



**2018 Vallee Scholars
Call for Nominations – Deadline: March 1, 2018**

Recognizing that outstanding, early career, independent investigators are the source for future advances in the biomedical sciences and appreciating that flexible funding for basic research is needed, the Vallee Foundation will accept nominations for Vallee Scholars. It is expected that Vallee Scholars will be engaged in bold and innovative research. During the grant period, the Vallee Scholar will be invited to two biennial Vallee Scholars Meetings and, in the alternate years, to two Vallee Summer Symposia and will be asked to present his/her research on at least one of these occasions. The Foundation expects Vallee Scholars to make every effort to attend these scientific meetings and become members of the Vallee Foundation community. A list of previous Vallee Scholars can be found on our website: www.thevalleefoundation.org

Award

This award provides a one-time, career development award of \$300,000 to exceptional, early stage, independent investigators carrying out basic biomedical research. These funds must be expended over a period of four years or less. (Under extenuating circumstances, a one-year extension of the award may be granted.) While relatively unrestricted, no more than 10% of the grant can be used for institutional indirect costs. Use of award funds for salary support of the applicant is not permitted. Salary for others, such as postdoctoral fellows, graduate students and research assistants is allowed, as are expenditures for supplies, equipment, research travel, and childcare while attending scientific conferences. Graduate student tuition payments cannot exceed \$10,000 per year.

Eligibility

This award is available only to investigators nominated by institutions that have been selected by the Vallee Foundation. One application will be accepted per institution. The candidate must have received his/her PhD/MD or other professional degree within 10 years of the application deadline, and by the same date have been in an independent research position (tenure track or equivalent) for 6 years or fewer. Researchers who have already received a similar award (e.g. been appointed a Pew, Searle, Mallinckrodt or Damon Runyon Scholar) by the application deadline are not eligible for nomination.

Application

Arrangements for the nomination process at each institution are to be made by a research leader at each of the selected institutions. While the details of how the internal candidate is selected are at the discretion of the institution, a full description of the call for candidates and selection process should be included in the nomination letter.

The following documents should be sent via email to amason@thevalleefoundation.org by the March 1 deadline:

1. Application form.
2. Complete *Curriculum Vitae*. Include degree information, all positions held, research support (institutional and external), awards, and publications.
3. Research proposal. The narrative should not exceed five, double-spaced, 8.5"x11" pages of text using 12-point font with a ½-inch margin. Figure legends of embedded figures should be legible. The proposal should include:
 - a) Title
 - b) Abstract
 - c) Specific Aims
 - d) Brief introduction/survey of the field
 - e) Proposed research, including preliminary resultsCited literature can be appended as a separate page.
4. Budget.
5. Two of the nominee's most important papers published to date. Papers that have not been officially accepted by a peer-reviewed journal will not be accepted.
6. Letter of nomination from the Dean or Department Chair describing the merit of the candidate and his or her research, an account of the institution's process to select the candidate, and confirmation that the candidate is in a tenure-track or tenure-track-equivalent position.
7. By the same deadline, two additional letters of reference from experts in the field should be sent by the referees directly to the Vallee Foundation via email to amason@thevalleefoundation.org

Monitoring of Grant

Upon accepting the grant, the institution will be responsible for monitoring the selected research project. A brief report describing the research progress and a record of expenditures certified by an appropriate institutional official are required each year.

Timetable

Nominations should be submitted no later than March 1, 2018.

Awards will be announced by September 1, 2018 with funding provided soon thereafter.

About the Foundation

The Bert L and N Kuggie Vallee Foundation (The Vallee Foundation) was established in 1996 to cultivate, refine, and implement a vision for scientific research and medical education with particular appreciation for originality, creativity, individuality, and leadership.

The Vallee Foundation fulfills its mission by promoting the development of interdisciplinary sciences related to human health; by supporting interactions between productive scientists both in the United States and abroad; by promoting dialogue between productive scientists and nonscientists in order to realize the practical application of scientific research; by sponsoring and/or organizing short-term visiting professorships, symposia, and lectures; by supporting innovative scientific research; and by engaging in other activities consistent with the foregoing purposes.

For further information, please get in touch with:

Alexa Mason, Executive Director

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or consult our website at www.thevalleefoundation.org