

YALE UNIVERSITY ▼ INTERNAL COMPETITION
W. M. KECK FOUNDATION
Science & Engineering Research • Medical Research
*To support projects proposing unconventional, transformative research
that is outside the scope of federal funding agencies*

DEADLINES

Expressions of Interest: (PI Name, Project Title) by November 6, 2018 **(required)**

Internal Competition Deadline: November 27, 2018 at 5:00pm

SPONSOR'S WEBSITE (review thoroughly)

The Research Program (guidelines): <http://www.wmkeck.org/grant-programs/research>

Grant Abstracts: <http://www.wmkeck.org/grant-programs/research/medical-research-grant-abstracts>

FUNDING

Typically up to \$1 million over project periods of 3-5 years.

NOMINATION LIMITATION

Yale is eligible to submit four (4) one-page concept papers for consideration in each of the **Science & Engineering** and **Medical Research program categories** (up to 8 concepts total).

The W. M. Keck Foundation supports high-risk, high-impact interdisciplinary fundamental research at the forefront of science in two specific areas: (1) Medical Research and (2) Science & Engineering. Funded research projects focus on emerging areas of research in science, engineering, and medicine, and/or have the potential to develop breakthrough technologies in these areas.

The W. M. Keck Foundation does NOT fund "incremental" research programs focused on the logical next step. The Medical Research Program does NOT support disease-focused research, clinical or translational research, treatment trials, or research for the purpose of drug development.

Proposed projects should:

- be high-risk, high-impact and interdisciplinary, with the potential for transformative impact (for example, leading to the founding of a new field of research). High-risk includes pursuit of questions that push the edge of the field, presenting unconventional approaches to intractable problems, or challenging the prevailing paradigm;
- address question(s) that are of central importance toward advancing knowledge of fundamental phenomena. Projects proposing the development of novel instrumentation and methodology will be considered so long as these efforts are in service of addressing question(s) of fundamental scientific significance;
- **NOT** be readily fundable by federal agencies because the project falls outside the scope of traditional public funding agencies;
- **NOT** focus on clinical or translational research, disease-focused research, treatment trials or research for the sole purpose of drug development.

Previous successful proposals from Yale share the following elements:

1. The project is aimed at addressing a long-standing, critical gap in our understanding of fundamental phenomena.
2. The project falls outside the mission of federal funding agencies and this is corroborated with concrete evidence (letters/emails) from officials indicating that the proposed work lies outside the scope of federal funding agencies.

Internal Competition Procedures – W. M. Keck Foundation

STEP ONE:

Expressions of Interest – submit PI name, Proposal Title by Tuesday, **November 6, 2018 (REQUIRED)**

STEP TWO:

INTERNAL COMPETITION APPLICATION

---- *Submit a single PDF with the following items to melanie.smith@yale.edu; cc: osp@yale.edu ----
by November 27, 2018 at 5:00pm (no exceptions)*

Complete the Scholar Awards Face Page at <https://your.yale.edu/node/9391>. Leave the “referee” section blank.

Attach a one-page concept paper (12-point font, 1-inch margins) **using the following outline:**

An overview of the proposed project emphasizing any unique aspects and pilot studies.

Describe how the project:

- Focuses on important and emerging areas of research (indicate area of emphasis for project: Medical Research or Science and Engineering Research) with a clearly articulated scientific problem and explanation of why the project would represent a breakthrough
- Is innovative, distinctive and interdisciplinary
- Demonstrates a high level of risk due to unconventional approaches, or by challenging the prevailing paradigm
- Has the potential for transformative impact, such as the founding of a new field of research, the enabling of observations not previously possible, or the altered perception of a previously intractable problem

A brief description of the methodologies and key personnel

A brief justification of the need for Keck support, particularly:

- *Document whether federal support for the proposed project has been sought and declined because it falls outside the scope of support of federal agencies. Proposals declined for other reasons, such as scoring below the payline, do NOT meet this requirement.*
- A statement of how private philanthropy generally, and the W. M. Keck Foundation, in particular, is essential to the project’s success

An estimated budget broken down by major areas -- personnel, equipment, consumable supplies, etc.

(Budgets can be rough approximations at this stage. Direct costs only.)

Space permitting, the authors are free to add other details (e.g., background to put the research into perspective, description of Yale’s prominence in the field, etc.). If a reference is necessary, abbreviate it as (Science, 323, 45, ‘11). Do not use (Jones et al., 2011). Do not include illustrations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Melanie.Smith@Yale.edu ▪ Funding Resource Center ▪ 203-785-4978