The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) provides assistance and resources to SSU faculty and staff pursuing internal and external funding for educational and academic activities. ORSP’s mission is to provide a wide range of services to help identify funding sources and craft competitive proposals. The office also provides guidance on University policies and handles all aspects of the internal endorsement process. Specific services include the following:

- Disseminating information on grants available from government and private sponsors;
- Assisting in developing projects, writing proposals, and formulating budgets;
- Managing the campus approval process to ensure compliance with agency guidelines as well as with University policies related to grants;
- Supporting the Faculty Subcommittee on Sponsored Programs in developing requests for proposals for the grant programs that are managed internally by SSU, reviewing those proposals, recommending funding, and administering the eventual awards;
- Reviewing submissions to the Institutional Review Board of protocols for research involving human subjects; and
- Conducting faculty workshops on grant writing.

Office of Development

The Office of Development is responsible for coordinating private philanthropic support for Sonoma State University among its many constituents. Fundraising efforts are carried out through comprehensive campaigns, an annual fund drive, a planned giving program, and a memorial giving program. Contributions are sought for unrestricted purposes, scholarships, student talent awards, faculty development, departmental funds, and capital campaigns. Donors may designate their gifts to be used for immediate purposes or to establish or add to permanently endowed funds.

Sonoma State Enterprises, Inc.

Sonoma State Enterprises, Inc., is a not-for-profit, auxiliary corporation of Sonoma State University, established to provide services that are not eligible for state funding, but are nonetheless crucial to the life of the campus. Sonoma State Enterprises operates retail, dining, and general service functions including Seawolf Shops, Amechi’s Pizza and Pasta, Charlie Brown’s Café, The Commons, The Pub, Toast, the University Club, Zinfandel Dining Hall, Zinfandel Marketplace, Reprographics, Koda Copy Center, Zinfandel Post Office, and refrigerator rentals. Enterprises’ net proceeds, after establishment of appropriate reserves, are provided to the University in support of the educational mission. The corporation is governed by a policy-making board of directors comprised of faculty, staff, students, administrators, and community members.
The Sonoma State University Academic Foundation, Inc., is a public service, not-for-profit corporation established in 1974 to promote the development programs of the University. The foundation’s principal mission is to receive and administer gifts, endowments, scholarships, and planned giving that enhance and promote Sonoma State University's educational mission. The activities of the foundation are directed by a board of community, student, faculty, and administrative representatives. The foundation is a CSU auxiliary organization, as defined in Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.

The University Affairs Office coordinates the public, media, and government relations for SSU, and it provides communications, marketing, creative, and event planning services to the University community. One of its primary functions is to communicate information about the University to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the community. The office responds to media inquiries and actively works to place stories about the University in local, regional, and national publications and broadcasts. It also oversees the faculty and staff newsletter, NewsBytes, the Experts Guide, the University magazine Insights, the Schedule of Classes, and the University catalog, as well as various special communications projects for academic and administrative areas. In conjunction with Information Technology, staff members develop content and design for the SSU website.

Additional responsibilities include maintaining relations with government leaders and public agencies, maintaining several websites for the campus, and working closely with the Development Office and the Alumni Association in support of University advancement and community outreach efforts.