The Moore Inventor Fellows – 2017 Guidelines
"50 Inventors to shape the next 50 years."

The Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation announces the second competition for Moore Inventor Fellows. The foundation seeks to identify outstanding inventors and innovators who harness science and technology to enhance the conduct of scientific research, strengthen environmental conservation, or improve the experience and outcomes of patient care.

The Moore Inventor Fellowship program focuses on inventors at a critical stage of their innovations to support their work in ways that might be missed in the current research and development ecosystem. We seek to provide freedom and support to promising inventors with compelling inventions to pursue their creative work.

Program Overview
Gordon Moore's contribution to the development of microelectronics helped produce the exponential growth of the digital revolution. In the spirit of Moore's passion for science and penchant for inventing, the foundation seeks to invest in people who create new tools, technologies, processes, or approaches with a high potential to accelerate progress in the foundation's three main areas of interest.

The foundation anticipates investing $33.75 million to support 50 Moore Fellows. The first five fellowships were awarded in 2016. This year, the competition will focus on inventors at major research universities, additional institutions from among the top 50 National Institutes of Health-funded medical schools and universities, and selected non-academic environmental research institutions. Each eligible institution may nominate two people.

Each fellow will receive funding for three years at a level of $200,000 per year from the foundation. In addition, the foundation will provide the host institution with $25,000 each year to cover costs associated with administering the grant award, resulting in a total three-year award amount of $675,000. Each host institution will be required to contribute $50,000 in annual direct support of the inventor's work. This can be "in kind" as released time or access to special facilities for which there is normally a charge. We expect each fellow will be personally engaged in pursuing their invention and we require each fellow to devote at least 25 percent of their own time to their invention. Fellows may use the grant funds to support their own salary to create this opportunity. They may also hire undergraduate, graduate assistants or postdoctoral scholars and purchase services, equipment, or supplies.

Who and What We Seek to Fund
Candidates must be faculty, research scientists, postdocs, or other full-time staff at eligible institutions. Candidates must be within ten years of receiving the advanced terminal degree in their field (M.S., Ph.D. or M.D.).

The scope of this call is intentionally wide: proposed projects do not need to fall within our current funding priorities, but should broadly align with the program areas of foundation interest. As with all our grants, we seek to measure progress toward a defined goal during the three years of support.

We aim to support inventions at an early stage that could lead to proof-of-concept work on an invention or advance an existing prototype that tackles an important problem. We seek innovations with the promise of making a long-lasting impact by addressing underlying problems in their field, but a clear path toward commercialization is not a requirement. We are not interested in supporting projects that

are already at a stage where significant venture capital is available. The foundation's policy is that intellectual property that results from a grant must be managed and disseminated in a manner that leads to the greatest impact. Each award will include IP terms to reflect the needs of that project.

We recognize that real invention can take surprising turns, so we seek creative individuals who have big ideas, deep knowledge, and the courage to take smart risks. We recognize that inventors and innovators come from a diversity of backgrounds, disciplines, and experiences and will look for creativity across a broad array of academic programs and research departments. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to environmental science and conservation, oceanography, biology, engineering, physics, chemistry, materials science, neuroscience, public health, rehabilitation sciences and gerontology.

Nomination Procedure

Letters of invitation have been sent to the presidents and chief research officers of invited institutions. Each eligible institution can submit two nominations for consideration. **Nominations must be received by 5:00 p.m. PT February 8, 2017, with all application materials due by 5:00 p.m. PT March 1, 2017.** Eligible institutions must designate a contact person who has authorization to submit the nomination on behalf of the institution. Please email inventors@moore.org with the name and contact information of the designated individual no later than Dec. 1, 2016 to receive submission instructions.

Institutions can submit up to two nomination packets with the elements described below through the online application system, which will be accessible by the identified institutional contact for this program. Questions that are not covered in the online FAQ section of the Moore Inventor Fellows website may also be addressed to inventors@moore.org.

Nomination and Application Requirements

1. Basic nominee information: (Due Feb. 8, 2017)
    A. Name of nominee
    B. Nominee institutional, department and contact information
    C. Statement of the institution's plan to assure that the nominee has at least 25% of their time to devote to their invention and $50,000 in annual direct support of the inventor's work

2. Candidate nomination packet to include the following materials: (Due March 1, 2017)
    A. Statement of invention (no more than two pages, including citations; single-spaced, 12-point font and one-inch margins). The first paragraph should describe clearly and without jargon the invention, the problem it seeks to address, and its potential impact. The statement of invention should also include the following information:
        I. Description of invention
        II. Importance in the area of science, environmental conservation, or patient care and experience
        III. Stage of invention
        IV. Current funding
        V. Feasibility
        VI. Approach for measuring progress during the grant term

B. Summary CV (no more than two pages):
   I. Educational and professional background
   II. Key accomplishments, honors and demonstrated areas of expert knowledge
   III. Other background information relevant to this invention

C. One-page budget narrative that outlines how grant funds will be used

D. Two letters of reference that evaluate the promise of the applicant and the invention, one from an individual within the nominating institution and one from an individual from an external institution. Letters should be no more than two pages.

Selection Process

The selection process has two stages. In the first, each submission will be reviewed by foundation staff with advice from external reviewers. Approximately ten percent of the initial applicant pool will move forward. In the second, these finalists will be asked to provide additional information and make an in-person presentation on the importance, plausibility, status, and possible impact of their proposed line of work to a panel of advisors. After these presentations, the advisory committee and foundation staff will make recommendations to the foundation president for the 2017 fellowships. Please see below for a detailed timeline of the selection process.

All information on the details of the proposed invention will be held confidential and members of the advisory committee will sign nondisclosure agreements before reviewing any applicant material. The foundation will work with selected fellows and their host institutions on agreeable language to be shared in announcements of the award winners.

Applicants will be considered solely on their merits and awards will be made without regard to age, race, national origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or physical disability.

Evaluation Criteria

All applications will be evaluated with the following criteria:

Inventor

1. Demonstrated creative potential
2. Strong technical ability for the proposed line of work

Invention

1. Importance of the invention in areas of interest to the Moore Foundation - science, environmental conservation, or patient care
2. Invention at an early stage that requires this funding for rapid progress
3. Plausibility of this invention to achieve the stated impact
4. Ability of dedicated funding and time to propel this innovation to the next stage of development; commercialization is not a requirement
5. Strength of the institution's commitment to the applicant's invention activities

Timeline for Awards

Nov 9, 2016	Requests for nominations sent to institution presidents
Dec 1, 2016	Online application system opens
Feb 8, 2017	Institutions to provide basic nominee information
March 1, 2017	All application materials due
May 10, 2017	Finalists selected
June 5, 2017	Finalist presentations due
June 9, 2017	Finalist in-person presentations
July 17, 2017	Supplemental materials due
Fall 2017	Fellows announced