

## Gift or Grant?

This table will help you determine whether the funding you are pursuing is a gift or a grant. For assistance with gifts, contact the Office of Development. For assistance with grants, contact the Office of Research Administration. If you are uncertain whether your funding will be a gift or a grant, please contact our offices for guidance.

Nature of the...	Gift	Grant
<b>Donor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual</li> <li>• private foundation or corporation, depending on the nature of the factors below</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• governmental or quasi-governmental source</li> <li>• private foundation or corporation, depending on the nature of the factors below</li> </ul>
<b>Solicitation/Proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• may or may not include a formal proposal or request for funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>usually</u> includes a formal request for funds, often in response to a formal “Request for Proposals” (RFP)</li> </ul>
<b>Funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• freely given, with no expectation of benefit for the donor</li> <li>• no expectation that any portion of the contribution be returned if not spent by a specified date</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• given in support of a specific objective determined either by the donor or the recipient</li> <li>• some or all must be returned if the terms of the agreement are not fulfilled, or the funding is not spent, within a specified period</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to advance the mission of the recipient</li> <li>• may be restricted to a specific purpose</li> <li>• may include faculty, student, programmatic, or capital support</li> <li>• all contributions to endowments are considered gifts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to advance the missions of both the recipient and the donor</li> <li>• <u>always</u> restricted to a specific purpose</li> <li>• may include faculty, student, staff, programmatic, or research support</li> <li>• rarely for capital or general operating support</li> </ul>
<b>Budget</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a general proposal suggesting the manner in which the funds are to be spent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a specific and detailed proposal for the manner in which the funds are to be spent</li> </ul>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• while a report may be required, it is of a narrative nature and includes an informal accounting of budgets or expenditures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a mandatory formal report that must include details of expenditures, as well as other evaluative criteria, to assure that funds were used as specified in the proposal</li> </ul>
<b>Ownership of Results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recipient retains control and ownership of any results associated with the work of the project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in some cases, donor may assume full or partial ownership of the work accomplished</li> <li>• all funded projects with commercial value—including those involving patents, copyrights, advance and exclusive knowledge—are grants</li> </ul>
<b>Benefit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• donor does not receive any direct economic or other tangible benefit commensurate with the value of the contribution</li> <li>• tax advantages, goodwill, donor clubs, and public recognition do not constitute “benefits”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• donor may receive direct economic or other tangible benefits (e.g., research results, consulting reports, replicable program models, etc.)<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Passage of the Bayh-Dole Act in 1980 allowed universities and other non-profit entities, which had received government research grants and contracts, to retain the title to their inventions.