

**The College at Brockport  
Defining Sponsored Awards vs. Charitable Gifts  
Quick Reference Summary**

**Purpose:** this document is meant to serve as a complementary reference guide to the Policy on defining Sponsored Awards vs. Gifts. The table highlights general characteristics of these two funding categories, but is only a guide and not comprehensive.

In the event of questions, please contact the Research Foundation at 585-395-2444, or The Brockport Foundation/Division of Advancement at 585-395-2451.

	<b>Gift</b>	<b>Sponsored Award</b>
<b>Benefit received by funder from activities funded</b>	Serves the primary business, mission, philanthropic or personal interest of funder.	Serves the primary business or mission interest of the funder, whose basic activities are integrally related to the research plan-benefit received.
<b>Specificity of intent of funder</b>	Funder seeks advances in a general area of research or education, or seeks advances in a specific area, and may prescribe specific strategies or work plans.	Funder seeks implementation of a basic or specific research or education plan, with defined objectives, strategies, work plans and /or deliverables.
<b>Value exchanged</b>	Funder expects and receives implementation of, and a report of, the Institution's funded activities. Funder essentially receives no personal or institutional value in return for the funds given, other than intellectual satisfaction that the activities have been undertaken.  Deliverables may be provided.	Funder expects and receives implementation of, and a report of, the Institution's funded activities; funder's or campus' mission and/or research agenda is advanced through the Institution's funded activities.  Deliverables provided as per original contract with the funder.

	<b>Gift</b>	<b>Sponsored Award</b>
<b>Scope of work</b>	More generally defined; typically no time frame or period of performance.	More specifically defined with a clear period of performance.
<b>Persons performing funded activities</b>	Often left to discretion of Institution, school, department or one named individual.	Key personnel (or the equivalent project leadership team) are named in proposal, and changes to key personnel must be pre-approved by funder.
<b>Budget specificity and restrictions</b>	Budgeting is general in nature and terms, and funder pre-approvals are not required as long as funds are used for the stated purpose.	Budgets are general or specific, and variances from proposed budgets (within designated parameters) may require funder pre-approval.
<b>Progress reports</b>	May be required but are most often general in nature and content.	Deliverables or report required, and outlines progress toward the research or project plan.
<b>Terms of funding</b>	Less detailed.	Often detailed, with standard, or detailed terms and conditions for all funding from that sponsor.
<b>Ability of funder to recoup funds</b>	Generally very difficult to recoup, except in cases of deliberate, proven use of restricted funds inconsistent with terms of a restricted gift.	Established ability of funder to terminate the agreement and/or demand repayment of funds, if specific research or project plans have not been implemented.
<b>Method of documentation</b>	Binding (often signed) agreement between the Institution and funder, binding the Institutions to implement specific project plans.	Binding (often signed) agreement between the Institution or grant administrator and funder, binding the Institutions to implement research or project plans.