

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT
THE ARNOLD AND MABEL BECKMAN FOUNDATION
Announces
THE 2025 BECKMAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Recognizing Outstanding Undergraduate Students in Chemistry and Biological Sciences Research

OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Beckman Scholars Program is to help stimulate, encourage, and support research activities by exceptionally talented, full-time undergraduate students who are pursuing their studies at accredited four-year colleges and universities located in the United States of America. These research activities shall be centered in either chemistry, biochemistry, the biological and medical sciences, or some interdisciplinary combination of these subjects. Candidates for the Beckman Scholars Award must be full-time students throughout the duration of the award.

The research activities performed by Beckman Scholars shall be conducted under the guidance of a full-time, approved faculty member at the college or university receiving an award. Research activities must be performed part-time (ten hours per week) during one academic year, and full-time over two summers (ten 40-hour weeks each summer) immediately before and after the academic year research experience.

Students will be named as Beckman Scholars in the spring of their freshman through junior years at their university or college. Once selected to be a Beckman Scholar, a student will retain the award for 15 months, as long as the student continues to excel academically, and the student's research work shows satisfactory progress. Beckman Scholar funds provided to any one student may not exceed two summers and one academic year. Beckman Scholar summer funds may extend through the summer following graduation.

UPDATE TO INSTITUTIONAL CATEGORIES AND NUMBER OF AWARDS

Beckman Scholar awards are institutional (university or college) awards. Each year, the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation will select a variety of universities and colleges to be invited to submit applications for the Beckman Scholars Program.

An invited university/college will be eligible for one institutional Beckman Scholar Award, which must be used over a three-year period. In 2022, the Foundation updated the Beckman Scholars Program so that each institutional Beckman Scholar Award will fund a total of **six** Beckman Scholars (with funding for student and mentor stipends, travel funds, and research supplies) extending over two summers and one academic year. The number of awards allocated to each awardee institution is the same regardless of the institution's Carnegie Classification. Awardee institutions will name **two** Scholars in each year of the three-year institutional award term.

The 2025 Beckman Scholar Awardee institutions will select their scholars in early 2025 and begin their first award term in the summer of 2025, followed by a second award term beginning in the summer of 2026, and a third award term in the summer of 2027. Institutions receiving the 2025 Beckman Scholars Award will not be considered for new application invitations until the 2028 program.

2025 Beckman Scholars Program: Award Cycle

Year 1 Scholars - Summer 2025 / Academic Year 2025-26 / Summer 2026

Year 2 Scholars - Summer 2026 / Academic Year 2026-27 / Summer 2027

Year 3 Scholars - Summer 2027 / Academic Year 2027-28 / Summer 2028

INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS TO THE SCHOLARS

Each Beckman Scholar will pursue an independent research project, under the auspices of an approved mentor. The amount of funding for the 2025 Beckman Scholars Program is \$26,000; \$21,000 specifically for the Scholar and \$5,000 for the Scholar's Mentor. The following provides a breakdown of each Beckman Scholar award:

- Student Stipend \$18,200; per student, distributed as follows:
 - First summer - \$6,800
 - Academic Year - \$4,600
 - Second summer - \$6,800
- Scientific Supply and Travel \$2,800; per student, distributed as needed to support current research activities.
- Beckman Symposium:
 - Each Beckman Scholar may be invited to attend the annual Beckman Symposium in each of the two summers of their award term; a formal notification and invitation to be provided. The event may be in-person or virtual.
- Mentor Stipend \$5,000; distributed as needed during the associated Scholar's award term to support the following, but not limited to:
 - **Scholar Mentorship Plan (SMP)** - Mentor to develop & support the **SMP**
 - Outlining the Scholar/Mentor relationship
 - Detailing the collaboration between scholar, mentor & mentor's lab
 - Defining the expectations of the Beckman Scholar, including but not limited to:
 - Attendance at outside presentations/scientific symposia with the Mentor
 - Pursuit of increased undergraduate journal publication rates by the Scholar & Mentor
 - Outlining the anticipated results of the Scholar's research
 - Mentor Travel - to support attendance with Scholar at outside scientific symposia
 - Scientific Supplies - related to the Scholar's research
 - Publication Fees - for publishing in undergraduate and peer reviewed publications related to Scholar's research

The Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation does not provide for overhead or for indirect costs. Institutions may not fund additional or "matching" Beckman Scholars.

BECKMAN SCHOLAR CANDIDATE CRITERIA

"There is no satisfactory substitute for excellence." – Dr. Arnold O. Beckman

Beckman Scholars will ultimately become prominent leaders in their scientific and professional pursuits. As such, the Foundation has set forth the following requirements of a candidate for the Beckman Scholars Program:

- Undergraduate student: chemistry, biochemistry, the biological and medical sciences, or some interdisciplinary combination of these subjects.
- Must be a full-time student throughout duration of award.
- Must maintain good academic standing.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen, Permanent Resident of the United States or its possessions, or hold DACA recipient status.
- Articulate, well spoken.
- Strong writing skills.
- In pursuit of PhD, MD, MD/PhD; or other scientific pursuits.

Please note: Merit, diversity, equity, and inclusion should be considered as factors of equal weight during the Scholar selection process for this award. Also, the Foundation eliminated the minimum GPA requirement.

ANNUAL BECKMAN SYMPOSIUM

Each year the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation sponsors a symposium that highlights the work of the recipients of the Beckman consortium of programs.

The Annual Beckman Symposium features:

- Scientific and poster presentations by Beckman Young Investigators, Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellows, and Beckman Scholars completing their award term.
- Speakers from the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation consortium of programs.
- A series of informal concurrent seminars on topics of special interest by leading scientists from academia, industry, and national government laboratories.

The Beckman Scholar attendees are composed of newly appointed Scholars entering their first summer of research and those Scholars who are finishing their second summer of research, completing their Beckman Scholars Award term. In addition, one Faculty Mentor from each institution **may** be invited to attend. All second summer Scholars will be asked to exhibit their current research through poster presentation and several speaking slots during the symposium may be available to Scholars.

The format for the Beckman Symposium is updated annually and may be offered as an in-person or virtual event, as a single gathering or as regional events. Staff at the Beckman Foundation will coordinate all arrangements and reservations for the symposium. Symposium-related travel and lodging for Beckman Scholars and Faculty Mentors will be paid for by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation (for in-person events only). Specific details will be provided well in advance.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Each institution may submit one application for consideration for an award; must meet the Foundation's requirement as a 501(c)(3), or similarly qualifying, non-profit organization (IRS Determination Letter/Federal Tax ID required).
- Application submission requires institutional endorsement of the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation's Award Terms & Conditions (document provided through online application system).
- The application must include endorsements from the chief academic officer and the dean(s) of the College(s), School(s) or Division(s) of the participating academic unit(s), in addition to the Award Terms & Conditions endorsement.
- All task stages must be marked complete within the portal to enable the submit function, with the exception of stages labeled as instructions. Marking instruction stages as complete is optional but recommended. Read all instructions and use the downloadable templates provided to complete the application. Signatures must be completed prior to application submission.
- No changes, edits, or updates to an application will be permitted once it has been submitted.
- Late applications will not be accepted for any reason; please take note of the application deadline and allow ample time to submit your application within the online portal.
- The applying institution will designate ONE contact person for communications concerning its application and award. Institutional award recipients will be responsible for administering the program as well as submitting financial reports, reports of academic standing, coordinating the submittal of Scholar reports, Mentor reports, and institutional reports for each term of the institutional award cycle.

SELECTION

- The Beckman Scholars Advisory Panel will review and evaluate the applications and recommend approximately fourteen merit-based programs for funding (approximately 84 Scholars). The Board of Directors of the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation will make the final determination on institutional awards. It is anticipated that private and public research, doctorate, master's, and baccalaureate universities and colleges will all be represented in the final award list.
- *Because of the excessive administrative requirements involved, the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation provides limited written feedback on unsuccessful applications but is unable to provide additional critical commentary via telephone, meeting, or email.*