

3. **Determining The Type of Award Being Submitted: Is It a Sponsored Project or Gift?**

Special care should be taken in determining whether a project is a sponsored project or a gift. The distinction determines the legal obligations and liabilities of the University and the department that will process your grant proposal in Pullman. The College of Nursing Office of Research or Development Office will assist you in making this distinction.

a. **Gifts**

Gift solicitations should be coordinated with the CON Development Office. Gifts have one or more of the following characteristics:

1. The award is from a private individual.
2. The award is from a non-governmental source and is either for "brick and mortar" or the University's endowment.
3. The donor specifically intends the award to be a charitable gift as reflected by the characteristics of the award instrument.
4. The conditions or stipulations placed on the intended use of the award are reasonable and serve to direct the funds for such areas as scholarships, bricks and mortar, or general research support of specific interest to the donor.
5. The donor intends the gift to be irrevocable and, therefore, relinquishes the right to reclaim the gift or any unused remainder.
6. The donor makes the gift to the University without expectation of any direct economic benefit or other tangible benefit commensurate with the worth of the gift. Indirect benefits such as tax advantages, business or personal goodwill derived from close association with the University, and the miscellaneous benefits derived from the donor club status are not sufficient to negate gift intent.

b. **Sponsored Projects**

The presence of any one of the following factors classifies the award as a sponsored project and distinguishes the award from a gift. The proposal must go through review by OGRD prior to submission to the funding agency if any one of these factors is true:

1. Any project that binds the University to a specific line of inquiry by an orderly testing of an hypothesis or research question using a specific methodology, design, and analysis plan.
2. A commitment is made in the proposal regarding specific types of output including publications, presentations, interim or competing renewal, or final written reports to the funding agency; or the achievement of specific performance targets as a condition of obtaining funding.
3. A line item budget is required by the funding agency that details all expenditures associated with the project and a detailed fiscal or external audit/report is required at intervals during the project or at the end of the project period.
4. The agency requires the return of any unexpended funds at the end of the project period.
5. The proposed agreement with the funding agency involves tangible properties (equipment, records, technical reports, theses or dissertations) or intangible property (rights of data ownership, copyrights, inventions and patents) that may result from the activity.

In addition, if any project involves one of the following, the WSU Spokane Research Office/OGRD must review the funding application before it is sent to the funding agency:

- Use of human subjects or laboratory animals

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- Use of radiological and biohazards and/or use of recombinant DNA
- Conflict of interest