

Principles Governing the Pursuit of Externally Sponsored Research at BYU

Brigham Young University encourages faculty to seek external funding in support of their scholarly work. The Board of Trustees has imposed no limit to the amount of external research funding that can be accepted. However, the university follows certain principles in its pursuit of research sponsorship through external funding agencies. While a more complete treatment of scholarly work and its support through external funding is given in the policy statement *Expectations of a Faculty Appointment*, the following general principles are offered in determining whether a particular external funding opportunity is appropriate:

1. All contracts or agreements that obligate the University or its employees to any degree must be approved and signed by the proper authorized administrator. For externally sponsored research these approvals are executed only by the Office of Research and Creative Activities (ORCA).
2. The proposed externally-funded research should be student-centered, appropriate to the mission of the department, college, and university, and consistent with disciplinary norms.
3. The work should be a part of the principal investigator's balanced academic load with appropriate consideration of the faculty member's time and other assignments.
4. The hiring of full-time personnel (*e.g.*, post-doctoral fellows, research associates) supported by external funding is part of the academic training in some disciplines, and is justified in some research endeavors. Support of such personnel is temporary, and should be consistent with the limits outlined in the *Non-CFS Track Academic Appointments Policy*.
5. The work's potential obligations for research space, equipment, and any university cost-sharing should be negotiated in advance with the chair and dean.
6. Funded research should contribute to the scholarly generation of knowledge, producing a peer-reviewed publication, report, product, device, creative work, new technology, research-related training, or other equivalent return. Externally funded research should not be undertaken that constitutes work for hire, is classified, or presents permanent restrictions on faculty publication of the research.
7. The work should avoid exposure of the Church, the university, and its faculty and students to impropriety, inappropriate stipulations, or undesirable scrutiny. Questions in this regard may be directed to the AAVP – Research and Graduate Studies.