

This year's deadline for funding inquiries to the John Templeton Foundation is August 16, 2019. JTF will consider funding inquiries for small grants ( $\leq$ \$234,800) and for large grants ( $>$ \$234,800). Note that the next open-submission deadline (for requests of any size) will not be until August 14, 2020. Visit [www.templeton.org/grants/apply-for-grant](http://www.templeton.org/grants/apply-for-grant) to learn more and apply.

JTF will distribute \$121M in funding in 2020 for projects on a wide array of topics. Around \$18M is earmarked to support the scientific study of religion and spirituality, including social, cognitive, clinical, personality, neuroscientific, and other behavioral, cognitive, and social science approaches. A further \$4.5M will be dedicated to the scientific study of cultural evolution, including evolution of religion. You can read more about our current strategic priorities at <https://www.templeton.org/strategic-priorities> and can search current and historical grants here: [www.templeton.org/grants/grant-database](http://www.templeton.org/grants/grant-database)

JTF funds basic and applied science, and gives grants for up to 3 years in duration. There are no constraints on the nationalities or career stage of the principal investigator or project members. The application process begins with an Online Funding Inquiry (essentially a letter of intent). Applicants who are successful at this first stage will be invited to submit a more detailed full proposal. The process includes peer review and is highly competitive: ~95% of proposals considered in the Human Sciences portfolio are rejected at the first stage and ~50% are rejected at the second stage. Learn more about JTF's mission and grantmaking process here: [www.templeton.org](http://www.templeton.org)

Please note that JTF staff do not have the capacity to respond to individual requests for pre-inquiry feedback (or indeed to provide post-decision feedback, unfortunately). The Online Funding Inquiry process is the most efficient way for you to make the case for the research problems that you view as most compelling and necessary to advance our scientific understanding of religion and spirituality.

Slides from my SPRS/Div36 funding opportunities presentation, including some tips on proposal writing, are archived here: <https://osf.io/stnfi/> If you are interested in what topics, approaches, and methods your peers have (and haven't) requested funding from JTF over the last few years, I summarized that in an RBB commentary paper here: <https://psyarxiv.com/xbhce/>

Specific topics on which I would particularly welcome funding inquiries include (but are certainly not limited to) the following:

- \* interdisciplinary conceptual and empirical work that fractionates the category of religious identity (cf. Taves' building blocks approach or Barrett's piecemeal approach);
- \* the development of new (and probably indirect) ways of measuring belief in God and beliefs about God;
- \* study of the relationship between professed beliefs ("head knowledge") and lived beliefs ("heart knowledge") about God and/or other supernatural beings;
- \* attachment to God and/or other supernatural beings;
- \* experimental approaches to supernatural attribution;
- \* the interface of virtues and religious cognition, including (a) virtues enacted in relation to God or other supernatural entities (e.g., love of God; humility before God), (b) apprehension of-and responses to-God's moral attributers (e.g., God's love, the righteousness of God), and (c) the influence of religious or theological worldviews on the development and practice of virtues (e.g., hope with a time horizon that stretches beyond death);
- \* developmental approaches (at any point in the lifespan) in which religious variables are the dependent variable;

- \* analyses of extant longitudinal data on relationships between religion and health;
- \* theory-driven cross-cultural work;
- \* projects that develop or scale crucial research infrastructure (e.g., databases, study swaps, network development).