the Foundation seeks proposals for original projects led by outstanding individuals or teams, which exhibit a high degree of methodological rigor, which have a high expected return to society, and for which funding from the private sector, government, or other foundations is not yet widely available. Our economics grantmaking is U.S.-focused. The analysis of datasets or economic behaviors outside the U.S. will not be considered unless it can be demonstrated that the data or analysis is relevant to understanding some aspect of the U.S economy, the U.S. labor market, or some aspect of the functioning of U.S. economic institutions.</p> <p>Grants made in this program are typically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empirical and hypothesis-driven; Policy-relevant, but neither "policy research" nor advocacy; Motivated by nonideological questions rather than preconceived answers; Engaged with fundamental puzzles, but using fresh approaches; Unbiased, statistically significant, and replicable; Careful about baselines, controls, confounding variables, and econometrics; Savvy about markets, institutions, regulation, transaction costs, behavioral biases, etc.; Contributors to research infrastructure, datasets, or resources for general use; Generators of highly cited and catalytic results in high-quality journals; Ultimately concerned with the quality of life in the United States.
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	Varying LOI deadlines based on program	<p>Because our resources alone are not enough to advance the causes we care about, we engage in advocacy efforts to promote public policies that advance our work, build strategic alliances with governments and the public and private sectors, and foster greater public awareness of urgent global issues. Our Global Policy & Advocacy Program has teams dedicated to advocacy, policy analysis, and government relations, as well as strengthening philanthropic partnerships and the charitable sector in the United States and overseas. In addition to the policy and advocacy staff at our Seattle headquarters and in Washington, D.C., we have a European and Middle East office based in London, and country offices in China, India, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and South Africa.</p>
Carnegie Corporation of New York	Varying LOI deadlines based on program	<p>To unlock our vision of success, at scale, for all American students, the Corporation focuses strategically on transforming five core components of the educational system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning experiences and opportunities that meet the diverse needs of all students and prepare them for future success in college, careers, democratic participation, and life Leaders and teachers who are well prepared to advance student learning, and schools and systems that are organized to enable the success of leaders and teachers Authentic demand from families, communities, and educators for learning that meets the diverse learning needs of all students, supported by clear and transparent data and information Postsecondary innovations that address the challenges facing underrepresented students, particularly first-generation college-goers, and better prepare all students for further STEM learning and careers Integrated strategies and approaches that enable the educational system to realize an expanded vision of success for all American students
Charles Koch Foundation	Varying LOI deadlines based on program	<p>The Foundation supports educational initiatives in economics, philosophy, entrepreneurship, criminal justice, and other disciplines that have a direct impact on opportunities to thrive.</p> <p>Colleges and Universities: Our grants to colleges and universities support faculty members who lead a variety of programs that engage students with the principles of free societies. The university centers we fund enable professors to pursue their research while providing resources to their students.</p>
David and Lucile Packard Foundation	Varying LOI deadlines based on program	<p>Children, Families, Communities:</p> <p>We aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve training and professional development for child care providers and educators so they can support children's learning and growth. Provide parents, family, and friends that care for children with the skills and support they need to create nurturing environments for children. Ensure all children and their families have access to and can afford quality health care and health insurance coverage. Strengthen California's commitment to provide after-school and summer learning programs so our most vulnerable children do not fall behind.
Ford Foundation	Ongoing basis for idea submissions - reviews within 45 days if the foundation is interested	<p>Inclusive Economies Gender, Racial, and Ethnic Justice Equitable Development</p>
Jacobs Foundation	Does not accept unsolicited proposals	<p>Research Funding: Our aim is to identify and support the most innovative globally leading researchers in the field of child and youth development in order to promote the scientific advancement. With our funding instruments we address all academic disciplines that contribute to a better understanding and the improvement of child and youth development including psychology, education and economic sciences, sociology, family studies, media studies, political science, linguistics, neurosciences, biology and (epi-) genetics and medicine.</p>
James Irvine Foundation	Does not accept unsolicited proposals	<p>In August 2016, we started giving our first grants to reflect the Foundation's commitments to current grantees as well as new investments related to our new focus. Since then we have provided grants to initiatives we are exploring (Career Readiness and Living-Wage Work and Worker Voice and Influence initiative), with the goal to expand effective efforts and inform Irvine's future grantmaking.</p> <p>These grants will explore a range of different solutions; populations and regions to serve; and short- and long-term innovation and policy opportunities.</p> <p>None of the initial grants will be made under an "open call" process, but we are working hard to ensure we're representing diverse points of view.</p>

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Laura and John Arnold Foundation	Programs have submission deadlines but accepts LOIs on an ongoing basis until that date	Laura and John Arnold Foundation (LJAF) makes strategic investments in criminal justice, education, evidence-based policy and innovation, public accountability, and research integrity. In addition to these core areas of focus, we identify and pursue other high-leverage opportunities through our New Initiatives division. LJAF's grants are aligned with our Philosophy of Philanthropy and support projects that are intended to produce sustainable and scalable solutions that result in transformational change.
JPB Foundation	Does not accept unsolicited proposals	<p>The JPB Foundation's Poverty program area seeks to lower the barriers to opportunity frequently experienced by individuals born into economically disadvantaged communities. Those barriers, such as disproportionate burdens of chronic disease, limited access to reproductive healthcare, fewer opportunities for civic engagement, or insufficient English-language skills, often have long-term ramifications that keep individuals trapped in a cycle of poverty. The JPB Foundation's grants in this program area aim to remove the root causes of disadvantages experienced by those in poverty, allowing individuals, families, and their wider communities to thrive.</p> <p>Environmental issues are our newest field of interest. As in our other program areas, The Foundation will pursue projects with the potential for significant change, and those in which its resources will have the most meaningful impact. We will also seek out grant opportunities that intersect and align with our Medical Research and Poverty program areas. Our goal is to enable healthy and resilient communities by enriching and supporting the environment because we believe it measurably impacts the well-being of our human and natural systems. To meet our goal The JPB Foundation will begin by exploring the energy system. Initially, projects we support may focus on low-income housing and how retrofits of this housing stock can enable healthy and resilient communities. We will apply the Foundation's three strategies to develop the Environment program by funding research and dissemination, translation of promising practices, and taking proven solutions to scale.</p>
Kresge Foundation	Varying LOI deadlines based on program Some are invitation only	<p>INNOVATIVE POPULATION HEALTH PROGRAMS AND POLICIES</p> <p>We welcome proposals from organizations that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take advantage of the opportunities within health reform to employ new models of shared resources and accountability for improving population health. Systematically incentivize and reward primary prevention – for example, by reinvesting downstream health care savings in effective community prevention. Share and use data from multiple sectors to inform strategies, measure progress and refine interventions. Have the potential to inform practice and policy more broadly. Demonstrate community engagement and health equity. <p>ADVANCING INNOVATIVE, MULTI-SECTORAL POLICY SOLUTIONS IN HUMAN SERVICES</p> <p>We welcome proposals from organizations that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for policies that foster greater collaboration among sectors and high impact approaches to human services Clearly articulate a community and audience engagement strategy Demonstrate application of research on outcomes based policy driven approaches Implement a highly targeted evaluation that can expand integrated, high impact practices in the human services sector
Macarthur Foundation	100&Change: Annual award Reviews unsolicited proposals but generally does not fund unsolicited proposals	<p>Justice Reform: Through the Safety and Justice Challenge, MacArthur will engage in a long-term strategy of investment in local reform, research, experimentation, and communications intended to create national demand for local justice reform as a means of reducing over-incarceration in America. The Challenge will support jurisdictions across the country working to safely reduce the over-reliance on jails, with a particular focus on addressing disproportionate impact on low-income individuals and communities of color.</p> <p>To advance our knowledge and understanding about the use of jail in America, and to document the experience of local jurisdictions that succeed in building safer, less costly, and more just criminal justice systems, the Foundation is complementing the grants it makes to local jurisdictions with investments in research and data analytics. The Foundation is also investing in a robust communications campaign aimed at elevating jail overuse into an urgent national issue, and generating national demand for a more balanced set of approaches to crime and disorder that use incarceration only where necessary, and as part of a flexible range of effective alternatives.</p>
Open Society Foundations	-Impact and Innovation Grant Fund: Annual award -Leadership in Government Fellowship: Annual award -Soros Equality Fellowship: Annual award -Soros Justice Fellowships: Annual award	<p>Health: Throughout the world, people who face stigma and discrimination are often left with substandard or no health care. The Open Society Foundations work to establish health policies and practices that are based on evidence and promote social inclusion, human rights, and justice.</p> <p>Rights & Justice: The Open Society Foundations advance human rights and justice around the world by advocating equality for minorities and women, supporting international war crimes tribunals, and helping institute national legal reforms to ensure freedom of information, promote sentencing alternatives, and protect the rights of criminal defendants.</p> <p>Education and Youth: The Open Society Foundations are committed to empowering young people by supporting efforts to increase access to quality education. From early childhood to higher education, we work to ensure young people from different backgrounds have equal access to education and to promote critical thinking, respect for diverse opinions, and free and open intellectual inquiry.</p>

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Russell Sage Foundation	Varying LOI deadlines based on program	<p>Funding Opportunity: Behavioral Economics The foundation's Behavioral Economics program supports research that will broaden our understanding of the social, economic and political consequences of real-life behaviors and decisions that deviate from the neoclassical economic standards of rationality. RSF is especially interested in behavioral economics research that contributes to our understanding of topics of interest under its other programs. Read More</p> <p>Funding Opportunity: Future of Work The foundation's program on the Future of Work supports research on the causes and consequences of changes in the quality of jobs for less- and moderately-skilled workers in the United States. We are especially interested in proposals that address important questions about the interplay of market and non-market forces in shaping the wellbeing of workers, today and in the future. Read More</p> <p>Funding Opportunity: Social Inequality The Foundation's program on Social Inequality supports research on the social, economic, political, and labor market consequences of rising economic inequalities in the United States. We are currently accepting letters of inquiry. Read More</p> <p>Funding Opportunity: The Social, Economic, and Political Effects of the Affordable Care Act The foundation's initiative supports innovative social science research on the social, economic and political effects of the Affordable Care Act. We are especially interested in funding analyses that address important questions about the effects of the reform on outcomes such as financial security and family economic wellbeing, labor supply and demand, participation in other public programs, family and children's outcomes, and differential effects by age, race, ethnicity, nativity, or disability status. Read More</p>
San Francisco Foundation	-Equity Grants Program: Annual award -Other Varying LOI deadlines based on program	<p>We are organizing our work in three interrelated pathways that we are referring to as People, Place, and Power.</p> <p>People: Expanding access to opportunity through removing systemic barriers Place: Anchoring communities that reflect people's culture and identity Power: Nurturing equity movements to ensure a strong political voice for all.</p> <p>Equity Grants Program is closed for 2017.</p>
Smith Richardson Foundation	Ongoing	<p>The Domestic Public Policy Program supports projects that will help the public and policy makers understand and address critical challenges facing the United States. To that end, the Foundation supports research on and evaluation of existing public policies and programs, as well as projects that inject new ideas into public debates.</p> <p>The Foundation believes that policy makers face a series of challenges that need to be met if the United States is going to continue to prosper and provide opportunity to all of its citizens. Even as public finances begin to recover in the wake of the financial crisis and recession, officials are confronting difficult choices that will have to be made in order to restore long-term fiscal balances while maintaining essential public services. These choices will include decisions regarding how best to raise revenues while also creating an environment conducive to economic growth. Policy makers are also looking for strategies that can deliver key public services, such as education and criminal justice, in an effective and efficient manner. There is also a need to develop strategies to improve the long-term growth rate of the U.S. economy and strengthen economic opportunity. Doing so will require a combination of more effective strategies to develop human capital and establishing an economic climate hospitable to entrepreneurship and growth.</p> <p>To meet these broad objectives, the Foundation has developed a number of grant making portfolios. A group of grants is focused on the challenges of identifying mechanisms that can inform thinking on fiscal practices at the national, state, and municipal levels. In terms of human capital development, the Foundation has been supporting work to identify how schools can become more productive by, for example, increasing the quality of the teacher workforce or adopting more effective curricula. Because success in the contemporary economy requires individuals to acquire education and training beyond high school, the Foundation is building a portfolio of projects on post-secondary education. Finally, the Foundation is supporting work on the criminal justice system that will examine whether costs can be lowered while still protecting public safety.</p>
The Annie E. Casey Foundation	Does not accept unsolicited proposals	<p>To achieve results, we focus on developing solutions to build a brighter future for children, families and communities. As such, our grant-making strategies are focused on policies and practices that improve the outcomes of kids, families, communities and reform-minded leaders.</p> <p>KIDS: We invest to make sure every child has a strong family — a family for life. We also work to give children and youth more access to opportunities for healthy development.</p> <p>FAMILIES: Children's futures are profoundly affected by whether their parents have the opportunity for economic opportunity. We invest in strategies to help parents find jobs and to help employers find good workers. We invest to help families plan for their financial future and to help their children prepare for success through a good education.</p> <p>COMMUNITIES: We know that future opportunities for kids are affected by the conditions in the neighborhoods where they grow up. We work to transform struggling communities into good places to raise a family, with good homes, effective schools, safe streets, vibrant businesses, strong connections to opportunity and responsive government.</p> <p>LEADERS: We believe leadership can make a big difference, and we invest in developing leaders and in providing them with the tools they need to succeed.</p> <p>We are driven by a relentless focus on data, evidence and results. We are committed to measurable improvement in the opportunities and outcomes for whole populations of children and families.</p>
The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation	Does not accept unsolicited proposals	<p>The Broad Foundation's education focus is squarely on K-12 education reform, with programs directed at policy, teaching and learning innovations, leadership, and institution design.</p> <p>Little of the foundation's education reform funding goes to higher ed, but there are a few exceptions for universities conducting "research in areas that align with our investment strategy, including personalized learning, better pay for better teachers, mayoral control of school districts and expanded learning time.</p>
The Joyce Foundation	Proposal deadlines in April, July, December	<p>Our program areas are Culture, Democracy, Education, Employment, Environment, Gun Violence Prevention and the Joint Fund for Education and Employment. We focus our grant making on initiatives that promise to have an impact on the Great Lakes region, specifically the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.</p>

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W.T. Grant Foundation	-Research Grants: Tri-annual award -Scholars Awards: Annual award -Institutional Challenge Grant: Annual award until 2022	<p>We fund research that increases understanding in one of our two focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -programs, policies, and practices that reduce inequality in youth outcomes, and strategies to improve the use of research evidence in ways that benefit youth. -We seek research that builds stronger theory and empirical evidence in these two areas. We intend for the research we support to inform change. While we do not expect that any one study will create that change, the research should contribute to a body of useful knowledge to improve the lives of young people. <p>Research grants about reducing inequality typically range between \$100,000 and \$600,000 and cover two to three years of support. Research grants about improving the use of research initiative will range between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000 and cover two to four years of support. This shift to a million dollar ceiling reflects our renewed commitment to this focus area and our interest in funding bold, large-scale studies to significantly advance the field. Projects involving secondary data analysis are at the lower end of the budget range, whereas projects involving new data collection and sample recruitment can be at the higher end. Proposals to launch experiments in which settings (e.g., classrooms, schools, youth programs) are randomly assigned to conditions sometimes have higher awards.</p>
William and Flora Hewlett Foundation	-Environment: Ongoing acceptance of LOIs -Performing Arts: LOIs due March, June, September, December -Other programs are by invitation only	<p>Bay Area Program:</p> <p>Bill and Flora Hewlett had a deep and abiding commitment to the San Francisco Bay Area in which they lived. Today, their foundation not only makes grants to organizations working on major national and global issues, but also those that work on local issues. Through our Serving Bay Area Communities grantmaking, each of the foundation's permanent programs provide funding to nonprofits that serve the region's disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>Drawing on the deep experience of our staff, our programs support organizations working in disadvantaged communities across the Bay Area. Our Global Development and Population Program has funded efforts like the 3rd Street Youth Center and Clinic in San Francisco's Bayview neighborhood, which provides health services and sexual health education with the goal of reducing teen and unplanned pregnancies there. Our Environment Program supports efforts to improve outdoor recreational opportunities, transit availability, and reduce environmental impact on disadvantaged communities. A grant to the Trust for Public Land, for example, helps revitalize urban parks through the Parks for the People-Bay Area Program.</p>
WK Kellogg Foundation	Ongoing	<p>WKKF wants all children to live a full life with high-quality, early childhood experiences, to grow up in homes with families that have stable, high-quality jobs, and to live in a community where they are nurtured. Our grantmaking supports thriving children, working families and equitable communities. And we continuously learn from our investments and recognize innovation as a catalyst for success.</p> <p>Thriving Children: We support a healthy start and quality learning experiences for all children. Working Families: We invest in efforts to help families obtain stable, high-quality jobs. Equitable Communities: We want all communities to be vibrant, engaged and equitable.</p> <p>Priority places of focus: Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico, New Orleans, Haiti, Mexico</p>