How Do Sponsors Issue Notifications about Funding Opportunities?

Sponsors use various mechanisms to notify eligible entities about available funding opportunities. The following are common types of solicitations and/or grant notification methods.

**Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)** - A publicly available document by which a Federal Agency announces its intentions to award discretionary grants or cooperative agreements through a competition for funding. A general term used to reference any type of funding announcement.

**Request For Proposal (RFP)** - When the government and foundations issue a new contract or grant program, it sends out RFPs to agencies that might be qualified to participate. The RFP lists project specifications and application procedures.

**Requests for Applications (RFA)** - An RFA is a formal statement that solicits a grant or cooperative agreement application in a well-defined area to accomplish specific program objectives.

**Program Announcement (PA)** - A PA is a formal statement about a new or ongoing activity or program. It may serve as a reminder of continuing interest in a research area, describe modification in an activity or program, and/or invite applications for grant support.

**Requests for Quotes (RFQs)** - An RFQ is a solicitation that provides in exacting detail a list or description of all relevant parameters of the requirement. RFQs are best suited to commercial products and services.