Please encourage your most qualified postdoctoral fellows to submit an internal application for this prestigious funding opportunity.

Note that the timeline is very short as Northwestern was recently alerted to this funding opportunity.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY - OFFICE OF RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Limited Submission Funding Opportunity

Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation

Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellows Award

http://beckman-foundation.com/aob-postdoc-program-overview

The purpose of the Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellows Award is to initiate and support post-Ph.D. postdoctoral fellows who have the highest potential for success in an independent academic career in chemistry and the life sciences, thus leading to the development of new tools and methods while providing assistance during their transition from “mentored yet independent” postdoctoral to an independent, tenure-track position.

On the basis of the experience gained during the term of fellowship, the Fellow should be prepared to compete very effectively for academic openings in research universities throughout the nation. These individuals are expected to become the next generation of leaders and innovators in science, engineering, and technology.

Duration of Support
• The fellowship term is 12 months for each fellowship year;
• Duration of support is for a two year term;
• Arnold O. Beckman Postdoc Fellows are mentored throughout the term of the award; and
• Devote 100% of their effort to the project outlined in the Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellows application;
• Meet regularly with their faculty mentor;
• Recipients of the Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellows Award may not hold another postdoctoral fellowship at the same time

Before submitting the application, the institution must have identified and preselected the candidate and the mentor who will supervise the proposed mentored training and research experience.

The institution commits to support the Fellow and Mentor throughout the award period through the provision of, but not limited to the following: lab facilities, classroom, and residential spaces, equipment, clerical/office staff support, computing resources and access to facilities necessary to their research
The award will range from $57,000 - $67,000, based on years of relevant postdoctoral research experience at the time of application, with funding provided for a stipend and research expenditures.

Please note the Foundation’s Application Review Criteria that would be adapted for the review of the internal applications.

**ELIGIBILITY**
- U.S. Citizen or permanent resident at the time the application is submitted;
- PhD, MD, and MD/PhD;
- In a first postdoctoral position at the time of application; and
- Have not been in said first postdoctoral position for longer than twelve months at the time of this application;
- Will be eligible for a tenure track position at a scientific research institution at the end of year two of the Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellowship.

**Ineligible**
- Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards may not be used to support the clinical years of residency training;
- Candidates may not have faculty appointments.

**Eligibility Criteria for Mentors identified by the Invited Institutions**
- PhD, MD, and MD/PhD; and
- Full-time tenured or tenure track; and
- Active investigator in the candidate’s area of research.

**LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION**
One application per institution is allowed.

**KEY DATES**
Internal Proposal Due: January 5, 2015 (by 12 pm noon)
Notification by: January 9, 2015
Sponsor Proposal Due: February 2, 2015

**SUBMITTING AN INTERNAL PROPOSAL**
The research proposal should ask a specific and substantive question, and meet the purpose of the Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellows Award. Extensive discussion between the candidate and the proposed mentor is expected in order to identify an appropriate independent research project – one that is relevant, instructive and suited to a two-year fellowship period.

Candidates must describe in narrative a well-defined research project that is well-suited to his/her stage of career development which is independent of the mentor’s research.
Candidates interested in applying are required to submit an internal proposal. Proposals should be prepared with 1 inch margins, all around, 11 point font size and type, and are required to contain the following components:

1. **Cover page** with descriptive title, your name, departmental affiliation, and faculty mentor

2. **Research proposal** (2 pages, max) that includes the following components:
   a. Specific Aims: Identify the aims of the proposed research;
   b. Background: Describe the background leading to the proposed research;
   c. Significance of the research: Include a brief historical background of the proposed research, including major findings by you and/or others in relevant fields;
   d. Proposed strategy and approach (research design and methods): Describe the hypothesis, methodology, plans for achieving the specific aims, the rationale for the proposed approach, potential pitfalls and expected/alternative outcomes of the proposed studies;
   e. List pertinent literature references—not included in the 2 page limit.

3. **Biosketch** that includes the following components:
   a. Current research focus
   b. Proposed research focus
   c. Academic Honors/Awards and memberships
   d. Publications: List ALL articles in peer-reviewed journal publications in which you were the first/second and/or senior author. Clearly note first author work.
   e. Funding – current and pending; include award name, grant source, grant title, and total amount.

4. **Names of three references** who would provide letters of recommendation. Two of the references must come from experts in the field of your proposal.

5. **Recommendation letter** from your faculty mentor that includes the following components:
   a. Assessment of the candidate’s scientific abilities and potential; history of independent research and creativity; and an assessment of the candidate’s qualifications and potential for a career as a productive, independent researcher.
   b. Description of the role of the mentor in the integrated research and training of the Candidate including:
      o Addressing plans for supervision, guidance, counseling or other formal and informal training; and
      o How the mentor will guide the candidate in securing experiences outside of the research experience.

Prepare your proposal as a SINGLE PDF FILE. It should be named "LastName-FirstInitial-Beckman-postdoc-2015," replacing "LastName" with your last name and "FirstInitial" with your first initial.

**UPLOADING THE INTERNAL PROPOSAL**
1. Click on the Vault ticket: [https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6094495_1](https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6094495_1)
2. Click the Upload button.
3. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
4. Click the OK button. You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Lapidos Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.

Vault access will expire after the deadline, as such late submission is not possible. Also, the Vault system does not allow you to overwrite an upload. If you need to upload a revised proposal BEFORE the deadline, contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu.

**CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Fruma Yehiely, Director of ORD, 847-491-1074, yehiely@northwestern.edu
Limited Submissions web site: [http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/](http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/)