

Guiding Principles for Nonprofit Funder and Research Institution Collaborations

These principles are intended to support the development of productive collaborations between Nonprofit Funders and Research Institutions while recognizing that the missions and objectives of each are distinct. Both parties will need to understand and respect these differences and identify common goals that allow both parties to achieve their desired objectives. With these guiding principles as a starting point, strategies and processes can be brought to bear to develop collaborations in which the parties' disparate missions, objectives, and constraints can be addressed while achieving a more beneficial outcome.

A Productive Long-Term Relationship is the Desired End State

Guiding Principle #1: Nonprofit Funder and Research Institution's collaborative efforts and activities should focus on fostering effective long-term partnerships based on mutual trust.

The Missions of Nonprofit Funders and Research Institutions Define the Scope of Potential Collaborations

Guiding Principle #2: A successful Nonprofit Funder – Research Institution collaboration needs to support the mission of each partner. Both parties need to recognize and appreciate the differences and respective constraints of one another. Efforts that are not in alignment with the mission of either partner will ultimately fail.

A collaborative approach will facilitate shared research goals.

Guiding Principle #3: Nonprofit funders and Research Institutions should focus on the benefits to each party that will result from efficient and effective collaborations to ensure timely conduct, results dissemination, and advancement of research findings.

Opportunities for collaboration may include intellectual property and technology transfer, research project support costs, streamlining administrative activities, and other topics.