

Research: Funding and advocacy increase opportunities for success

Faculty at our nation's colleges and schools of pharmacy engage in a wide-range of scholar activity. Faculty create new knowledge throughout the research continuum from the discovery of new molecular entities to helping healthcare professionals provide high quality care. The outcomes of this research creates new cures for disease, better management of chronic illness, and improvements in both patient and economic outcomes.

*NIH and other federal public health research grant opportunities can be tracked by subscribing to www.grants.gov.

The United States Department of Health and Human Services includes several other public health agencies that offer grant support in addition to the National Institutes of Health. These include the [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality](#), [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [Health Resources and Services Administration](#), and the [Administration on Aging](#).

The [National Institutes of Health](#) (NIH) are authorized under 42 USC Section 281. Their organization is described in legislation commonly referred to as the Public Health Service Act. AACP member colleges and schools have varying levels of involvement with the National Institutes Health (NIH). Each year funding for NIH is established in the [Labor, HHS, and Education](#) appropriations bill. Issues not related to the funding of NIH, such as the authorization to continue the programs, lies in the House with the [Energy and Commerce](#) Committee and in the Senate with the Committee on [Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions](#).

The [National Science Foundation](#) (NSF) is also a research-funding source for members of AACP. These programs are authorized under 42 USC 1862. NSF grants include the [Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research](#) (EPSCoR). "The program promotes the development of the states' science and technology (S&T) resources through partnerships involving a state's universities, industry, and government, and the Federal research and development (R&D) enterprise." NSF funding is established in the [Commerce/ Justice/State/ Judiciary](#) appropriations bill each year.

The [Veteran's Administration](#) is another federal source for research funding. These programs are authorized under 38 USC Chapter 73 and are administered by the [VA Office of Research and Development](#). The [House Committee on Veteran's Affairs](#) and the [Senate Committee on Veteran's Affairs](#) have jurisdiction over the operation of the Veteran's Administration. Funding for VA programs, including the Office of Research and Development, is controlled through the House and Senate Appropriation Subcommittees on [VA/ HUD](#).

The [US Department of Agriculture](#) through the [Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Services](#) (CSREES), makes available research grants. These programs are authorized under 7 USC 3101 et seq. Colleges and schools of pharmacy at land-grant colleges and universities can build relationships with USDA Extension faculty that can lead to intercollegiate research projects.

AACP supports our faculty by educating policy-makers about the value of research and the outcomes it provides to society. To accomplish this educational approach AACP participates in a number of coalitions each comprised of other organizations with a shared interest in a particular area of research or the federal public health research enterprise as a whole.

Working together to improve health and wellness:

AACP is a member of the [Coalition for Health Funding](#) (CHF). A broad-based coalition representing a wide range of organizations, CHF is highly regarded on Capitol Hill and educates congressional members and their staff about importance of a strong federal public health agency research agenda to improving the health and economic outcomes of our nation. The Coalition for Health Funding is a nonprofit alliance of national health organizations that works in a nonpartisan fashion to ensure that health discretionary spending remains highly visible as Congress and the Administration set federal budget priorities.

AACP is also a member of the:

[AdHoc Group for Medical Research](#) The AdHoc Group advocates for sustained appropriations for NIH.

[CDC Coalition](#) The CDC Coalition advocates for funding for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention a primary federal resource for prevention and wellness grant funding.

[Friends of HRSA](#) The Friends of HRSA advocate for funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration including the Title VII health professions education programs.

[Friends of the NCHS](#) The Friends of the NCHS advocate for funding for the National Center for Health Statistics an important source of health survey data for faculty and policy makers.

[Friends of Indian Health](#) The Friends of Indian Health advocate for funding for the Indian Health Service ensuring that Native Americans and Alaskan Natives, who suffer from some of our nation's worst health disparities, have access to high quality health services.

AACP works to improve our members access to research funding by:

- Seeking increased appropriations for research within all the federal public health agencies;
- Increasing member awareness for opportunities to participate on NIH and other federal agency advisory boards, grant review committees and other administrative entities thus increasing the voice of pharmacy education in federal policy development; and
- Creating educational opportunities, such as seminars and workshops, for our members to better understand the grant process and to improve their grant writing skills.