



Sponsored Research & Creative Activities

Office of Research Services Annual Report, FY 2026



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OVERVIEW

As part of our mission, DePaul strives always to address the great questions of our day – and to promote peaceful, just, and equitable solutions to social and environmental challenges. One of the ways we live our mission is by placing research and creativity at the center of university life.

DePaul encourages faculty to apply their research to real-world problems in the communities we serve and supports their work with university-wide funding programs and support for extramural funding applications. The result is a vibrant and innovative scholarly community that contributes to learning and scholarship, influences Chicago communities, and impacts the world.

The Office of Research Services (ORS) plays a vital role in supporting research, community engagement, and creative activities across the university. ORS helps faculty at all stages of their work, from ideas to proposals to funded projects. ORS staff help PIs develop and submit proposals, ensure their work complies with all relevant policies, and provide management for funded awards.

In FY 2026, ORS supported the submission of 206 proposals, totaling over \$78M in funds requested, and received new and continuing awards totaling over \$10M, as shown in Figure 1.

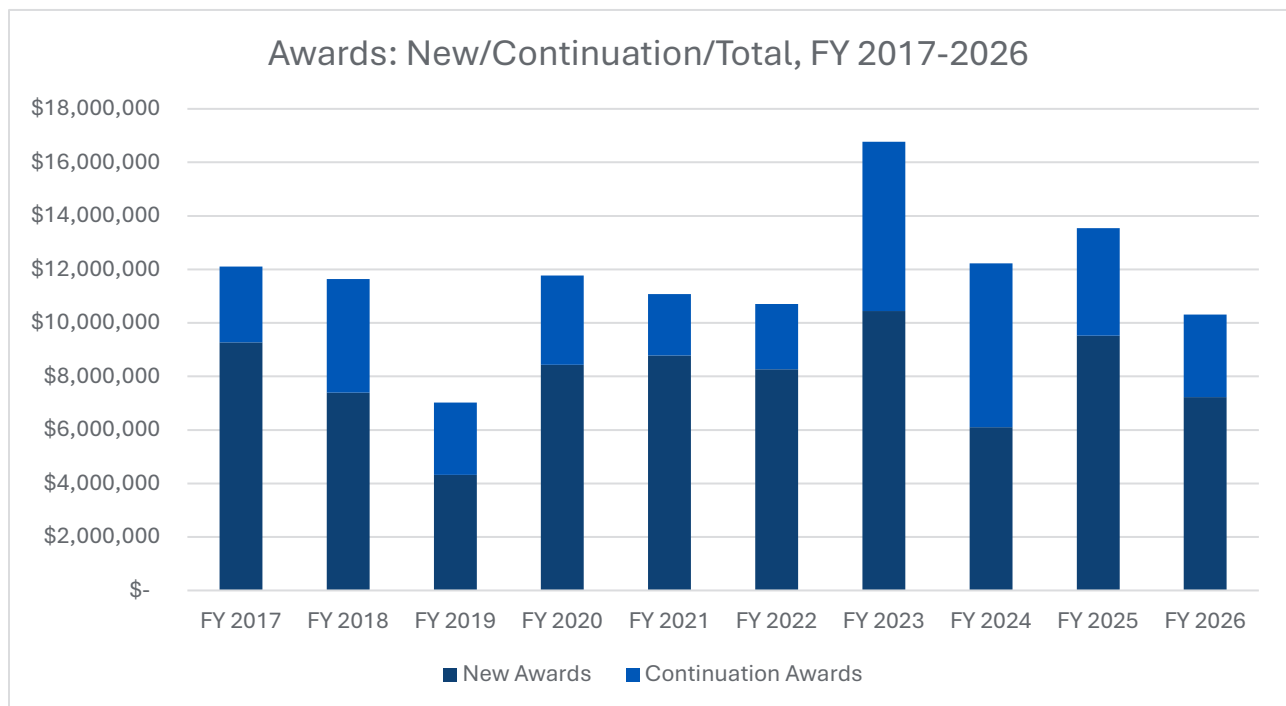


Figure 1: New and Continuation Awards FY 2017-2026

One of ORS's key goals for FY 2026 was to continue and deepen our new support structures that **expand proposal submission and increase awards**. Some highlights of these efforts include:

- ORS continued to facilitate DePaul's partnership with Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science (RFUMS) through an inter-institutional collaborative research grant program focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Interdisciplinary Research in Biomedical Discovery and Healthcare. Twelve proposals were submitted, and three interdisciplinary projects were selected for funding, including faculty from College of Science and Health (CSH) and Jarvis College of Computing and Digital Media (JCDM) working with researchers from RFUMS. Grants awarded in FY 2026 totaled over \$180K.
- ORS's second cohort of Scholarship Learning Communities was launched. The four topics in 2026 were: *Open Science in Practice: Tools and Workflows for Transparent, Reproducible Research*, *Healthy Aging in the United States*, *Social Media Video for Public Engagement*, and *Virtual Reality (VR) for Interdisciplinary Research*.
- A third cohort of Scholarship Learning Communities will begin meeting in Fall of 2026. The third cohort topics will be: *Agentic Computing Across Disciplines: Transforming Research and Creative Practice*, *Can We Trust the Data? Reasoning About Evidence Across Disciplines*, *Conducting Mixed Methods Research in the Social Sciences*, and *Global Creative Collaboration Lab: Language, Power, and AI in Creative Practice Across Borders*.
- ORS launched the Research Faculty Mentor Program. The Research Faculty Mentor Program is a two-year mentoring program that pairs tenure-track or tenured faculty mentees with tenured faculty mentors that have an active research and creative activity agenda to promote sustained collaboration, accelerate research independence, and provide structured support for grant development and submission.
- ORS submitted two institutional development proposals, totaling over \$6.6M in requested funds. One proposal was submitted to the NIH for projects designed to expand DePaul's capacity to conduct biomedical research, provide research administration support, and attain external funding for projects. The other institutional development proposal was submitted to the NSF to strengthen research translation at DePaul and to develop the framework for other institutions that embrace the teacher-scholar model.

ORS also served faculty and staff in FY 2026 by offering programs designed to **enhance the research culture and infrastructure of the University**. Activities included:

- ORS established the Office of Technology Transfer, Commercialization, & Social Impact (TTO) in August 2025. TTO supports faculty and other personnel in intellectual property (IP) protection and commercialization strategy. During its first year, TTO developed infrastructure necessary to support these activities.

- ORS jointly hosted with the Coleman Entrepreneurship Center the Entrepreneurial Mindset Workshop in September 2025.
- ORS coordinated the granting of over \$463K to DePaul faculty projects through the Council Grants programs. Reports detailing the impact of these programs can be found on the [ORS website](#).
- ORS hosted informational sessions on topics such as locating funding, grant proposal budgeting, data sharing, submission of requisitions, understanding internal grant initiatives, and research protections, and provided grants management training to 26 DePaul PIs on Federal, Nonfederal, and Internal grants. In addition, ORS made Research Security training available through CITI to comply with new federal requirements.
- ORS supported student research with over \$148K in funding to colleges for the Undergraduate Research Assistant Program (URAP) in FY 2026, which enhances participating students' overall academic experience at DePaul and provides our faculty with the benefits of compensated research assistance in support of their scholarly endeavors. A report on the impact of the URAP program can be found on the [ORS website](#).
- For the fifth year in a row, five DePaul undergraduate researchers participated in the BIG EAST Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium at Madison Square Garden in New York City. DePaul also won its first medal in the five years of participation with Greta Kezakimana, LAS – Criminology student, earning second place in the social science/humanities/business category.

ORS strives to constantly improve the services that it provides to PIs, especially by implementing initiatives that **promote efficiency and accuracy**.

- The ORS Pre-Award team continued to strengthen cross-campus partnerships to improve efficiency, accuracy, and strategic coordination of proposal development. Collaboration with BEAM enhanced support for university-wide funding initiatives focused on research and innovation infrastructure, while ongoing partnership with the University Library expanded researcher access to proposal development resources, data management expertise, and open scholarship support. Coordination with Government Relations improved institutional awareness of evolving federal policy and funding priorities, enabling more proactive guidance for faculty and university leadership. During FY 2026, ORS also launched a formal Limited Submissions program to improve institutional coordination and transparency, expanded research development programming through workshops, targeted funding opportunities, and faculty consultations, strengthened collaborative proposal development with Sinai Health System, and continued to refine proposal routing and review processes to improve compliance and reduce administrative burden. Together, these efforts created a more integrated research support ecosystem and strengthened DePaul's capacity to compete for external funding.

- The Post-Award team built several Excel tools using Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) to automate the award setup and communication processes. For external awards, our customized spreadsheet automations pull data from the shared Award Tracking file to auto-populate key information and draft new award memos, congratulations e-mails and award alerts, award processing e-mails, Notice of Grant Awards (NOGAs), and time and effort entries. It also streamlines communication for PIs who need to complete grant management training or responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training. This tool has now been fully implemented into our regular award processing. The results are increased efficiency and accuracy in the distribution of award documents. Additionally, we successfully transferred all our Awards by PI folders to the OneDrive system and made them available to our partners in Restricted Accounting for enhanced cross-team coordination. We have also made increasingly robust use of our shared Award Management OneDrive to consolidate commonly used documents and templates in one convenient location. These include Contract Templates, Award Memo Templates, Cayuse Documentation and Troubleshooting, and Summer Salary information.
- Research Protections began tracking IRB review turnaround time from initial submission to final approval as a key performance metric, consistent with AAHRPP (Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protections Program) recommended practices for evaluating efficiency of IRB review. Monitoring the overall time from submission to approval provides a high-level assessment of review performance and supports ongoing quality improvement efforts. This performance-monitoring approach will also be extended to the IBC (Institutional Biosafety) and the IACUC (Institutional Animal Care and Use) committees.

We are delighted to present the FY 2026 Sponsored Research and Creative Activities Annual Report, which reflects another year of commitment and accomplishment of our faculty and staff. This report, as well as previous annual reports and reports on specific ORS programs, are available on the [ORS website](#).

SECTION 1:

EXTRAMURAL SUBMISSIONS

The Extramural Submissions section summarizes the proposal development and submission activities supported by the Office of Research Services (ORS) Pre-Award Services team during the fiscal year. Pre-Award staff partner with faculty and staff throughout the proposal lifecycle, providing guidance on funding opportunity identification, proposal preparation, budget development, sponsor compliance, institutional approvals, and electronic submission to external sponsors. The team also facilitates requests for data use agreements, material transfer agreements, nondisclosure agreements, and other pre-award administrative activities necessary to support externally funded research and sponsored projects. For foundation and corporate funding opportunities, these efforts are coordinated in partnership with DePaul's Advancement Office.

The metrics presented in this section provide an overview of the University's extramural proposal activity, including the number of submissions and the total amount of funding requested. These measures illustrate the scope of proposal development activity supported by ORS and provide a foundation for understanding trends in research engagement and external funding pursuits across the University.

ORS continues to expand its role in strengthening DePaul's research enterprise through research development, strategic partnerships, faculty engagement, and institutional capacity building. These activities enhance the University's competitiveness for external funding by supporting interdisciplinary collaboration, fostering relationships with funding agencies and community partners, and equipping faculty with the resources needed to translate innovative ideas into impactful sponsored projects. While many of these efforts are not reflected directly in proposal counts, they represent an important investment in the long-term growth and sustainability of DePaul's research portfolio.

Submission Trends

In FY 2026, ORS' Pre-Award Services unit supported 209 proposal submissions, including letters of intent (LOIs) with associated budgets awaiting notification of an invitation to submit a full proposal, as well as 16 non-monetary requests. Proposals were submitted to 123 distinct sponsoring agencies, requesting a total of \$78,406,233 in external funding. While the number of submissions remained comparable to FY 2025, the total amount of funding

requested increased by 56% over the previous year's total of \$50,373,651, reflecting the University's pursuit of larger and more ambitious extramural funding opportunities. Trends in sponsored program submission activity from FY 2017 through FY 2026 are presented in Table 1.1 and illustrated in Figure 1.1.

Reporting Methodology

Reporting continues to follow the methodology adopted in FY 2024, which excludes non-monetary agreements (e.g., material transfer, data use, and confidentiality agreements) from proposal counts and eliminates duplicate submissions resulting from multiple internal routing revisions. This approach provides a more accurate representation of proposal activity and proposal size. Under this methodology, the average proposal request increased from \$238,738 in FY 2025 to \$380,613 in FY 2026.

Because this revised methodology was implemented in FY 2024, direct comparisons with fiscal years prior to FY 2024 should be interpreted cautiously. However, comparisons across the past three fiscal years reveal relatively stable requested funding in FY 2024

(\$52.9 million) and FY 2025 (\$50.4 million), followed by a substantial increase to \$78.6 million in FY 2026. This increase may reflect growing institutional competitiveness for larger funding opportunities and continued faculty engagement in externally sponsored research and scholarship.

Table 1.1: Submissions/Funds Requested, 2017-2026

Year	# Submissions	\$ Requested
FY 2017	424	\$94,414,498
FY 2018	418	\$93,658,899
FY 2019	377	\$94,901,213
FY 2020	369	\$75,441,140
FY 2021	331	\$92,748,856
FY 2022	341	\$64,578,862
FY 2023	387	\$71,130,988
FY 2024	217	\$52,957,704
FY 2025	211	\$50,373,651
FY 2026	206	\$78,406,233

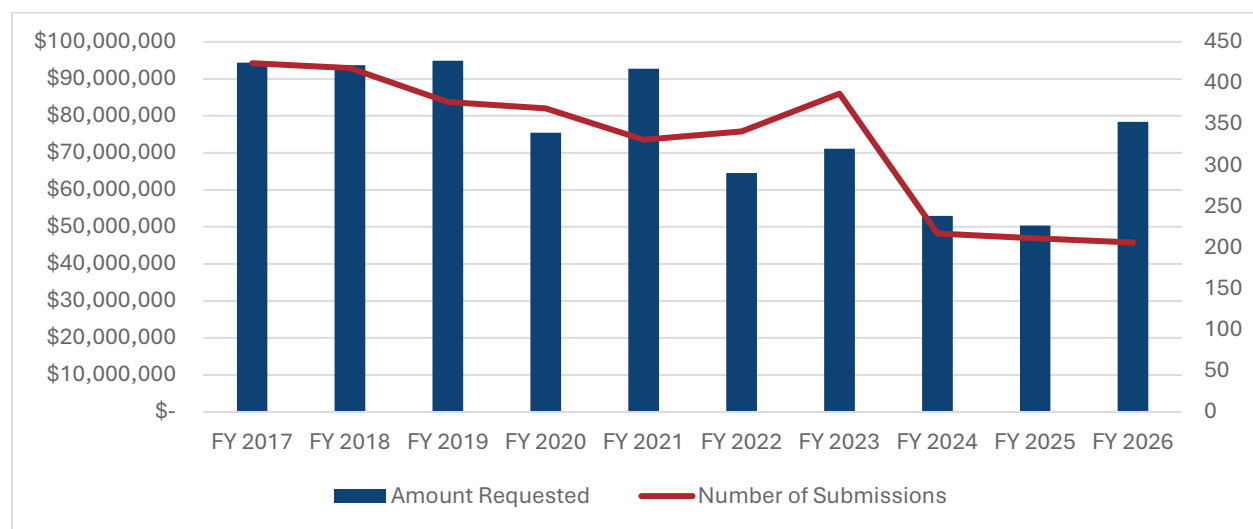


Figure 1.1: Total Amount Requested & Total Number of Submissions, FY 2017-2026

Although proposal activity continues to be driven by a relatively small group of highly active investigators who submit multiple proposals each year, ORS has continued to

invest in expanding the University's research capacity. Throughout FY 2026, the Pre-Award Services team supported faculty through research development initiatives including

grant writing support, Scholarship Learning Communities, faculty mentoring opportunities, and workshops designed to strengthen grantsmanship and foster interdisciplinary collaboration across colleges and units. Over time, these investments are intended to broaden faculty participation in sponsored research and increase the number of competitive extramural proposals submitted by DePaul investigators.

It is also important to note that proposal submissions and award activity do not align within a single fiscal year. Many sponsors, particularly federal agencies, require review periods of seven to nine months or longer. Consequently, proposals submitted during the latter half of FY 2026 may not result in funding decisions until FY 2027.

Submissions by Purpose

FY 2026 submission activity, classified by proposed purpose, is detailed in Table 1.2. Consistent with DePaul's performance in prior fiscal years, submission activity is principally for external support of faculty and staff research activities.

Table 1.2: Submissions by Purpose

Purpose	FY 2024		FY 2025		FY 2026			
	Count	\$ Requested	Count	\$ Requested	Count	%	\$ Requested	%
Research	147	\$41,698,289	113	\$41,940,718	134	65.0%	\$56,005,674	71.4%
Public Service	37	\$7,235,833	33	\$2,545,062	40	19.4%	\$6,153,696	7.8%
Conferences	1	\$5,000	2	\$28,400	0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Other	32	\$4,018,582	63	\$5,859,471	32	16.7%	\$16,246,863	20.7%
TOTAL	217	\$52,957,704	211	\$50,373,651	206	100%	\$78,406,233	100%

Submissions by Unit

Table 1.3 details FY 2026 proposal submission activity by academic and administrative unit. All colleges and several administrative units submitted proposals during the fiscal year, demonstrating broad institutional participation in seeking external funding. Proposal activity was concentrated in the Jarvis College of Computing and Digital Media (JCDM) and the College of Science and Health (CSH), which together accounted for 50.5% of all FY 2026 submissions.

Although the College of Education (COE) and Administrative Units (AU) submitted fewer proposals than CDM and CSH, their proposals represented a substantial share of the University's funding requests. Collectively, COE and AU requested \$28,724,897, accounting for 36.6% of the total funding sought in FY 2026. This represents a notable increase in requested funding compared with \$7,680,669 in FY 2025 and reflects the growing competitiveness and scale of proposals originating from these units.

Table 1.3: Submissions by Unit

Unit	FY 2024		FY 2025		FY 2026			
	Count	\$ Requested	Count	\$ Requested	Count	%	\$ Requested	%
Driehaus College of Business	32	\$1,300,096	20	\$719,665	30	14.6%	\$4,061,899	5.2%
College of Communication	6	\$477,606	2	\$994,911	5	2.4%	\$3,134,748	4.0%
Jarvis College of Computing & Digital Media	49	\$16,854,941	39	\$8,296,574	49	23.8%	\$12,741,917	16.3%
College of Education	21	\$9,596,615	22	\$1,009,234	19	9.2%	\$17,432,534	22.2%
College of Law	8	\$814,368	9	\$1,098,943	8	3.9%	\$1,325,709	1.7%
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	26	\$2,921,609	21	\$4,257,022	20	9.7%	\$1,464,017	1.9%
College of Science & Health	45	\$18,516,350	62	\$27,130,867	55	26.7%	\$26,835,202	34.2%
School for Continuing and Prof. Studies	1	\$35,000	4	\$50,000	1	0.5%	\$14,958	0.0%
School of Music	2	\$65,390	0	\$0	1	0.5%	\$2,886	0.0%
The Theatre School	2	\$35,000	3	\$145,000	1	0.5%	\$100,000	0.1%
Administrative Units	25	\$2,340,729	29	\$6,671,435	17	8.3%	\$11,292,363	14.4%
TOTAL	217	\$52,957,704	211	\$50,373,651	206	100%	\$78,406,233	100%

Public vs. Private Submissions

In FY 2026, 37% of DePaul's extramural proposal submissions were directed to public funding sources, including federal, state, and municipal agencies, while 63% were submitted to private organizations, including foundations, corporations, research institutes, professional societies, and associations. Although proposals to public sponsors represented a smaller share of total submissions, they accounted for 82% of the total funding requested, compared with 18% requested from private sponsors.

This distribution reflects the differing funding landscapes of public and private sponsors. Public agencies, particularly federal sponsors, often support larger, multi-year research,

education, and capacity-building initiatives, resulting in higher requested funding amounts per proposal. In contrast, proposals submitted to private organizations frequently seek support for more targeted projects, pilot initiatives, programmatic activities, scholarships, or community partnerships that typically require smaller funding requests. Table 1.4 summarizes FY 2026 proposal submissions and requested funding by sponsor type.

Table 1.4: Public vs. Private Submissions

Type	Count	%	\$ Requested	%
Private	129	63%	\$13,943,094	18%
Public	77	37%	\$64,463,139	82%
TOTAL	206	100%	\$78,406,233	100%

A complete listing of the agencies from which DePaul sought external funding in FY 2026 is provided in Table 1.5. Federal agencies accounted for 31% of all proposal submissions but represented 80% of the total amount of funding requested, underscoring the substantial scale of federal funding opportunities relative to other sponsor types.

In FY 2026, DePaul requested \$62,956,525 from federal sponsors, a significant increase from \$38,260,190 requested in FY 2025. This growth was driven in part by new proposal activity submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor, which contributed substantially to the increase in total federal funding requested.

Table 1.5: Submissions by Source of Support

Agency Type	Agency	Amount	Count
Corporations	Abbott Laboratories	\$124,999	3
	Aon Services Corporation / Aon Foundation / NFP	\$150,000	1
	Boeing	\$125,000	1
	CCC Intelligent Solutions Inc.	\$9,999	2
	Fifth Third Bank	\$20,000	1
	Omron Electronic Components LLC	\$70,000	3
	Procex Technology, Inc.	\$0	1
	Toyota Research Institute	\$833,535	2
	Corporations Total	\$1,333,533	14
Federal Agencies	Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development	\$0	1
	Institute of International Education	\$4,125	1
	National Aeronautics & Space Admin.	\$425,093	3
	National Institute of Justice	\$143,882	1
	National Institutes of Health	\$25,346,809	22
	National Science Foundation	\$11,512,624	22
	Senator Dick Durbin-Congressional Directed Spending Program	\$720,000	1
	The US-UK Fulbright Commission	\$10,500	1
	U.S. Department of Defense	\$198,090	1
	U.S. Department of Education	\$6,574,800	3
	U.S. Department of Energy	\$1,046,087	3
	U.S. Department of Health & Human Services	\$1,927,606	1
	U.S. Department of Justice	\$839,921	1
	U.S. Department of Labor	\$14,176,987	2
	U.S. Department of State	\$0	1
	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	\$30,001	1
	Federal Agencies Total	\$62,956,525	65

Foundations	Alfred P. Sloan Foundation	\$29,918	1
	Allstate Foundation	\$9,989	1
	American Bar Foundation	\$162,443	1
	American Council of Learned Societies	\$95,290	1
	American Mathematical Society	\$21,600	2
	American Psychological Association	\$10,000	1
	American Psychological Foundation	\$2,000	1
	Antiquities Endowment Fund	\$90,200	1
	Archdiocese of Chicago	\$57,615	1
	Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality	\$35,382	1
	Aspen Institute	\$1,750,000	1
	The Bradley Foundation	\$19,800	1
	Career Highways, Inc.	\$31,200	1
	Carnegie Corporation of New York	\$400,000	2
	Center for Black Educator Development	\$100,000	1
	Chicago Bar Foundation	\$14,000	1
	CMB Foundation	\$50,000	1
	Council of Independent Colleges	\$125,000	2
	Crossroads Fund	\$14,958	1
	Field Foundation of Illinois	\$20,000	1
	Glenn W. Bailey Foundation	\$24,773	1
	Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation	\$300,000	1
	Interfaith America	\$10,000	1
	James B Boskey Memorial Foundation	\$48,996	1
	JCCC Foundation	\$5,102	1
	Julian Grace Foundation	\$106,823	2
	Lawyer's Trust Fund of Illinois	\$172,000	2
	MacArthur Foundation	\$15,000	1
	Mission and Ministry, Inc.	\$55,000	1
	Motorola Solutions Foundation	\$50,000	1
	Mozilla Foundation	\$125,000	1
	Opus Prize Foundation	\$92,700	1
	Patrick J. McGovern Foundation	\$88,571	1
	Polk Brothers Foundation	\$70,000	1
	Portland VA Research Foundation	\$9,000	1
	RRF Foundation for Aging	\$75,000	1
	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	\$0	1
	Russell and Josephine Kott Memorial Charitable Trust	\$265,000	2
	Russell Sage Foundation	\$45,936	1
	Schmidt Sciences	\$2,601,994	3
	Schreiber Philanthropy	\$741,861	3
	Smith Richardson Foundation	\$59,538	1

	Sociological Initiatives Foundation	\$25,000	1
	Spencer Foundation	\$166,823	1
	Steans Family Foundation	\$250,000	2
	The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	\$193,342	1
	The Annie E. Casey Foundation	\$100,000	1
	The BlackRock Foundation	\$25,000	1
	The Campbell Foundation	\$24,293	1
	The Chicago Community Trust	\$160,000	3
	The Gray Matter Experience	\$10,000	1
	The Greenwall Foundation	\$102,595	1
	The National Collegiate Athletic Association	\$3,608	1
	The Raskob Foundation	\$60,000	1
	The Teagle Foundation	\$25,000	1
	Walder Foundation	\$178,479	1
	William T. Grant Foundation	\$550,372	1
	World Wildlife Foundation	\$10,000	1
Foundations Total		\$9,886,201	71
International Agencies	The ME Association	\$15,000	1
	Social Science and Humanities Research Council	\$130,238	1
International Agencies Total		\$145,238	2
Municipal Agencies	Chicago Board of Education	\$187,081	2
	City of Chicago	\$700,000	2
Municipal Agencies Total		\$887,081	4
State Agencies	Illinois Board of Higher Education	\$49,882	1
	Illinois Department of Human Services	\$164,980	1
	Illinois Innovation Voucher Program	\$274,433	5
State Agencies Total		\$489,295	7
Other Agencies	AccessLex Institute	\$271,127	1
	American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education	\$12,000	1
	American Chemical Society	\$500	1
	American Lung Association	\$200,000	1
	American Medical Association	\$145,124	1
	American Theatre Wing	\$100,000	1
	Arnold Ventures	\$815,434	1
	Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods	\$10,000	1
	Consortium of Academic & Research Librar	\$30,000	1
	Grand Valley State University	\$83,307	1
	Holy Family Catholic Academy	\$4,353	1

Illinois Realtors	\$141,240	2
John Spry Community School	\$2,886	1
Lewis and Clark Community College	\$75,549	1
Local Initiatives Support Corporation	\$40,000	1
Louisville Institute	\$109,587	2
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	\$72,744	1
Metropolitan Planning Council	\$150,000	1
Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago	\$30,000	1
Northwestern University	\$0	1
Office of Catholic Schools	\$50,263	3
Open Research Community Accelerator	\$15,000	1
Oregon Health & Science University	\$0	1
Psi Chi National Honor Society	\$4,500	3
Renaissance Philanthropy	\$226,958	1
Sinai Urban Health Institute	\$10,000	1
Society for Community and Research Action	\$1,000	1
Southwest Organizing Project	\$13,000	1
St. Benedict Preparatory School	\$7,267	3
St. Giles School	\$12,235	2
The Institute of Internal Auditors	\$5,600	1
The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues	\$1,000	1
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago	\$17,793	1
University of Illinois at Chicago	\$49,893	1
Other Agencies Total	\$2,708,360	43
Grand Total	\$78,406,323	206

SECTION 2:

EXTRAMURAL AWARDS

The Extramural Awards section of the report summarizes the activities of the Award Management unit of ORS. Award Management staff assist faculty and staff with the management of grants, contracts, cooperative agreements and other award mechanisms through a variety of activities that begin when a notice of grant award is issued and extend through award closeout. ORS is assisted in this function by the Restricted Accounting Office. The management of corporate and foundation-sponsored project awards is done in concert with DePaul's Advancement Office. The number of awards and the level of funding associated with those awards are the metrics used to understand this unit's level of activity. An analysis of these metrics can be found after this year's Featured Awards.

Featured Awards

Many faculty at DePaul balance their responsibilities in the classroom educating and mentoring students with competing for and securing external funding in support of their research, scholarship, and service activities. Their extramurally funded projects not only hold the potential to impact the scholarly community but also society as a whole. DePaul University's FY 2026 awarded projects over \$100,000 follow. A full listing of all awards received in FY 2026, listed by project lead, can be found at the end of this section.

Principal Investigator: Kathryn Grant	Awarded by: U.S. Department of Education
Amount: \$1,564,195	Dates: 7/1/2025-6/30/2027
Evaluation of an Intervention to Improve Academic Outcomes for Low-Income Urban Youth through Instruction in Effective Coping Supported by Mentoring Relationships	
Beginning in early adolescence, stress exposure increases dramatically for students who live in urban poverty. Rising stress predicts social, emotional, and behavioral problems and academic disengagement. These problems, in turn, affect long-term academic and employment outcomes and perpetuate the cycle of poverty. The purpose of this project is to evaluate a new intervention designed to change this harmful trajectory. Cities Mentor Project (Cities Project for short) was developed to decrease social, emotional, and behavioral problems and to increase academic engagement and achievement for students residing in low-resourced urban neighborhoods during the early adolescent period and beyond. The program teaches advocacy and coping strategies with mentor and community support through partnerships among public schools, community organizations, and universities. The proposed work will evaluate the efficacy of Cities Project and determine for whom this intervention works, under what conditions, and why. It will also lay groundwork for future follow-up studies on the long-term effects of Cities Project.	

Principal Investigator: Vincent Kurtz	Awarded by: Toyota Research
Amount: \$750,000	Dates: 4/1/2026-3/31/2029
Young Faculty Researchers (YFR)	

Roboticians use simulation all the time, but we still do not have rigorous ways to check whether a simulation will match reality, especially for scenes involving lots of contact. This project will draw on recent advances in error-controlled simulation to measure simulation fidelity, quantify fidelity requirements for robotics, and improve simulation-based learning and control algorithms.

Principal Investigator: Donna Kiel

Awarded by: U.S. Department of Education

Amount: \$720,000

Dates: 6/1/2026-6/1/2029

Center for Middle School Civic Leadership (C-MSCL)

DePaul University's Office of Innovative Professional Learning (OIPL), housed in the College of Education, will establish the Center for Middle School Civic Leadership (C-MSCL) a civic learning and leadership initiative serving middle school students in grades 5–8 in underserved communities across Cook County, Illinois. The C-MSCL will integrate two proven, complementary programs into a single, coherent model: the Barat Education Foundation's Our American Voice® (OAV) civic learning and community engagement curriculum and DePaul University's Future Leader Micro-credential Program. Together, these cornerstone components form a pathway structured around the framework: Voice → Inquiry → Action → Leadership → Impact. Through this sequence, students move from identifying community issues that matter to them, to engaging in civic inquiry, to designing and carrying out informed action, to developing and demonstrating leadership competencies. The C-MSCL responds directly to documented gaps in civic education access. Illinois is among only seven states with a middle school civics mandate, yet a 2023 evaluation by the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) identified persistent needs in student voice, teacher support, equitable access to civic pedagogies, community connection, and family engagement. The C-MSCL is designed to address each of these gaps through structured, evidence-based programming. The Center will serve initially as a Cook County pilot and ultimately as a statewide resource and national model for integrating civic learning with leadership development in middle school settings.

Principal Investigator: Sioban Albiol

Awarded by: Schreiber Philanthropy

Amount: \$467,500

Dates: 3/1/2026-3/1/2027

Immigrant Justice DePaul Migration Collaborative

The DePaul Migration Collaborative (DMC) serves as a resource, practice center and convener for migrant advocacy. By engaging students, faculty, alumni, practitioners and community organizations with multi-disciplinary expertise, the DMC improves understanding of migration and is able to advance more just policies and systems for migrants and refugees.

Principal Investigator: Antonio Polo

Awarded by: U.S. Department of Education

Amount: \$406,995

Dates: 4/1/2023-12/31/2026

Project STRIDE: School-Based Trainee Recruitment and Retention through Innovation and Diversity Enrichment

The current project proposes to expand the capacity of the Chicago Public School (CPS) District, the fourth largest district in the United States, to train mental health counselors in high-need elementary schools, by partnering with the DePaul University's Counseling program. In addition to receiving excellent training in diverse and multicultural practices during their coursework and service-based courses, this proposal aims to train Counseling interns and practicum students and support their delivery of Act & Adapt, an evidence-based group coping skills intervention that was developed and tailored for ethnic minority early adolescents and that has been evaluated and found to be efficacious among CPS students and has been widely disseminated to 120 CPS schools. Using a scaling up strategy, we anticipate supporting the training of 96 school-based Counseling trainees over the next five years with an expectation that they will be

employed by CPS or another high-need educational agency and be well equipped to serve students of diverse backgrounds.

Principal Investigator: Luciano Berardi

Awarded by: U.S. Department of Education

Amount: \$334,695

Dates: 9/1/2025-8/31/2030

DePaul Student Support Services (SSS) Program

DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois, proposes to offer a Student Support Services program to provide enhanced academic and other support services to eligible low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities. Housed in the Division of Student Affairs at DePaul, the SSS project will be an institutional focal point for action and awareness concerning first-generation and low-income students. The program will serve 200 eligible students a year drawn primarily from DePaul's entering freshmen students and will deliver a comprehensive array of academic support, advising, mentoring, financial planning and career and graduate school preparation services.

Principal Investigator: John Shanahan

Awarded by: Chicago Community Foundation

Amount: \$300,000

Dates: 7/1/2025-6/30/2026

Transfer Innovation Impact Model (TIIM) Planning Year

This project fosters a fully collaborative partnership between DePaul University, Harold Washington College (HWC), and OneGoal, in order to create opportunities to begin improving transfer student support services for Chicago students. The three institutions involved in the project have a common mission and long-standing communication channels upon which to build further collaboration. DePaul researchers will conduct regular meetings with HWC and OneGoal to discover additional support for students and initiate plans, both short and long-term. In addition, as part of the project, DePaul will join a learning community of fifteen organizations, all focused on the same results. This is a key opportunity to not only improve outcomes for our shared HWC/DePaul students but also to share information that will improve Bachelor's degree completion more generally in Cook County.

Principal Investigator: Luciano Berardi

Awarded by: U.S. Department of Education

Amount: \$271,617

Dates: 10/1/2025-9/30/2026

DePaul University Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program

The McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program provides high-quality academic support services and scholarly activities for low-income, first-generation and underrepresented minority students who are interested in receiving scholarly training and capable of entering graduate school and completing the doctorate. The university will select eligible students from among its own sophomores and particularly from collaborating pathway programs providing early exposure to scholarly activities and McNair programming. The program will involve participants in a carefully designed and sequenced set of activities including seminars, study groups, coursework, faculty-supervised research, tutoring and field experiences to develop the knowledge base, habits of mind, and commitment needed to pursue doctoral studies and a career of university-level teaching and research.

Principal Investigator: Kyle Grice

Awarded by: National Science Foundation

Amount: \$211,624

Dates: 7/1/2026-6/30/2031

Collaborative Research: Enhancing Collaboration with Inquiry-based Labs - Leveraging a Community of Transformation to Amplify Inquiry in Chemistry Teaching Laboratories

This project will use a well-established, nationwide community of faculty to understand how participation in a community of transformation leads to faculty change, focused on inquiry-based laboratory teaching practices. Through a combination of workshop experiences, laboratory fellows will reinvigorate their

inorganic chemistry and general chemistry teaching laboratories through active learning and inquiry-based experiences. The cohort model will also support community, a lesson learned in a previous project focused on lecture experiences for inorganic chemistry faculty. Education research will generate new knowledge regarding developing critically-reflective practitioners, beliefs about teaching and learning in upper division courses, and the role community places in faculty change, through interviews, surveys, course artifacts, observations, and insights on student learning.

Principal Investigator: Geoff Smith

Awarded by: Steans Family Foundation

Amount: \$200,000

Dates: 9/21/2025-9/20/2026

IHS/SPARK Center – Predictive Neighborhood Analytics, Housing (North Lawndale)

DePaul University's Institute for Housing Studies (IHS), the Visual Informatics and Data Analytics (VIDA) Center, and The SPARK Center propose a comprehensive one year project to support the Steans Family Foundation's (SFF) development, implementation, and ongoing assessment of its housing portfolio. The project team will begin by working with SFF to identify relevant questions aligned to their strategic goals to guide the project and data collection. Guided by these questions and using a mix of publicly available data and data sets provided by IHS, the team will model and test various housing strategies to understand the trade-offs associated with different approaches and make informed decisions on which strategies might provide the most favorable outcomes. This comprehensive analytical support will equip SFF with data-driven tools and insights to clarify future needs and opportunities, illuminate potential trade-offs and synergies, and ultimately support more strategic and effective deployment of resources within its housing portfolio.

Principal Investigator: Antonio Polo

Awarded by: Chicago Board of Education

Amount: \$185,636

Dates: 8/1/2025-6/30/2026

2025-2026 Task Order for Social Emotional Learning (OSEL) Services for Act & Adapt

DePaul University agrees to train and support select implementation and sustainability Chicago Public Schools (CPS) staff (e.g., social workers, school psychologists, counselors) on the program protocol and delivery of Act & Adapt. CPS staff slated for implementation will be selected from up to 24 schools to be determined once recruitment and application reviews are completed by OSEL staff; CPS staff for continued participation will come from up to 76 schools from the sustainability schools list.

Principal Investigator: Salman Parsa

Awarded by: National Science Foundation

Amount: \$174,507

Dates: 8/1/2025-7/31/2027

AF: Small: Novel Topological Descriptors for Topological Data Analysis

The techniques of data analysis and inference are at the core of today's AI driven technology. Statistical methods based on extraction of feature vectors out of point cloud data are widespread. In many applications, however, new approaches are required for extracting features and descriptors of data. Topological Data Analysis (TDA) is a data analysis technique that exploits algebraic topological constructs to design data descriptors which can be used for inferring topological properties of the space of data. These properties are global properties of the space of data (the ideal space from which the data are sampled) that are invariant under continuous deformations. These properties form the so-called shape of data, or more precisely, topological shape of data. The prime example of a topological data feature is the well-established persistence barcode. Salman Parsa, in collaboration with colleagues, has recently discovered a new topological data descriptor called harmonic chain barcode. Similar to the persistence barcode, the suggested barcode is based on sound and promising theory. The project will allow for the study of the harmonic chain barcode. Upon successful execution of the project, evidence of applicability of the suggested approach to a classification or clustering problem in a domain of application would be obtained. This would provide a new tool in the Topological Data Analysis (TDA) toolbox, one that can open

new fronts in applications where existing methods have failed, either in performing the required task, or in the interpretation of the data descriptors obtained.

Principal Investigator: Sioban Albiol	Awarded by: Walder Foundation
Amount: \$170,000	Dates: 1/1/2026-12/31/2027
Defending Dignity: Legal Capacity Building for Immigrant Justice DePaul University Asylum and Immigration Clinic (AIRC) will receive \$170,000 over two years to partially support its work in providing timely legal information, training, and consultation to dozens of immigrant and refugee community-based organizations (CBOs), primarily in the Chicago area. AIRC assists CBOs in earning Department of Justice (DOJ) recognition to enhance the scope and quality of legal services accessible to low-income immigrants and refugees. The need to expand services and expertise is constant, especially as immigration law and policy changes. The training, case consultations, peer to peer support, and other services offered are evaluated and adapted regularly. Funding will partially support the director, two staff attorneys, a coordinator, part-time practitioners in residence and a senior program manager to strengthen CBO staff knowledge and skills in the current context of expanding immigration remedies and increased need of services including humanitarian-based protections.	

Principal Investigator: Wei Li	Awarded by: National Science Foundation
Amount: \$164,403	Dates: 9/1/2025-8/31/2027
LEAPS-MPS: Photonic Topological Edge States on Sharply Joined or Truncated Materials A topological insulator is a material whose interior behaves like an insulator and whose surface behaves like a conductor, that is, waves can travel on its surface but not inside. The surface waves on topological insulators are remarkably robust against environmental disturbances and manufacturing defects. These features make them well-suited for a variety of applications, including in the field of photonics. Photonic topological insulators are topological insulators for electromagnetic waves, which can be used to make compact and efficient on-chip devices for communication and data processing, and are also utilized in optical isolators, topological lasers, uncompressed video, and ultra-thin electrical shielding components. Two mathematical models for photonic topological insulators have been developed: an effective model and a slow-varying domain-wall model, however these models have notable limitations, particularly with respect to truncated edges. Understanding the edge states on sharp interfaces would significantly simplify the manufacturing process for photonic devices. We aim to provide the existence of edge states in full partial differential equation (PDE) models of photonic topological insulators, which may have sharp interfaces or edges. This research will strengthen the mathematical foundations of edge states in photonics in order to guide experimental manufacturing of optical devices. In addition, this work is carefully designed to form a foundation for establishing a long-term research program in topological photonics and will provide abundant learning and research opportunities for a diverse group of undergraduate students in applied analysis at DePaul University.	

Principal Investigator: Tera Agyepong	Awarded by: American Bar Foundation
Amount: \$162,443	Dates: 9/1/2025-8/31/2030
Feminized Courts & Carceral Institutions: Gender, the Legal Regulation of Race, & the Making of Modern Criminal Justice This is a study of courts that emerged in the early twentieth century and created particularly for women and girls. This was any early and experimental iteration of these “problem-solving courts.” By focusing on when these unique courts emerged-in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, and Philadelphia, it will be the first comprehensive and comparative study on the subject.	

Principal Investigator: Sioban Albiol	Awarded by: The Resurrection Project
Amount: \$155,625	Dates: 7/1/2025-6/30/2026
IL A2J and Colibri Fellowship Support 2025-2026 The DePaul College of Law Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic (AIRC) will provide trainings, technical assistance and materials to legal service providers within the Illinois Access to Justice and Immigrant Legal Support Program as well as mentorship and trainings for Colibri Fellows and Learning Labs Participants. Altogether AIRC seeks to work to support the goals of increasing access to competent and reliable immigration legal services by supporting immigration legal services providers in expanding their capacity and scope.	

Principal Investigator: Geoff Smith	Awarded by: Metropolitan Planning Council
Amount: \$150,000	Dates: 11/1/2025-10/31/2026
Data Development and Analysis to Assess Statewide Housing Needs The Institute for Housing Studies at DePaul University (IHS) will partner with the Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC) on an initiative that combines applied research, community engagement, and policy development to address housing challenges across Illinois. The project will produce Illinois' first comprehensive housing market typology and barrier analysis, offering a data-driven framework to identify how housing challenges vary across regions and municipalities; provide new insights to inform targeted policy strategies, legislative priorities, and program development and implementation; and equip state and local leaders with tailored tools for action.	

Principal Investigator: Anne Saw	Awarded by: Schreiber Philanthropy
Amount: \$150,000	Dates: 3/1/2026-3/1/2027
Immigrant Justice Refugee Resilience and Mobility DePaul University will provide a system of holistic support for cohorts of students with refugee background. Our goal is to establish a foundation for economic mobility for these students and foster a narrative change around immigrants with refugee background. The requested funding will support: A triage service for logistical and practical aspects of adapting to life in a US higher education institution and to independent life in Chicago. This includes a stipend for a graduate assistant; a multi-prong approach to mental health services in collaboration with the Ph.D. program in Clinical Psychology at DePaul and the Family and Community Services Clinic, including partial effort for a full-time faculty member and a stipend for PhD students involved in clinical services and scheduling; and a series of workshops or programs involving professionals, internal and external to DePaul, who will assist the cohorts of refugee students through specific aspects of their experience.	

Principal Investigator: LeAnne Wagner	Awarded by: Aon Services Corporation / Aon Foundation / NFP Property and Casualty Services Inc.
Amount: \$150,000	Dates: 10/17/2025-10/16/2028
Beyond the Loan: Community Banks, Small Business Owners and Human Resilience This research project aims to strengthen community bank lending to underserved small businesses by developing a deeper understanding of borrower psychological resilience and how stakeholder relationships (like community banks), resources, and relational work design might influence small business owners' resilience and growth. To ensure the research generates actionable insights for the community banking sector, a Community Bank Advisory Board (BAB) composed of 6–8 leaders from community banks in representative cities across the U.S. will be formed to provide guidance throughout the project. To ground the research, the project will start with a series of in-depth interviews (Phase 1) with	

the BAB participants and key members of their loan staff to identify knowledge gaps and opportunities to support their operations through the research.

Principal Investigator: Fernando DeMaio	Awarded by: American Medical Association
Amount: \$145,124	Dates: 5/1/2026-4/30/2027
Joint Appointment Agreement Dr. DeMaio will lead the development, articulation and implementation of the AMA's Center for Health Equity's research plan. He will be responsible for securing and cultivating partnerships internally and externally to progress the growth and sustainability of CHE initiatives that align and support AMA mission. In addition, Dr. DeMaio will oversee a portfolio of special projects that support foundational research, represent the Center in senior leadership meetings and externally with C-suite executives and media, and serve as an internal equity data and research expert resource within the Center and across the Enterprise.	

Principal Investigator: Sioban Albiol	Awarded by: Lawyer's Trust Fund
Amount: \$127,000	Dates: 1/1/2026-12/31/2026
Legal Resources Project Over the past year, there have been significant litigation and policy developments impacting immigrants. The DePaul College of Law Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic (AIRC) has supported community-based organization (CBO) partners in ensuring Illinois immigrants have current and reliable information on immigration policy developments impacting them including: (1) continued and increasing demand for representation in asylum and humanitarian remedies and immigration court proceedings from newly arrived migrants in Illinois; (2) changing admission and enforcement practices at the US-Mexico border impacting access to asylum; (3) updated Temporary Protected Status designations; and (4) executive actions benefitting spouses and stepchildren of US citizens and impacting a path to lawful permanent resident status for certain DACAmented individuals. In each of these cases, AIRC anticipated training and information needs of partners and responded accordingly. AIRC, knowing CBO partner caseloads and practices, is well-positioned to engage CBO staff in trainings and discussions that address practical implications of policy changes for their clients. AIRC monitors legal developments and anticipates their impact on CBO partner organizations and the individuals they serve. Additionally, AIRC regularly meets with CBO partners to understand issues and challenges most impacting them and their communities. In this way, AIRC works to be responsive to community needs. In the upcoming year, AIRC will continue to engage immigrant-serving nonprofits to meet the challenges and information needs of a growing immigrant advocacy community. AIRC seeks to ensure that the growing number of nonprofits entering the field have access to information and resources to provide reliable, high quality and responsive services and that experienced organizations and staff have training and resources to expand the scope and capacity for services.	

Principal Investigator: Geoff Smith	Awarded by: Illinois Realtors
Amount: \$126,240	Dates: 1/1/2026-12/31/2026
Illinois Housing Market Data and Forecast Reports The Institute for Housing Studies at DePaul University (IHS) is proposing a project to produce a series of regularly recurring data reports for the Illinois Realtors. The goal of these reports is to create an approachable data resource that informs Illinois consumers, policymakers, business leaders, and other housing stakeholders about the dynamics of homebuying within the state. To ensure comprehensive insights, these reports will not only incorporate real estate market data from Illinois Realtors but will also integrate additional economic and housing market information to present a fuller picture of the factors influencing homebuying in Illinois.	

Principal Investigator: John Zeigler	Awarded by: Boeing Corporation
Amount: \$125,000	Dates: 1/1/2026-12/31/2026
MVI VetHer Phase 7: Empowering Women Veterans through Entrepreneurship The VetHer program is a trauma-informed, community-based entrepreneurship initiative designed to support women veterans in launching and sustaining small businesses. Administered by MVI, this program addresses the unique transitional, economic, and psychosocial challenges women veterans face post-service. Phase 7 will continue engaging participants from earlier phases (including the current phase) as they look to create and grow their businesses, focusing on entrepreneurship readiness, financial empowerment, business mentorship, and community reintegration. Funding will allow us to engage 75+ participants, launch a startup incubator, and formalize a scalable training model that supports economic independence and leadership among women veterans.	

Principal Investigator: Geoff Smith	Awarded by: Chicago Community Trust
Amount: \$125,000	Dates: 9/1/2025-8/31/2026
Data support for CCT's Learning and Impact Team and Technical Assistance for Advancing Innovative Homeownership Projects The Institute for Housing Studies (IHS) at DePaul University will support the Chicago Community Trust (CCT) by developing applied research resources and provide high-quality data-focused technical assistance to inform progress toward the Chicago Community Trust's programmatic goal of increasing residents' homeownership and home equity in communities that have faced systemic barriers to building wealth.	

Principal Investigator: Geoff Smith	Awarded by: Schreiber Philanthropy
Amount: \$110,000	Dates: 3/1/2026-3/1/2027
Schreiber Performance Tracker and Technical Assistance The Institute for Housing Studies prioritizes the development of innovative applied research and technical assistance products that directly support decision-making by community partners, public agencies, and philanthropic organizations across Chicago and the region. This funding will strengthen IHS's capacity to collaborate with these partners to identify emerging housing affordability needs, refine and expand data indicators and research tools, and deliver customized technical assistance aligned with partner priorities and equitable housing investment goals.	

Principal Investigator: Shailja Sharma and Sioban Albiol	Awarded by: Julian Grace Foundation
Amount: \$106,000	Dates: 7/1/2026-6/30/2027
Support for Improving Frameworks for Immigration and Asylum: Service, Research and Advocacy DePaul's Asylum and Immigration Clinic has worked with immigrant-serving organizations around the city and in Illinois for almost 30 years, providing direct legal services and building the capacity of immigrant-serving community partners through training, education, and consultation. In addition to pursuing more just and effective advocacy and policy, the long-term impact of this work is strengthening families and neighborhoods. Julian Grace Foundation is continuing its support for these efforts, which align with the Foundation's priority to provide immigration services and focus on human rights domestically and internationally.	

Principal Investigator: Antonio Polo	Awarded by: The Annie E. Casey Foundation
Amount: \$100,000	Dates: 10/1/2025-12/31/2026

Support scaling plans for Act and Adapt

This project will build the capacity of schools and community-based youth serving organizations to implement Act & Adapt with fidelity and collect outcome data to build evidence for the program. DePaul will scan clearinghouse requirements to leverage existing and new outcome data for Act & Adapt inclusion on multiple sites.

Principal Investigator: Joseph Mikels**Awarded by: Russell and Josephine Kott
Memorial Charitable Trust****Amount: \$100,000****Dates: 11/1/2025-10/31/2026****Chicago Consortium on Longevity**

Kott support will allow us to sponsor emotion, well-being, and mental health trainings for providers that serve older adults across northern Illinois area. According to the comprehensive needs assessment conducted last year by the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services, senior service providers reported the greatest need for additional training in mental health (65.2%) and social isolation and loneliness (56.5%). Given our expertise in psychology focusing on social and emotional aging, the Consortium is poised to offer much-needed trainings to providers.



Award Trends

In FY 2026, DePaul University received 119 new and continuation awards from external funding agencies, in addition to 6 agreements with no monetary value attached, such as material transfer agreements, data use agreements, and nondisclosure agreements. Revenue from sponsored projects totaled \$10,306,606 in fiscal year 2026. This revenue total includes \$7,229,943 in new award dollars and \$3,076,663 in continuation funding received in FY 2026. Continuation funding occurs when a funding agency makes an award commitment to the institution, but transfers the award dollars to the institution, incrementally, typically in annual installments based on

satisfactory technical progress on a project.

Continuation dollars are counted by DePaul as award volume in the year in which the funds are actually received, rather than at the time of the initial award notice projecting future receipt of such funds.

In comparison to FY 2025, the number of new and continuation awards with monetary value received in FY 2026 decreased, as well as the overall award revenue received from these awards by an estimated 23.87% from \$13,539,406 to \$10,306,606. Some of this variation was due to award delays or terminations at the federal level.

Awards by Purpose

While extramural awards received by DePaul in FY 2026 cover a broad spectrum of activities, as detailed in Table 2.1, research-related activities account for the preponderance of this year's support. An estimated 49% of the 119 awards received by DePaul University in FY 2026 were in support of research, accounting for 53%, or \$5.4M of the \$10.3M in funds awarded to the University in FY 2026. Public Service accounted for \$2.9M, or 29% of funds received in FY 2026, while Academic Support accounted for 12.6% of dollars.

Table 2.1: Awards by Purpose

Purpose	Count	%	Amount	%
Research	58	49%	\$5,412,586	53%
Public Service	42	35%	\$2,981,076	29%
Community Service	0	0%	\$0	0%
Academic Program Support	13	11%	\$1,299,925	13%
Instructional Support	1	1%	\$10,500	0%
Student Aid	0	0%	\$0	0%
Conferences & Lectures	0	0%	\$0	0%
Institutional Support	5	4%	\$602,519	6%
TOTAL	119	100%	\$10,306,606	100%

Awards by Unit

As indicated in Table 2.2, nine of DePaul's ten Colleges received sponsored project funding in FY 2026, as did several University administrative units. The College of Science and Health (CSH) is the most prominent DePaul recipient of sponsored project funding in FY 2026. The dollar share of CSH's FY 2026 award volume totaled \$3,375,313, or 32.7% of the

University's total award volume of \$10,306,606 up from a 20.1% share in FY 2025. The College of Computing and Digital Media (16%), the College of Business (12.3%), the College of Law (10.7%), and Administrative Units (10.4%) also contributed substantively to the University's award revenue in FY 2026.

Table 2.2: Awards by Unit

Unit	Count	%	Amount	%
Driehaus College of Business	22	18.5%	\$1,268,907	12.3%
College of Communication	3	2.5%	\$38,374	0.4%
Jarvis College of Computing & Digital Media	20	16.8%	\$1,644,798	16.0%
College of Education	10	8.4%	\$794,118	7.7%
College of Law	10	8.4%	\$1,101,997	10.7%
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	13	10.9%	\$1,000,576	9.7%
College of Science & Health	28	23.5%	\$3,375,313	32.7%
School for Continuing & Prof. Studies	1	0.8%	\$10,000	0.1%
School of Music	1	0.8%	\$2,886	0.0%
The Theatre School	0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
Administrative Units	11	9.2%	\$1,069,637	10.4%
TOTAL	119	100%	\$10,306,606	100%

Public vs. Private Awards

DePaul University relies on funding from a variety of sources, including federal, state, and municipal agencies, as well as private sources of support such as associations, corporations, foundations, and other organizations to support its sponsored activities. In FY 2026, public agencies accounted for 49% of sponsored project funding received (Table 2.3). Differing from past trends, the federal government provided 49% of the awarded public share (Table 2.4).

Table 2.3: Awards by Type

Type	Count	Amount	%
Public	34	\$5,065,191	49%
Private	85	\$5,241,415	51%
TOTAL	119	\$10,306,606	100%

Table 2.4: Public Awards Detailed Breakdown

Type	Count	Amount	%
Federal	26	\$4,604,190	91%
Municipal	4	\$301,098	6%
Public International	0	\$0	0%
State	4	\$159,903	3%
TOTAL	34	\$5,065,191	100%

Awards by Source of Support

A complete listing of the public and private agencies from which DePaul faculty received support can be seen in Table 2.5. The Department of Education, NSF, Toyota Research, and Schreiber Philanthropy were the

largest funders, accounting for 12.5% of awards and 34.6% of dollars awarded. Individual award listings by PI name appear at the end of this section.

Table 2.5: Awards by Source of Support

Award Type	Sponsor	Amount	Count
Federal Agencies	Administration for Community Living	\$42,590	2
	National Aeronautics and Space Administration	\$201,494	3
	National Center for Genome Research	\$67,516	1
	National Endowment for the Humanities	\$40,309	1
	National Institutes of Health	\$207,093	5
	National Science Foundation	\$551,252	4
	National Security Agency	\$59,531	1
	U.S. Department of Education	\$3,404,405	8
	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	\$30,000	1
	Subtotal	\$4,604,190	26
Municipal Agencies	Chicago Board of Education	\$187,081	2
	City of Chicago	\$25,000	1
	City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development	\$89,017	1
	Subtotal	\$301,098	4
State Agencies	Illinois Arts Council	\$20,000	1
	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity	\$139,903	3
	Subtotal	\$159,903	4
Corporations	Abbott Laboratories	\$75,000	1
	Aon Services Corporation / Aon Foundation / NFP Property and Casualty Services Inc.	\$150,000	1
	Boeing	\$125,000	1
	Career Highways, LLC	\$31,200	1
	CCC Intelligent Solutions Inc.	\$10,000	1
	Elevated Films	\$10,000	2
	OMRON	\$70,000	2
	Toyota Research	\$750,000	1
	Subtotal	\$1,221,200	10

Foundations	American Bar Foundation	\$162,443	1
	American Mathematical Society	\$21,600	2
	Andrew W. Mellon Foundation	\$45,466	1
	The Annie E. Casey Foundation	\$100,000	1
	Chicago Bar Foundation	\$15,000	1
	The Chicago Community Trust	\$460,000	4
	Crossroads Fund	\$10,000	1
	Fifth Third Bank	\$20,000	1
	The Gray Matter Experience	\$10,000	1
	Interfaith America	\$11,500	1
	Julian Grace Foundation	\$207,243	6
	Lawyer's Trust Fund of Illinois	\$187,000	3
	Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation	\$19,250	1
	MacArthur Foundation	\$15,000	1
	ME Association	\$15,000	1
	Mental Health Sustainability Support with MSV 2026	\$55,000	1
	Motorola Solutions Foundation	\$45,000	1
	Opus Prize Foundation	\$92,700	1
	Polk Bros Foundation	\$70,000	1
	Portland VA Research Foundation	\$9,000	1
	RRF Foundation for Aging	\$75,000	1
	Russell and Josephine Kott Memorial Charitable Trust	\$100,000	1
	Russell Sage Foundation	\$45,482	1
	Saint Mary's College of California	\$5,000	1
	Schreiber Philanthropy	\$727,500	3
	Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues	\$1,000	1
	Spencer Foundation	\$60,000	1
	Steans Family Foundation	\$200,000	1
	Teagle Foundation	\$25,000	1
	Walder Foundation	\$170,000	1
	Subtotal	\$2,980,184	39
Other Organizations	American Chemical Society	\$500	1
	American Medical Association	\$145,124	1
	Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality	\$35,382	1
	Beyond Benign	\$10,000	1
	Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods	10,000	1
	Grand Valley State University	\$38,789	1
	Holy Family Catholic Academy	\$4,353	1

	Illinois Realtors	\$126,240	1
	Ingenuity	\$2,886	1
	The Institute of Internal Auditors	\$5,400	1
	Institute of International Education	\$4,125	1
	Lewis and Clark Community College	\$75,549	1
	Local Initiatives Support Corporation	\$40,000	1
	Mainstreet Realtors	\$15,000	1
	Metropolitan Planning Council	\$200,000	2
	Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago	\$30,000	1
	Northeastern University	\$5,000	1
	Office of Catholic Schools	\$50,263	3
	Open Research Community Accelerator	\$15,000	1
	Sinai Urban Health Institute	\$10,000	1
	Southwest Organizing Project	\$13,000	1
	St. Benedict Preparatory School	\$7,267	3
	St. Giles School	\$12,235	2
	The Resurrection Project	\$155,625	1
	The US-UK Fulbright Commission	\$10,500	1
	United Way of Metropolitan Chicago	\$17,793	1
	Subtotal	\$1,040,031	32
	TOTAL	\$10,306,606	119

Individual Award Listings

Extramural new and continuation awards received in FY 2026.

Adelakun, Olayele; OMRON Management Center of America, Inc.; Power BI Distributor Scorecard Dashboard; 1/26/2026-4/20/2026; \$50,000

Adelakun, Olayele; CCC Intelligent Solutions Inc.; First Responder Intelligent Guidance - Towing AI Agent; 11/6/2025-1/20/2026; \$10,000

Adelakun, Olayele; OMRON Management Center of America, Inc.; MSA Between Omron and DePaul; 11/3/2025-4/30/2026; \$20,000

Adelakun, Olayele; Abbott Laboratories; AI Systematic Literature Review - Screening; 12/15/2025-4/17/2026; \$75,000

Agyepong, Tera; American Bar Foundation; Feminized Courts & Carceral Institutions: Gender, the Legal Regulation of Race, & the Making of Modern Criminal Justice; 9/1/2025-8/31/2030; \$162,443

Albiol, Sioban; Julian Grace Foundation; Continuing Support for Improving Frameworks for Immigration and Asylum AILC; 7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$25,311

Albiol, Sioban; Walder Foundation; Defending Dignity: Legal Capacity Building for Immigrant Justice; 1/1/2026-12/31/2027; \$170,000

Albiol, Sioban; Schreiber Philanthropy;
Immigrant Justice DePaul Migration
Collaborative; 3/1/2026-3/1/2027; \$467,500

Albiol, Sioban; Lawyer's Trust Fund; Legal
Resources Project; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026;
\$127,000

Albiol, Sioban; The Resurrection Project; IL A2J
and Colibri Fellowship Support 2025-2026;
7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$155,625

Albiol, Sioban; Lawyer's Trust Fund of Illinois;
DePaul Community Justice Initiatives;
7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$20,000

Albiol, Sioban; Julian Grace Foundation; AILC
Support for Improving Frameworks for
Immigration and Asylum: Service, Research and
Advocacy; 7/1/2026-6/30/2027; \$52,000

Albiol, Sioban; Lawyer's Trust Fund; AI Best
Practices; 7/15/2026-1/14/2028; \$40,000

Ansari, Sina; Sinai Urban Health Institute;
Ansari Sinai Urban Health Institute Fellowship;
1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$10,000

Bathje, Molly; DHHS Payment Management
System; Partnering with Persons with
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to
Improve Health Care Outcomes; 4/25/2022-
8/31/2025; \$17,353

Bathje, Molly; DHHS Payment Management
System; Partnering with Persons with
Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to
Improve Health Care Outcomes; 4/25/2022-
8/31/2026; \$25,237

Beck-Winchatz, Bernhard; National
Aeronautics and Space Administration; Illinois
Space Grant Consortium FY25-28; 4/10/2025-
4/9/2027; \$94,135

Beck-Winchatz, Bernhard; National
Aeronautics and Space Administration; Illinois
Space Grant Consortium FY25-28; 4/10/2025-
4/9/2029; \$52,359

Berardi, Luciano; Department of Education;
DePaul SSS Program; 9/1/2025-8/31/2030;
\$334,695

Berardi, Luciano; United States Department of
Education; DePaul University Ronald E. McNair
Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program;
10/1/2025-9/30/2026; \$271,617

Brosnan, Julie; Chicago Board of Education;
CPS - Virtual Academy; 9/1/2025-6/30/2026;
\$1,445

Brosnan, Julie; Mental Health Sustainability
Support with MSV 2026; Mission and Ministry,
Inc. (MMI); 7/1/2026-6/30/2027; \$55,000

Buscemi, Joanna; National Institutes of
Health; Testing a Multi-behavioral Intervention
to Improve Oral Health Behaviors in the
Pediatric Dental Surgery Population; 9/1/2025-
8/31/2026; \$40,753

Castillo, Luis Jimenez; The Gray Matter
Experience; The Gray Matter Experience (TGME)
MOU; 6/15/2026-11/15/2026; \$10,000

Coll, Alberto; Lynde and Harry Bradley
Foundation; A Course on the Constitution of the
United States – The Constitution and American
Foreign Policy; 8/12/2025-8/12/2026; \$19,250

Cook-Qurayshi, Jessica; Crossroads Fund;
FY26/Labor Education Center at DePaul
University; 7/1/2026-8/31/2026; \$10,000

DeMaio, Fernando; American Medical
Association; Joint Appointment Agreement;
5/1/2026-4/30/2027; \$145,124

Demetriades, Stefanie; National Institutes of Health; Reducing HIV vaccine and prevention hesitancy among sexual and gender minority adolescents; 5/16/2023-2/28/2027; \$17,874

Demetriades, Stefanie; The US-UK Fulbright Commission; Global Challenges Teaching Award; 8/1/2025-1/31/2027; \$10,500

Dush, Lisa; Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; Experiential Humanities Collaborative; 10/1/2024-12/31/2027; \$45,466

Flores, Michael; Elevated Films; Become a Filmmaker Supplement Activities; 12/1/2022-12/31/2025; \$5,000

Flores, Michael; Elevated Films; Become a Filmmaker Supplement Activities; 12/1/2022-9/30/2025; \$5,000

Foster, Elissa; Department of Education/Davidson College; A National Higher Education Deliberative Citizenship Network (DCN): Fostering Civil Discourse on 100 Campuses Across the United States; 6/1/2026-5/31/2027; \$10,000

Freemon, Kayla; Russell Sage Foundation; Expanding Wellness-Focused Data Collection to Improve Probation Outcomes; 10/1/2025-9/30/2026; \$45,482

Geoff Smith; Chicago Bar Foundation; Monthly Foreclosure Data for Cook County Foreclosure Prevention Outreach; 1/1/2026-1/31/2027; \$15,000

Grant, Kathy; Department of Education; Evaluation of an Intervention to Improve Academic Outcomes for Low-Income Urban Youth through Instruction in Effective Coping Supported by Mentoring Relationships; 7/1/2026-6/30/2027; \$738,463

Grant, Kathy; Department of Education; Evaluation of an Intervention to Improve Academic Outcomes for Low-Income Urban Youth through Instruction in Effective Coping Supported by Mentoring Relationships; 7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$825,732

Grice, Kyle; National Science Foundation; Collaborative Research: Enhancing Collaboration with Inquiry-based Labs - Leveraging a Community of Transformation to Amplify Inquiry in Chemistry Teaching Laboratories; 7/1/2026-6/30/2031; \$211,624

Grice, Kyle; Beyond Benign; Curriculum Revision – Removing Dichloromethane (DCM) and Making Organic and Inorganic labs Greener; 8/15/2025-8/14/2026; \$10,000

Griffin, Graham; American Chemical Society; ACS Student Communities Professional Meeting Grant; 5/29/2026-9/26/2026; \$500

Harlow, Josh; Ingenuity/John Spry Elementary School; John Spry Community School; 3/1/2026-6/4/2026; \$2,886

Jason, Leonard; ME Association; Can we reach consensus on a research case definition?; 9/15/2025-8/31/2026; \$15,000

Jason, Leonard; Public Health Institute / National Institutes of Health; Enhancing Effectiveness Research on Recovery Housing for Persons Prescribed Medication for Opioid Use Disorder; 9/30/2025-7/31/2026; \$61,007

Jensen, Jaclyn; Archer Career Technologies, LLC (IDCEO); Rising Sophomore Success Initiative with Agentic AI (RSSP); 12/1/2025-6/3/2026; \$65,250

Johnson, Laura-Caroline; City of Chicago;
2025 City Arts Program; 1/1/2025-12/31/2026;
\$25,000

Johnson, Laura-Caroline; Illinois Arts Council;
General Operating Support FY26; 9/1/2025-
8/31/2026; \$20,000

Judge, Thomas; Saint Mary's College of
California; Sport at the Service of Humanity
course; 8/1/2025-5/31/2026; \$5,000

Kiel, Donna; St. Benedict Preparatory School;
RISE Together: Catholic Communities of
Belonging - St. Benedict; 8/10/2025-6/1/2026;
\$1,797

Kiel, Donna; U.S. Department of Education;
Center for Middle School Civic Leadership (C-
MSCL); 6/1/2026-6/1/2029; \$720,000

Kiel, Donna; Office of Catholic Schools; Office
of Catholic Schools – RISE Consultation;
12/15/2025-6/30/2026; \$23,500

Kiel, Donna; St. Benedict Preparatory School;
RISE Together: Catholic Communities of
Belonging - St. Benedict (2); 8/10/2025-
6/1/2026; \$2,267

Kiel, Donna; Office of Catholic Schools; RISE:
Creating Communities of Belonging and Social
Justice Program; 7/1/2026-5/31/2027; \$23,500

Kiel, Donna; Office of Catholic Schools; Digital
Discipleship: Integrating AI in Catholic
Education Through Faith-Centered Innovation;
8/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$3,263

Kiel, Donna; Holy Family Catholic Academy;
Holy Family Academy – RISE Program;
12/15/2025-5/15/2026; \$4,353

Kiel, Donna; St. Giles School; RISE Together:
Catholic Communities of Belonging - St. Giles;
8/10/2025-6/1/2026; \$9,000

Kiel, Donna; St. Benedict Preparatory School;
St. Benedict School – RISE Program;
12/15/2025-5/15/2026; \$3,203

Kiel, Donna; St. Giles School; Instructional
Coaching; 12/15/2025-4/15/2026; \$3,235

Kirkland, Sean; National Endowment for the
Humanities; Nietzsche, Unpublished
Fragments from the Period of The Birth of
Tragedy; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$40,309

Knapp, Gwendolyn; National Science
Foundation; Increasing Science Literacy in
Microbiology through the Use of Open
Education Resources; 10/1/2025-10/31/2026;
\$718

Kozlowski, Dorothy; Michael Reese Health
Trust; Brain Injury in Intimate Partner Violence
in Chicago; 11/1/2024-10/31/2026; \$0

Kurtz, Vince; Toyota Research; Young Faculty
Researchers (YFR); 4/1/2026-3/31/2029;
\$750,000

Laboe, Mark; Interfaith America; Vincentian
Mission and Excellence through Capacity
Building; 6/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$11,500

Laboe, Mark; Opus Prize Foundation; OPUS
Prize; 11/1/2025-10/31/2026; \$92,700

Li, Wei; National Science Foundation; LEAPS-
MPS: Photonic Topological Edge States on
Sharply Joined or Truncated Materials;
9/1/2025-8/31/2027; \$164,403

Liechty, Karl; American Mathematical Society;
Random matrices in statistical physics and JT
gravity; 9/1/2026-8/31/2029; \$10,800

Maguire, Matthew; Teagle Foundation; Bringing Transformative Texts to DePaul University; 7/1/2026-6/30/2027; \$25,000

McGivern, Martha; Institute of International Education; IIE American Passport Project; 9/1/2026-11/15/2027; \$4,125

McMahon, Susan; Spencer Foundation; The Impact of Victimization on Educator Mental Health and Retention: Understanding Race-Based Violence using an Ecological Framework; 3/1/2026-2/28/2029; \$60,000

Mikels, Joseph; National Institutes of Health; Emotion, Aging, and Decision Making; 3/15/2025-2/28/2027; \$44,068

Mikels, Joseph; Russell and Josephine Kott Memorial Charitable Trust; Chicago Consortium on Longevity; 11/1/2025-10/31/2026; \$100,000

Orhean, Alexandru; The Loop Speech, Language, and Learning (IDCEO); The Learning Loop EMR No Indirects; 10/1/2025-9/30/2026; \$22,000

Orhean, Alexandru; The Loop Speech, Language, and Learning (IDCEO); The Learning Loop EMR; 10/1/2025-9/30/2026; \$52,653

Parsa, Salman; National Science Foundation; AF: Small: Novel Topological Descriptors for Topological Data Analysis; 8/1/2025-7/31/2027; \$174,507

Polo, Antonio; Department of Education; Project STRIDE: School-Based Trainee Recruitment and Retention through Innovation and Diversity Enrichment; 1/1/2023-2/6/2026; \$96,903

Polo, Antonio; Chicago Board of Education; 2025-2026 Task Order for Social Emotional

Learning Services for Act & Adapt; 8/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$185,636

Polo, Antonio; The Annie E. Casey Foundation; Support scaling plans for Act and Adapt; 10/1/2025-12/31/2026; \$100,000

Polo, Antonio; U.S. Department of Education; Project STRIDE: School-Based Trainee Recruitment and Retention through Innovation and Diversity Enrichment; 4/1/2023-12/31/2026; \$406,995

Raicu, Daniela; National Institutes of Health; VS-EDGE: Visual-Semantic Explanations for Diagnostic Guidance; 6/16/2025-5/31/2028; \$43,391

Ramaraj, Thiru; National Center for Genome Research; Collaborative Research: TRTech-PGR: Functional Pangenomic and Machine Learning Tools for Exploring Genetic Diversity in Plants; 10/1/2025-9/30/2028; \$67,516

Ramaraj, Thiru; Portland VA Research Foundation; Applying AI techniques on transcriptomic and clinical data of giant cell arteritis (GCA) and related conditions; 7/7/2025-7/7/2026; \$9,000

Rosing, Howard; Chicago Food Policy Action Council/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program; 9/1/2025-8/31/2026; \$30,000

Saw, Anne; Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods; Brushwood Center agreement for Shreya Arugula; 8/1/2025-12/25/2025; \$10,000

Saw, Anne; Schreiber Philanthropy; Immigrant Justice Refugee Resilience and Mobility; 3/1/2026-3/1/2027; \$150,000

Saw, Anne; Asian Americans for Civil Rights and Equality; Stop AAPI Hate Contract; 10/31/2025-10/31/2026; \$35,382

Schwieterman, Joseph; Lewis and Clark Community College; Contract Between DePaul University Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development and The National Great Rivers Research and Education Center a Unit of Lewis and Clark Community College; 7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$75,549

Settimi-Woods, Raffaella; Northeastern University; DePaul/CIC bridge data program participation; 12/19/2024-12/31/2026; \$5,000

Shanahan, John; Chicago Community Foundation; Transfer Innovation Impact Model (TIIM) Planning Year; 7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$300,000

Sharevski, Filippo; National Security Agency; 2024 National Centers for Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity (NAE-C); 9/23/2024-9/30/2026; \$59,531

Sharma, Shailja; Julian Grace Foundation; Continuing Support for Improving Frameworks for Immigration and Asylum DMC; 7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$25,311

Sharma, Shailja; Julian Grace Foundation; DMC Support for Improving Frameworks for Immigration and Asylum: Service, Research and Advocacy; 7/1/2026-6/30/2027; \$54,000

Sharma, Shailja; Julian Grace Foundation; Continuing Support for Improving Frameworks for Immigration and Asylum DMC; 7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$25,310

Smith, Geoff; MacArthur Foundation; Analysis of Student Housing in Chicago; 10/1/2025-3/31/2026; \$15,000

Smith, Geoff; Southwest Organizing Project; SWOP Data Dashboard and Technical Assistance 2026; 3/1/2026-2/28/2027; \$13,000

Smith, Geoff; Illinois Realtors; Illinois Housing Market Data and Forecast Reports; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$126,240

Smith, Geoff; Chicago Community Trust; Data support for CCT's Learning and Impact Team and Technical Assistance for Advancing Innovative Homeownership Projects; 9/1/2025-8/31/2026; \$125,000

Smith, Geoff; Mainstreet Realtors; Research on Point of Sale Inspections; 3/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$15,000

Smith, Geoff; Schreiber Philanthropy; Schreiber Performance Tracker and Technical Assistance; 3/1/2026-3/1/2027; \$110,000

Smith, Geoff; Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago; Data and Analysis to Understand NHS Loan Portfolio; 10/1/2025-8/31/2026; \$30,000

Smith, Geoff; Muse Community + Design / City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development; Bronzeville Cultural Trail Framework Plan; 8/26/2025-12/31/2026; \$89,017

Smith, Geoff; Polk Bros Foundation; Data and technical assistance supporting equitable housing and community investment strategies - Transition Funding; 11/12/2025-11/11/2027; \$70,000

Smith, Geoff; RRF Foundation for Aging; Technical Assistance to Support Organizations Working on Older Adult Housing Needs; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$75,000

Smith, Geoff; Metropolitan Planning Council; Unlocking Privately Owned Vacant Land: Data-Driven Strategies for Chicago; 11/1/2025-10/31/2026; \$50,000

Smith, Geoff; Metropolitan Planning Council; Data Development and Analysis to Assess Statewide Housing Needs; 11/1/2025-10/31/2026; \$150,000

Smith, Geoff; Chicago Community Trust; Elevated Chicago Knowledge Sharing Working Group 2026; 2/1/2026-1/31/2027; \$20,000

Smith, Geoff; Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Technical Assistance to the Chicago Neighborhood Recovery Program (CNRP); 1/1/2025-12/31/2025; \$40,000

Smith, Geoff; Fifth Third Bank; Data Services & Technical Assistance for Low to Moderate Income Communities; 9/1/2025-8/31/2026; \$20,000

Smith, Geoff; Steans Family Foundation; IHS/SPARK Center – Predictive Neighborhood Analytics, Housing (North Lawndale); 9/21/2025-9/20/2026; \$200,000

Smith, Geoff; Chicago Community Trust; Elevated Chicago Technical Assistance 2026; 2/1/2026-1/31/2027; \$15,000

Snow-Hill, Nyssa; Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues; PhotoVoice Project for Adults Experiencing Homelessness in a Medical Respite Shelter; 2/1/2026-1/31/2027; \$1,000

Tenner, Bridget; American Mathematical Society; AMS-Simons Research Enhancement Grants for PUI Faculty; 9/1/2026-8/31/2029; \$10,800

Turner, Allen; National Aeronautics and Space Admin; A Safety-Aware Ecosystem of Interconnected and Reputable sUAS; 9/1/2023-8/31/2026; \$55,000

Ustun, Ilyas; Motorola Solutions Foundation; Motorola Solutions Foundation Scholars Program: A Deep Investment in Under-Resourced Data Science Talent; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$45,000

Vance-McMullen, Danielle; Grand Valley State University; Donor-Advised Fund Annual Report; 7/1/2025-6/30/2026; \$38,789

Vance-McMullen, Danielle; United Way of Metropolitan Chicago; Nonprofit Management Training Program 2026; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$17,793

Wagner, Leanne; Aon Services Corporation / Aon Foundation / NFP Property and Casualty Services Inc.; Beyond the Loan: Community Banks, Small Business Owners and Human Resilience; 10/17/2025-10/16/2028; \$150,000

Wagner, Leanne; Career Highways, LLC; Career Highways LLC Master Services Agreement; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$31,200

Westbrook, Jess; Open Research Community Accelerator; TMI Toolkit: Ethical, Intersectional, and Open Practices for Identity-Driven Qualitative Research; 4/1/2026-9/15/2026; \$15,000

Whittington, Ray; The Institute of Internal Auditors; 2025 Academic Alliance; 9/1/2025-8/31/2026; \$5,400

Zeigler, John (Bennett, Walidah); Boeing Corporation; MVI VetHer Phase 7: Empowering Women Veterans through Entrepreneurship; 1/1/2026-12/31/2026; \$125,000

SECTION 3:

INTRAMURAL SUBMISSIONS AND AWARDS

Intramural research funding is designed to support the individual scholar with an innovative idea in a traditionally underfunded area of research, or the scholar who needs monetary assistance in bringing a preliminary scholarly, instructional, or creative activity to fruition. ORS administers intramural grants awarded by the University Research Council (URC), Quality of Instruction Council (QIC), and Public Service Council (PSC). Additional intramural funding is made available to DePaul academic units through the Undergraduate Research Assistant Program (URAP). Similar to Sections 1 and 2, the number of proposals/awards, and the level of funding associated with them, are used as the metrics in Section 3.

Council Awards

DePaul University's Office of Research Services grants intramural awards through the three Councils, which conferred 83 intramural awards totaling \$452,886 in FY 2026. Proposals submitted to the Councils are peer reviewed and recommended for award by the vote of Council Members. Council awards in FY 2026 broke down as follows:

University Research Council (URC): The URC supports the faculty's research, scholarship, and creative activities through competitive grants and leaves. In addition to helping faculty maintain their intellectual vitality, the grants and leaves are intended as a stepping-stone for securing external funding. The URC received 99 proposals totaling \$567,551 in FY 2026 and conferred 58 awards totaling \$329,436.

Public Service Council (PSC): The PSC assists faculty in incorporating meaningful public service and service learning into DePaul University coursework. The Council currently supports grant programs for instruction and research as well as a series of annual faculty awards for service. The PSC received 6 proposals totaling \$27,429 in FY 2026; the Council conferred 4 awards totaling \$18,420.

Quality of Instruction Council (QIC): The QIC supports faculty efforts to enhance the curricular offerings of DePaul University. QIC received 34 proposals totaling \$157,100 in FY 2026 and conferred 21 awards totaling \$105,030.

Table 3.1, FY 2026 Requests/Awards by Council, details the total number of proposal submissions to the three Councils along with the total dollar value of funds requested. The number of awards conferred by each Council in FY 2026, and the aggregate dollars awarded are also detailed in Table 3.1. Most Council intramural funding, like extramural funding, supported research, with an estimated 72.7% of FY 2026 awards allocated to research.

Table 3.2, Total Intramural Council Funds Awarded, FY 2017-2026, details the aggregate number and dollar value of Council awards for the FY 2017 to FY 2026 period. Both the quantity and number of intramural grants funded have fluctuated during this timeframe. The number of Council awards in FY 2026 increased by 17.8% compared with FY 2025, returning to levels more consistent with FY 2024 and earlier years over the 10-year period. All submissions recommended for funding by the Councils in FY 2026 were supported.

Table 3.1: Proposals/Awards by Council

Proposals					Awards			
Council	Count	%	\$ Requested	%	Count	%	\$ Awarded	%
PSC	6	4.3%	\$27,420	3.6%	4	4.8%	\$18,420	4.1%
QIC	34	24.5%	\$157,100	20.9%	21	25.3%	\$105,030	23.2%
URC	99	71.2%	\$567,551	75.5%	58	69.9%	\$329,436	72.7%
TOTAL	139	100%	\$752,071	100%	83	100%	\$452,886	100%

***Technical Note:** Dollar amounts include stipend payments to faculty involved in grant projects, as well as budget transfers for course releases that are not included in proposal and award budgets.*

Table 3.2: Total Intramural Council Funds Awarded, FY 2017-2026

FY	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Funds Awarded	\$424,000	\$660,462	\$525,540	\$439,360	\$404,646	\$358,612	\$356,100	\$463,066	\$371,920	\$452,886
Award Count	110	133	149	95	82	78	72	92	76	83

***Technical Note:** FY 2020 - FY 2026 dollar amounts include stipend payments to faculty involved in grant projects as well as budget transfers for course releases that were not included in the previous years' totals.*

Faculty from nine of DePaul's colleges applied for intramural Council funding in FY 2026, and all nine of the colleges' faculty were recipients of intramural awards. College of Science and Health (CSH) faculty submitted 31.2% of all proposals and received 32.5% of FY 2026 awards (Table 3.3). The Jarvis College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM) and

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (LAS) followed with an estimated 23.9% and 22.5% proposals and 25.3% and 20.5% of FY 2026 awards, respectively. Each of the remaining units accounted for fewer than 10% of proposals submitted to the Councils and, as expected, received fewer than 10% of Council-conferred awards.

Table 3.3: Council Grant Funds Requested/Awarded by Unit

Unit	Proposal #	%	\$ Requested	%	Award #	%	\$ Awarded	%
BUS	9	6.5%	\$44,100	5.9%	4	4.8%	\$21,000	4.6%
JCDM	33	23.9%	\$161,656	21.5%	21	25.3%	\$105,890	23.4%
CMN	12	8.7%	\$59,109	7.9%	7	8.4%	\$49,675	11.0%
CSH	43	31.2%	\$261,750	34.8%	27	32.5%	\$148,355	32.8%
EDU	5	3.6%	\$26,115	3.5%	2	2.4%	\$8,740	1.9%
LAS	31	22.5%	\$176,361	23.5%	17	20.5%	\$96,246	21.3%
LAW	0	0%	\$0	0.0%	0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
MUS	2	1.4%	\$8,240	1.1%	2	2.4%	\$8,240	1.8%
SCPS	1	0.7%	\$3,500	0.5%	1	1.2%	\$3,500	0.8%
TTS	2	1.4%	\$11,240	1.5%	2	2.4%	\$11,240	2.5%
TOTAL	138	100%	\$752,071	100%	83	100%	\$452,886	100%



Undergraduate Research Assistant Program (URAP)

The University's Undergraduate Research Assistant Program (URAP) offers students a unique opportunity to work with a faculty member, or group of faculty, on the planning and implementation of a research project. The URAP program enhances participating students' overall academic experience at DePaul, by providing them with opportunities to collaborate with faculty members who conduct research, or other scholarly/creative activities, in disciplinary areas of their choosing. Similarly, it provides our faculty with the benefits of compensated research assistance in support of

their scholarly endeavors. Experience gained through the URAP program is a valuable asset for students pursuing careers that require research and project management skills and enhances the academic preparation of those who pursue graduate or professional studies. URAP provides block grants to DePaul academic units. In FY 2026, a total of 119 units of student support were awarded. Nine of the University's ten colleges participated in the URAP program in FY 2026. The distribution of FY 2026 URAP units and associated funding, by academic unit, is detailed below in Table 3.5.

Table 3.5: URAP Funds Awarded by Unit

Unit	# Units	%	\$ Awarded	%
Driehaus College of Business	22	18.5%	\$27,390	18.5%
College of Communication	5	4.2%	\$6,225	4.2%
Jarvis College of Computing & Digital Media	27	22.7%	\$33,615	22.7%
College of Education	7	5.9%	\$8,715	5.9%
College of Law	0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	19	16.0%	\$23,655	16.0%
College of Science & Health	32	26.9%	\$39,840	26.9%
School of Continuing & Prof. Studies	2	1.7%	\$2,490	1.7%
School of Music	2	1.7%	\$2,490	1.7%
The Theatre School	3	2.5%	\$3,735	2.5%
TOTAL	119	100%	\$148,155	100%

Note: One Unit = 75 hours of student work per quarter

Individual Award Listings

Intramural Awards

PUBLIC SERVICE COUNCIL AWARDS

Ferrera, Maria; Building Sustainable Infrastructure for Trauma-Informed Forensic Asylum Evaluations; \$5,000

Gardner, Joseph; In the Public Interest - Participatory Social Science to Help Students and Educators Confront Challenges in Urban Schools; \$4,740

Miyamoto, Yuki; The International People's Tribunal in Seoul Korea; \$3,680

Netter, Molly; Integrating Research, Education, and Clinical Practice: A Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) in Urban Chicago; \$5,000

QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION COUNCIL AWARDS

Amini, Sajad; *School of Design Student Design Studio*; \$7,500

Bockting-Conrad, Sarah; Enhancing Instructional Materials for the MAT 140-141 Discrete Mathematics Sequence; \$7,000*

Brucher, Katherine; Javanese Gamelan in the School of Music Classroom: Ensembles for Undergraduate Musical Studies Majors; \$3,240

Cadilhac, Michael; Equipment for New Course on FPGA Programming; \$5,000

Chu, Shu-Chuan; Ethical, Well-being and Societal Impacts of Artificial Intelligence in Advertising; \$3,500*

Freemon, Kayla; Criminology Study Abroad to Jamaica Preparation; \$2,550

Jin, Li; 2-Credit-Hour Language Courses for Study Abroad Students; \$10,500*

Kahn, Linda; Pedagogical Refresh: Enhancing Instructional Impact Through Study at Joffrey and Visceral Dance Schools; \$1,000

Kozlowski, Dorothy; Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience Workshop Participation; \$3,900

Landahl, Eric; Development of a Modular Electronics Trainer Platform for Interdisciplinary Electronics Instruction; \$7,500*

Lin, Hui; Navigating the Dragon: Understanding Business Culture, Strategy and Growth in China; \$3,500

McCracken, Allison; Learning Videographic Essay Criticism for American Popular Culture courses; \$3,600

Miyamoto, Yuki; Short-Term Study Abroad Program with GLE; \$4,000

Reynolds, Joel; Development & Pilot of a CO-OP Program; \$7,500*

Sandberg, Elizabeth; Comedic Game Design; \$10,240*

Thomas, Noelle; Modular Sets for Virtual Production; \$5,000

Uysal, Nur; Designing a Credit-Bearing Student-Run Communication Agency Course: The LoopedIn Co. Experiential Learning Model; \$3,500*

Wetzel, Richard; Merging Anatomical Models with Augmented Reality for Immersive Learning in Health Sciences Education; \$5,000

Workman, Margaret; Planning Trip for new FY@Broad France: The Science of French Cuisine; \$2,500

Wu, Jindi; Developing an Introductory Course in Quantum Computing and Programming; \$3,500*

Zhao, Jianfei; Revitalizing BIO209 Plant Biology: Cutting-Edge Curriculum and Inquiry Lab Redesign; \$5,000

** Amounts marked with * include one or more stipend payments to faculty involved in the grant project in addition to the awarded grant budget.*

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COUNCIL AWARDS

Alqadar, Ambarien; Where Lotus Flowers Bloom: A Short Experimental Film; \$7,500*

Bass, Rachel; Kathak: When Story Becomes Faith; \$5,000

Bell, Margaret; Long Term Effects of Early Life PFAS Exposure on Brain Gene Expression; \$5,000

Bennett, Casey; In-the-Wild Symptom Detection with Smartwatches; \$5,000

Booth, Paul; Remixing Pop Music; \$4,000

Brooke, Joanna; Using a Single S. Maltophilia Strain as Bait to Capture Different Bacterial Viruses; \$5,000

Bucking, Scott; Sustaining the Beni Hassan Archaeological Heritage Project in Middle Egypt; \$3,906

Buscemi, Joanna; Delivery of Cardiometabolic Risk Factor Screening and Interventions in Community Settings: A Systematic Review; \$7,500*

Bystriansky, Jason; Pesticide Impacts on the Physiology and Ecology of Salamanders Inhabiting Inland Saline Environments in the Prairie Pothole Region of Canada; \$7,500*

Canli, Ursula; National Association Hispanic Nurse Mentorship Program Evaluation; \$7,100*

Conith, Andrew; The Impact of Stevia Leaf Extract on Transforming Growth Factor (TGF-?) Signaling in Cichlids; \$7,472*

Connolly, Sarah; TurboID Detection of Herpesvirus Protein Interactions; \$5,000

Cooper Mongeon, Katherine; Builders, Brokers, and Believers: Implications of Church Growth and Decline for Communities Beyond Congregations; \$5,000

Demetriades, Stefanie; Follower Fallacies: Trust, Overconfidence, and Social Media Misinformation; \$5,000

Deng, Tao; Improving Mental Health Public Service Ads with Liminal Space Imagery; \$18,675*

Felker, Lori; Patient (Feature Film Post Production); \$5,000

Ferrera, Maria; A Journey to Safety and Belonging: Narratives of Asylees; \$16,200*

Funk, Phillip; Lipid Rafts in chB6 Signaling; \$5,000

Gao, Tianxiang; Understanding Neural Scaling Laws in Deep Neural Networks Through Feature Learning Dynamics; \$5,000

Gilliland, William; Female Meiosis in Laying Worker Bees; \$5,000*

Hanley, David; Mobile Ultrasound System for Pleural Robotics and Pulmonary mHealth; \$3,500

Hanley, David; Towards Multimode Fiber Imaging, Shape Sensing, Mapping, and Localization in Robotic Endoscopy; \$5,000

Haymes, Stephen; Phenomenology Roundtable Conference/2026 Conference Theme: What Can Phenomenology Offer Confronting the Post-Truth Condition Africana, Decolonial, Critical and Continental Phenomenological Interventions; \$4,000

Hoot, Bradley; Automating the Multilingual Naming Test; \$5,000

Huzaifa, Muhammad Umer; Mindscapes -- The Intersection of Art, Brainwaves, and Robotics; \$5,000

Ibata-Arens, Kathryn; "Life Incorporated" Book Production Data Visualizations (contract in hand); \$5,000

Kimble, Sara; The Rights of Political Prisoners: International Antifascist Campaigns during 1930s: A Case Study of French Activists and Female Prisoners in Fascist Europe; \$3,500

Ku, Minseon; The Power of Performance: Summit Diplomacy and World Politics; \$7,000*

Landahl, Eric; Real-Time Environmental Sensing and Digital-Twin Visualization for Sustainable Energy Management at The Plant; \$4,945

Larva, Jessica; Experimental Digital Monoprint Process; \$5,000

Leiter Couto, Leticia; Understanding Influencers' Mental Health; \$5,000

Lemmon, Grace; Combating Antifat Bias in AI's Employment-Related Recommendations; \$5,000

Mazzeo, John; Co-Designing a Predictive Patient Care Dashboard with Community Health Workers Using a Design Thinking Framework; \$5,000

McMahon, Susan; Gender-Based Violence Against Educators; \$8,500*

Miyamoto, Yuki; Downwinders-2; \$5,000

Miyamoto, Yuki; Nuclear Nuevo Mexico; \$3,980

Nakayama, Makoto; GenAI Spillover Effect and AI Governance; \$4,990

Neidlinger, Erica; Marches by Women, Recording; \$5,000

Perez, Xavier; Community Violence Intervention Work; \$7,500*

Putnam, Cynthia; Exploring the Application of the Dreyfus & Dreyfus Model of Adult Skill Acquisition for Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Pedagogy; \$5,000

Quinn, Heather; Bookstand 2125: An Exhibition of Speculative Books from 100 Years in the Future; \$4,900

Rajah, Talitha; Identifying the Mechanism of Epithelial Mesenchymal Transitions Leading to Invasive Cellular Behaviors in K14TRT Mouse Mammary Cancer Cells; \$5,000

Ramaraj, Thiruvarangan; A Computational Framework for Pattern Detection in Environmental Microbiome Datasets; \$5,000

Ramaraj, Thiruvarangan; AI-Driven Multi-Omics Exploration of Microplastics and

Associated Microbiomes in the Thames River and Royal Docks; 5,000

Ramaraj, Thiruvarangan; Comprehensive Immunological Responses to Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) in college students with Infectious Mononucleosis (IM) who do and do not develop Myalgic Encephalomyelitis / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS); \$5,000

Rauvola, Rachel; Minority Stress for Workers with Disabilities: A Multilevel Investigation of Context and Experience; \$3,500*

Salazar Pozos, Olga; Stitching an Archive: Collective Artistic Responses to the Mexican War on Drugs; \$3,500

Schober, Daniel; Examining How Community Health Workers Can Support Engagement in Digital Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia (dCBT-I); \$3,500*

Snow-Hill, Nyssa; Attitudes toward People Experiencing Homelessness; \$7,500*

Southern, Cathrine; Leveraging AI Tools to Design Substrates to Probe the Specificity of Human Inflammatory Caspase-5; \$4,970

Steuer, Adam; Establishing a Free Prospective Surveillance Model Clinic for Underserved Breast Cancer Survivors; \$4,968

Swaucy-Coleman, Melissa; Police Violence Impact; \$4,830

Traylor, Daniel; Investigating the Effectiveness of Novel Amino Acid-enriched Medical Food Beverages to Determine Post-ingestion, Glycemia, Insulinemia, Aminoacidemia, and Whole-body Protein Synthesis Rates in Adults Prescribed GLP-1 RA Drugs; \$5,000

Wang, Tawei; Bandit-Guided AI Agent for Auditable Government Compliance; \$5,000

Wang, Letong; Scalable Parallel Algorithms for Eccentricity Computation in Massive Graphs; \$4,000

Wu, Jindi; Modeling Tradeoffs Among Trainability, Reliability, and Expressiveness in Quantum Machine Learning; \$5,000

Zhao, Jianfei; Investigating miR156-Targeted SPL Transcription Factors as Regulators of Plant Seed Oil Content and Composition; \$5,000

Zhao, Jianfei; Unveiling the Roles of miR156-targeted SPLs: Key to Deciphering the Plant Aging Pathway; \$5,000

** Amounts marked with * include one or more stipend payments to faculty involved in the grant project in addition to the awarded grant budget.*

SECTION 4:

RESEARCH PROTECTIONS

The Research Protections section outlines the activities of committees that oversee research involving human subjects, live vertebrate animals, and biohazardous materials. These activities are most effectively assessed by examining the volume of protocols reviewed by the committees throughout the academic year. Accordingly, submission counts, used as the primary metric for Research Protections activities, are reported in this Section. In addition to tracking submission volume, the Research Protections unit began capturing review turnaround time for human subjects protocols, an important indicator of the timeliness and efficiency of committee reviews.

Summary

The Research Protections unit within the Office of Research Services (ORS) at DePaul University manages three federally mandated review committees: the Institutional Review Board (IRB), the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), which oversee research involving human subjects, biohazardous materials, and live vertebrate animals, respectively. In collaboration with

these committees, ORS ensures institutional compliance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations governing the ethical conduct of research.

In FY 2026, these committees reviewed 465 submissions, including 250 new protocols. At the close of FY 2026, the committees were managing 849 active protocols, compared to 868 active protocols at the end of FY 2025.



Institutional Review Board (IRB)

DePaul’s Institutional Review Board (IRB) is a university-wide committee charged with overseeing research involving human subjects conducted by the DePaul community. The IRB is comprised of faculty and staff from various academic and administrative units, as well as local community representatives.

The summary of IRB submissions by type is presented in Table 4.1. In total, the IRB received 398 submissions, including 231 new protocols. In FY 2026, the number of new protocols increased by 11% compared to FY 2025, indicating the university community’s active engagement in research. 44% of new protocols were submitted by student researchers. This metric highlights the university’s commitment to integrating research into teaching for better academic outcomes. There was also a 47% increase in the number of requests for reliance on a single IRB for multi-site collaborative research. The number of annual IRB-conducted continuing reviews remains low, consistent with new federal rules and industry practices

that no longer require annual reviews for most expedited research. The average turnaround time (TAT) for all IRB submissions approved in FY 2026 - from protocol submission to approval - was 23 days, which is consistent with national benchmarks.

This fiscal year, the Research Protections unit finalized the migration of legacy paper protocols to the eProtocol system to improve compliance and oversight. The unit continued its partnership with ResearchMatch at Vanderbilt University to provide DePaul researchers with access to a pool of participants for health-related studies. The unit also continued to use the Smart IRB platform for multisite collaborative research. As a new development, Research Protections partnered with UIC’s Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) to offer DePaul researchers access to the CIRTification training program for community research partners and other educational resources.

Table 4.1: IRB Submissions by Type

Type	Total	Exempt	Expedited	Full	Non-NSR
New Projects	231	135	78	6	12
Amendments	132	53	74	5	
Continuing Review	3			3	
Final Report	30	22	4	4	
Adverse Event/Incident	2	2			
	398				
IAA/IIA	22				
Student Protocols	102				

Abbreviations: Non-Human Subjects Research (Non-NSR), IRB Authorization Agreements (IAA), and Individual Investigator Agreements (IIA)

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)

IACUC oversees the use of animals in research and teaching activities. The IACUC is a federally mandated oversight committee that reviews all proposals for the use of live vertebrate animals consistent with the guidance of the National Institutes of Health Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare. IACUC Submissions are detailed in Table 4.2. In total, IACUC received 26 submissions, a slight decrease from FY 2025. IACUC Designated Member Reviews of protocols increased 50% in FY 2026, from 10 in FY 2025 to 15 this fiscal year. However, Full Committee Reviews

decreased from 8 in FY 2025 to 4 in FY 2026. To satisfy federal regulations, including the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals and the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals, in FY 2026, IACUC secured an agreement with a health provider, Concentra, to provide access to qualified health screenings for individuals involved in animal care and use. The screenings will be fully implemented as part of the IACUC Occupational Health and Safety Program in fall 2026.

Table 4.2: IACUC Submissions

Type	Total	Initial	Amendment	Renewal	Final
Full Committee Review (FCR)	16	16			
Designated Member Review (DMR)	17		6	11	
Administrative Review (AR)	8		4		4
	41				

Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

The IBC oversees the use of biohazardous materials in research and teaching. The IBC is a federally mandated oversight committee that ensures the safe acquisition, use, and disposal of all biohazardous agents at the university. IBC Submissions by Type are presented in Table

4.3. In total, the IBC received 41 submissions, a 14% increase from submissions received in FY 2025. New submissions doubled from 8 in FY 2025 to 16 this fiscal year, signaling strong growth in laboratory research at the university.

Table 4.3: IBC Submissions

Type	Total	Initial	Amendment	Renewal	Final	AE
Designated Member Review (DMR)	15		4	10	1	
Full Committee Review (FCR)	4	3				1
Administrative Review (AR)	7		5		2	
	26					

Submissions by Unit

As might be expected, the focus of the activity of the three oversight committees is the College of Science and Health (CSH). In FY 2025, approximately 53% of research protections submissions, and all IBC and IACUC submissions, originated with faculty, staff, and students in CSH (Table 4.4). Modest groupings of IRB activity were also concentrated in the Colleges of Business, Communication,

Computing and Digital Media, Education and Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. All the remaining colleges and various Administrative Units contributed negligibly to research protections submission levels this FY. However, it should be noted that all colleges had at least one submission, compared to prior years with some colleges having no submissions.

Table 4.4: Submissions by Unit

Unit	IRB	IBC	IACUC	Total
Driehaus College of Business	29	0	0	29
College of Communication	12	0	0	12
Jarvis College of Computing & Digital Media	38	0	0	38
College of Education	23	0	0	23
College of Law	2	0	0	2
College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences	33	0	0	33
College of Science & Health	88	16	4	108
School for Continuing & Prof. Studies	2	0	0	2
School of Music	2	0	0	2
The Theatre School	1	0	0	1
Administrative Units	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	231	16	4	251

SECTION 5:

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER & COMMERCIALIZATION

The Technology Transfer section summarizes the activities of the Office of Technology Transfer, Commercialization & Social Impact within ORS.

Summary

DePaul University's [Office of Technology Transfer, Commercialization & Social Impact \(TTO\)](#) serves as the university's central hub for supporting faculty and other personnel in intellectual property (IP) protection and commercialization strategy. The TTO helps transform innovation into impact through the practical commercialization of research,

software, creative works, and emerging technologies. Through intellectual property guidance, industry engagement, startup support, and strategic partnerships, the office seeks to expand opportunities, generate societal benefits, and strengthen DePaul's culture of innovation.

Infrastructure Development

FY 2026 marked the first full year of operation for DePaul University's TTO. Established in August 2025, the TTO serves as the university's central resource for supporting intellectual property protection, commercialization strategy, industry engagement, and innovation-focused partnerships. The office works closely with faculty, administrators, entrepreneurs, and external organizations to help translate DePaul innovations into meaningful societal and economic impact.

A primary focus during FY 2026 was building the infrastructure necessary to support long-term innovation and commercialization activities.

The TTO collaborated with university leadership, the Office of Research Services (ORS), the Office of General Counsel ([OGC](#)), and the Coleman Entrepreneurship Center ([CEC](#)) to develop key policies, processes, and resources. Among the year's accomplishments were the creation of [an invention disclosure form](#), development of patent funding award mechanisms, conception of an Innovation Review Committee, and benchmarking of technology transfer practices at peer institutions.

Faculty Engagement

Faculty engagement represented another significant area of progress. The TTO established 17 faculty connections, delivered four educational outreach events, and provided guidance regarding intellectual property protection, commercialization pathways, startup formation, licensing arrangements, and revenue-sharing strategies. These activities increased awareness of technology transfer opportunities and helped establish a foundation for future innovation activity across multiple colleges and disciplines.

The office also began generating tangible commercialization outcomes. During FY 2026, the TTO received four invention disclosures and supported the filing of two provisional patent applications. In addition, the TTO helped negotiate and implement two licensing agreements associated with faculty-developed software innovations supported by the [Illinois Innovation Voucher Program](#). These agreements created pathways for future commercialization while establishing long-term

royalty opportunities that may benefit both faculty innovators and the university.

The TTO further supported grant-related innovation activities. In collaboration with ORS, the office participated in three significant grant-related initiatives, including two Illinois Innovation Voucher Program awards and the submission of a nearly \$3 million National Science Foundation Accelerating Research Translation (ART) proposal designed to strengthen DePaul's innovation and technology transfer ecosystem.

A summary of the TTO’s FY 2026 activities and accomplishments is detailed in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1: TTO Summary of FY 2026 Activities

Activity	FY 2026
Invention disclosures received	4
Provisional patent applications filed	2
Licensing agreements executed	2
Faculty educational outreach events	4
TTO-supported grant activities	3
Individual faculty connections	17

SECTION 6:

STAFF & COMMITTEES

In this section, ORS acknowledges the contributions of staff and committee members who formally contributed to sponsored and creative activities of the institution this fiscal year. In addition to these named faculty and staff, we also benefit from the counsel of deans, chairs, and administrative units at the University too numerous to name here; each has enhanced our activities and ensured a high level of service to both applicants and recipients of sponsored project funding.

Office of Research Services Staff & Fellows			
Associate Provost for Research Daniela Stan Raicu			
Research and Innovation Lauren Miller <i>Chief of Staff & Director of Research and Innovation Strategies</i>	Pre-Award Services Kirsten Yehl <i>Director of Pre-Award Services & Research Development</i>	Award Management Jyrell Keys <i>Director of Award Management</i>	Research Protections Anna Bernadska <i>Director of Research Compliance</i>
Technology Transfer Anthony Volini <i>Director of Technology Transfer, Commercialization & Social Impact</i>	Stacey Wagner <i>Senior Grant & Contracts Specialist</i>	Amy Dauernheim <i>Senior Grant & Contract Specialist</i>	Stuti Vaidya <i>Assistant Director of Research Compliance</i>
2026 Research & Innovation Fellow Eric Landahl <i>Professor, College of Science and Health</i>	Ian Price <i>Grant & Contracts Specialist</i>	Brinton Ahlin <i>Grant & Contract Specialist</i>	Vacant <i>Research Protections Coordinator</i>

Council Membership		
Public Service Council (PSC)	University Research Council (URC)	Quality of Instruction Council (QIC)
Leah Bryant	Gary Chen	Dexter Bullard
Rich Devine	Kayla Freeman	Blair Davis
Rocio Ferreira	Caitlin Karver	Kevin Downing
Marty Martin	Thomas Matta	Li Jin
Rebecca Michel	Roxanne Owens	Sara Jones
Allen Moye	Salman Parsa	Yiou Li
Jessica Pamment	Heather Quinn	Jody Marcucci
Yoalli Rodriguez- Aguilera	Yong-Chan Rhee	Susana Martinez
Jason Schneider	Daniel Schober	Sanjukta Mukherjee
Amber Settle	Nur Uysal	Jeff Ng
<i>Ex officio:</i>	Rob Zenchelsky	Alexandra Novakovic
Lauren Miller	(Adler)	Lisa Sedor
Howard Rosing	Mingjun Zhou	Jess Westbrook
Daniela Stan Raicu	<i>Ex officio:</i>	<i>Ex officio:</i>
	Lauren Miller	Lauren Miller
	Daniela Stan Raicu	Daniela Stan Raicu

Protections Committee Membership		
Institutional Review Board (IRB)	Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
Anna Bernadska	Kathleen Abma	Margaret Bell, Vice Chair
Leah Bryant	Jeremie Fant	Eiron Cudaback
Joanna Buscemi, Vice Chair	David George, Vice Chair	Noe de la Sancha
Darrell Cannon	Jingjing Kipp	Jaimie Engle
Jeremy Brown	Janine Kirin	Caleb McMahan
Jessica Choplin	Justin Maresh, Chair	Eric Norstrom, Chair
Fernando de Maio	Nicolette Zielinski-Mozny	Marisa Shender
Melodie Fox	Rima Barkauskas	Nicolette Zielinski-Mozny
Jessica Jerome	Alternates:	<i>Ex officio:</i>
Amira Proweller	Brian Henson	Anna Bernadska
Filipo Sharevski	<i>Ex officio:</i>	Melodie Fox
Kashica Webber-Ritchey	Anna Bernadska	Janine Kirin
Lisa Tarr	Melodie Fox	Daniela Stan Raicu
Neil Vincent, Chair	Daniela Stan Raicu	
Jessica Vogt		
Phillip Yates		
<i>Ex officio:</i>		
Daniela Stan Raicu		

Committee on Research Policy (CORP)
Deanna Burgess
Joe Chen
Regina Garcia
Tran Hai
Zhen Huang
Shiera Malik
Alexander Rasin
Chris Roberts, Chair
Andreea Smaranda-Aldea
Ahmed Zayed

Conflict of Interest (COI) Committee
Bright Hong
Donna Kiel
Goran Kuljanin
Bridget Tenner

Research, Creative Activities, and Innovation Website Committee
Bernhard Beck-Winchatz
Amy Dauernheim
Jason Martin
Lauren Miller
Heather Nash
Jeff Ng
Alexander Rasin
Chris Roberts
Daniela Stan Raicu
Amanda Thompson
David Wang
Grace Wang