

## 2016 Beckman Scholars Program

Recognizing Outstanding Undergraduate Students in Chemistry and Biological Sciences Research

### Proposal Review Criteria

*[Proposal Review Criteria \(/bsp/proposal-review-criteria\)](#)*

**"Hire the best people - then get out of their way." – Arnold O. Beckman**

The Foundation has the assistance and counsel of a group of distinguished faculty who serve on the Beckman Scholars Advisory Panel. The panel members review and evaluate the applications for the merit-based program. The panel considers the following factors in its evaluations of the final applications:

1. Institution's historical and current commitment to quality undergraduate research programs in chemistry, biochemistry and the biological and medical sciences, or some interdisciplinary combination of these subjects.
2. Institution's recent record of admission to quality graduate and medical schools for its chemistry, biochemistry, biological and medical science undergraduate students, along with information about graduate pre-doctoral fellowship awards.
3. Baccalaureate institution as a source of chemistry, biochemistry, biological science and medical science PhD's and MD's.
4. Educational credentials and scholarly accomplishments of proposed Faculty Mentor group as evidenced by publications from start of academic year 2009-2010 to the end of academic year 2013-2014 (5 years) in refereed research journals, receipt and magnitude of nationally competitive funding to support research activities from start of academic year 2009-2010 to the end of academic year 2013-2014 (5 years), and career teaching/research excellence awards and honors.
5. Undergraduate research mentor experience of participating faculty as indicated by:
  - a. Number and **names of undergraduates currently mentored** in research work performed in faculty member's lab(s).
  - b. Number of undergraduates mentored who performed research in faculty member's lab (s) from start of academic year 2009-2010 to the end of academic year 2013-2014 (5 years).
  - c. Number of peer-reviewed articles in research journals (excluding abstracts) with undergraduate co-authors from start of academic year 2009-2010 to the end of academic year 2013-2014 (5 years).
  - d. Number of undergraduate co-authors of peer-reviewed articles in research journals (excluding abstracts) from start of academic year 2009-2010 to the end of academic year 2013-2014 (5 years).
  - e. Number of mentored undergraduate research students who have presented research papers/posters at off-campus regional or national professional meetings from start of academic year 2009-2010 to the end of academic year 2013-2014 (5 years).
6. Adequacy of proposed student evaluation and selection criteria to affirm that the institution's most talented students are considered for Beckman Scholar awards - students who possess the intellect, written and oral communication skills, as well as personal character, to become potential outstanding leaders in their ultimate science-related careers and professions.
7. Quality, distinctiveness and clarity of academic unit(s)' program plan for nurturing Beckman Scholars as they progressively develop their research knowledge, skills and abilities, emphasizing the student as a focal point of research activities vs. supporting role duties (i.e., collaborator vs. support

technician).

8. Academic unit(s)' level(s) of external support (federal agencies, private foundations and industry) for faculty research activities as well as the institution's internal operational and financial support for research activities which include Beckman Scholar participation.
9. Institution's proposed program for Beckman Scholars' personal development, including mentoring, advisement, career planning assistance and distinctive educational enrichment programs.
10. Institution's proposed plan for the professional development of the Faculty Mentors in their role as Beckman Scholars research mentors.
11. Institution's plan for sustaining an excellent Beckman-like undergraduate research program once the Beckman funded award ends.

Each Advisory Panel member is tasked with reviewing the applications with the above criteria, which are weighted based on importance in achieving the goals of the Beckman Scholars Program. The Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation has asked the Advisory Panel to place special emphasis on the selection process, the degree of responsibility the student personally will have for his/her project(s), the quality of the academic unit(s)' research programs, the degree of interaction between the student and the research mentor and the distinctiveness of institutional educational enrichment programs focused on Beckman Scholars.

The Foundation also is of the opinion that whatever an institution's selection process includes, that activity is enhanced considerably by faculty evaluations of Beckman Scholar candidates' written and oral communication skills. Therefore, the Foundation asks for the inclusion of student interviews, conducted by faculty, as an important element of the selection process presented in the application.

#### **Deadline Reminder**

Applications for the Beckman Scholars Program must be submitted through the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation online grant making system by:

**Monday, June 15, 2015  
at 5 p.m. PDT.**

**GO TO THE APPLICATION ([HTTPS://1BECKMANFOUNDATIONGRANTS.COMMUNITYFORCE.COM/LOGIN.ASPX](https://1beckmanfoundationgrants.communityforce.com/login.aspx))**

100 Academy, Irvine, CA 92617

Voice: 949-721-2222, Fax: 949-721-2225

general email: [administration@beckman-foundation.com](mailto:administration@beckman-foundation.com) (<mailto:administration@beckman-foundation.com>)

Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation.

©copyright 2015, all rights reserved.

---