

Foundation Center Resources for Individuals

Individuals DO Receive Foundation Support!

- 5,000 foundations give to individuals directly
- 70% are for educational support
- Expect to encounter stiff competition

Support for Educational Purposes

- First contact should be the financial aid office at the college or university you plan to attend
- Ask if the corporations that employ you or family members offer scholarships or tuition-aid programs
- Direct financial assistance from the college, work study programs, local and state governments, corporations are possibilities
- Links for Educational Support

State Based Financial Aid for Education

(http://wdcrobcopl01.ed.gov/Programs/EROD/org_list.cfm?category_ID=SHE)

Student Aid on the Web

(<http://studentaid.ed.gov/PORTALSWebApp/students/english/index.jsp>)

Federal Student Aid – Scholarship Wizard

(https://studentaid2.ed.gov/getmoney/scholarship/scholarship_search_select.asp?13817/)

FastWeb (www.fastweb.com)

College Board (http://apps.collegeboard.com/cbsearch_ss/welcome.jsp)

Foundation Grants to Individuals - *available at Central Library Only*

Support for Non-Educational Purposes - Seeking Funding Through Affiliation

- Non-educational projects grants are given for include independent films, art, medical research, inventions
- Access to funding opportunities may be improved substantially by engaging in some type of affiliation with a nonprofit organization

- Affiliation is a continuum ranging from working almost entirely alone to becoming an employee of a nonprofit institution
- For more information see “Seeking Funding Through Affiliation: A Tutorial” (<http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/tutorials/fiscal/index.html>)

Is Affiliation For You?

- If you are an inventor and do not need the use of high technology equipment or laboratories, you can probably apply for a grant on your own.
- If you are a mathematician whose idea relies on computer programming and assistance of technical personnel, you need affiliation with an academic institution or research institute.

Funders will want to know that you have access to the appropriate technology and be sure that you possess the wherewithal to do what you propose to do.

Resource List: Grants for Individuals

- Foundation Center Chart for Individual Grantseekers (<http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/individuals/fundingfor/>)
- Michigan State Libraries – Grants for Individuals Page (<http://staff.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/3subject.htm>)
- Grants.gov (www.grants.gov)
- Govbenefits.gov (www.govbenefits.gov)
- Small Business Association (<http://www.sba.gov/services/financialassistance/index.html>)
- Foundation Center Guide to Grants for Individuals (<http://foundationcenter.org/getstarted/individuals/faqs/>)
- Foundation Grants to Individuals Online - *available at the Central Library Only*
Includes descriptions of 6,000+ foundation and public charity programs that fund students, researchers, artists, and other individual grant seekers.

The database also incorporates helpful tutorials and Foundation Center resources to assist individuals with finding grants.