Date: March 1, 2023  
To: Grad Students, Postdocs, Science Olympiad Alums & Univ. Leaders  
RE: $25,000 Grant!

I have a new and exciting $25,000 grant opportunity for your department from the Science Olympiad USA Foundation. Since 1984, Science Olympiad has been one of the nation’s largest and most prestigious science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) competitions. We’ve helped encourage millions of students to follow college and career pathways into STEM, and now, we want to give back to our participants doing groundbreaking and innovative research at top universities. Early career researchers such as PhD students, postdocs, and pre-tenure faculty are invited to apply for one of these grants because of the presence of an existing Science Olympiad Alumni Chapter on your campus. Find your chapter here: https://www.soinc.org/officials/alumni

In our inaugural granting year, we are focusing our grants around categories aligned with two of our most popular Science Olympiad events, Disease Detectives and Dynamic Planet. We will be accepting proposals for grants focusing on medical research impacting human health and energy/climate research impacting a safer, greener world. One $25,000 grant will be awarded in each category. These unrestricted grants are intended for early career graduate, post-doc and assistant professors looking to expand or explore a groundbreaking idea with as little red tape as possible!

At this time, we are inviting applicants to submit a 1-page proposal letter to sketch out broad strokes of their idea, including the topic focus and expected outcomes. You are encouraged to mention the Science Olympiad connection to your idea, work, or personal story. If accepted, you’ll be invited to fill out a very brief, streamlined application in April 2023 which will be reviewed by a committee of Science Olympiad alums and subject matter experts. Grants will be announced in July 2023.

I look forward to your letter! Please send to my email at jrkopach@soinc.org by March 30, 2023. Please forward this opportunity to fellow students, sponsored program officers and faculty members!

Regards,

Jennifer Kopach  
Board President  
Science Olympiad USA Foundation