



# Helpful Hints

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## Gift or Sponsored Research?

Correctly classifying, processing and monitoring external funds from gifts, contracts and grants is an essential part of the fiduciary management of the university.

**Sponsored Awards**—Grants and contracts from an external entity such as a foundation, corporation or governmental agency which have a negotiated scope of work and an expectation of a benefit to the sponsor, or their mission, are sponsored awards.

Generally, grants are to carry out a public purpose and they usually allow the recipient a greater degree of flexibility than other award mechanisms. In general, contracts are for the procurement of something for the direct benefit of the sponsor and often have more restrictions. Either type of award can be on a fixed price or cost reimbursable basis.

These are administered by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and must be approved prior to submission to the outside agency. Sponsored awards usually require progress or technical reports from the principle investigator and the university is expected to submit financial statements.

**Gifts**—These are a voluntary transfer of funds to the university as a charitable donation with no expectation or receipt of economic benefit. No contractual requirements such as technical reports or invoices are usually required.

Gifts to the university are processed by Financial Services; gifts can also be made to a UNO Foundation.

This table may further assist you in distinguishing between gifts and sponsored awards.

	Sponsored Award	Gift
<b>Managing Office</b>	ORSP	Accounting Services or a UNO Foundation
<b>Intent</b>	Public good or economic benefit to sponsor	No expectation or receipt of economic benefit
<b>Source of funding</b>	Any	Individual, Private, non-governmental
<b>Reporting &amp; Publication</b>	Required; Usually require acknowledgement in publications	Not required; may request acknowledgement in publications
<b>Accounting/ Financial Reports</b>	Required	Not required
<b>Terms</b>	Restrictive	General or non-restrictive

A more detailed explanation is available on line: <http://www.uno.edu/orsp/FAQs/GiftorSponsored.aspx>