Limited Submission Funding Opportunity

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation: Fellowships for Science and Engineering

The Packard Fellowships for Science and Engineering program invests in future leaders who have the freedom to take risks, explore new frontiers in their fields of study, and follow uncharted paths that may lead to groundbreaking discoveries. Packard Fellows have gone on to receive additional awards and honors, including the Nobel Prize in Physics; the Fields Medal; the MacArthur Fellowships, and elections to the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering.

Every year, the Foundation invites the presidents of 50 universities to nominate two young professors each from their institutions. Eighteen recipients will receive individual grants of $875,000 distributed over five years.

Candidates must be faculty members who are eligible to serve as principal investigators engaged in research in the natural and physical sciences or engineering and must be within the first three years of their faculty careers. The Fellowship Program provides support for highly creative researchers early in their careers; faculty members who are well established and well-funded are less likely to receive the award. Packard Fellows are inquisitive, passionate scientists and engineers who take a creative approach to their research, dare to think big, and follow new ideas wherever they lead. The Foundation emphasizes support for innovative individual research that involves the Fellows, their students, and junior colleagues, rather than extensions or components of large-scale, ongoing research programs.

Disciplines that will be considered include physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, astronomy, computer science, earth science, ocean science, and all branches of engineering. Candidates engaged in research in the social sciences will not be considered. Recognizing that certain areas of contemporary science and engineering already have access to relatively generous funding (for example, clinical research, research associated with the design and construction of large national facilities such as accelerators and space stations, and applied research of direct relevance to national security), the Packard Fellowships are directed to other, less generously supported fields. It is our experience at Northwestern that the Foundation is not interested in funding clinical or translational research.

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION
Two nominations per institution are allowed.

ELIGIBILITY
Candidates must be faculty members in the first three years of their faculty careers, that is, whose initial faculty appointments began no earlier than May 31, 2012, and no later than May 31, 2015.
**KEY DATES**
Internal Letter of Intent due date: January 14, 2015 (by midnight)
Internal proposal due date: January 28, 2015 (by midnight)
Notification by: February 18, 2015
Sponsor Proposal due date: April 20, 2015

**SUBMITTING A MANDATORY LETTER OF INTENT**
Faculty members interested in applying are required to submit a letter of intent (LOI). An LOI is required but not binding.

1. Click [here](#) to access the form.
2. Name the LOI as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-Packard-2015”, replacing “LastName” with your last name and “First Initial” with your first initial.
3. Click on the Vault ticket: [https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6068770_1-t_cmek9hUn](https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6068770_1-t_cmek9hUn)
4. Click the Upload button.
5. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
6. Click the OK button.

*Note:* You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.

**SUBMITTING AN INTERNAL PROPOSAL**
If interest exceeds the number of submissions the university is allowed, invitations to submit internal proposals will be sent to all faculty who submitted an LOI. Proposals should be prepared with 1 inch margins, all around, 12 point font size and type and are required to contain the following components:

1. **Cover page** with descriptive title and name of the PI, key personnel, and external partners (one page, max).
2. **Introduction** (ONLY for applicants who previously submitted an internal proposal to this program) that includes the following components (one page, max):
   a. Summarize how your research proposal differs from your previous submission(s).
   b. Summarize how your application as a whole differs from your previous submission(s) (i.e., publications, honors, awards, accomplishments, etc.).
3. **Lay summary** that clearly articulates your proposal and its impact to colleagues outside your field (one page, max).
4. **Research Statement** that describes why the research is important and outlines the general goals for the next five years. The statement should also indicate, in general, how funds will be used. This does not need to be a detailed budget and will not be binding on the actual use of funds. The research statement is limited to two pages of text. Relevant figures, images or references, should be included separately on a third page.
5. **Biosketch** that includes (but not limited to) educational background; professional positions held; honors and awards; past, current and pending research support (excluding start-up funds); publications. Note: If there is no support for a particular funding category (i.e., past, current, or pending), indicate, “None”. For each research support
listed, describe any potential scientific overlap with this proposal or indicate, “No overlap”.

6. **Names of 4 references**: department head and three people outside NU who are personally familiar with your work and creative ability. At least one must be a person who has had no supervisory or collaborative contact with you. For each reference, indicate his/her title, affiliation, and most notable awards/honors.

7. **Recommendation letter** from your department head. The foundation requires that the letter describes first-hand knowledge of your ability to do creative research and that emphasis is given to information not available in other letters of recommendation. Northwestern has been fortunate to have a great track record of Packard Fellows and our collective experience and wisdom has identified a crucial role for the Chair’s letter in strengthening an application. Thus, in addition to the explicit Foundation’s requirements, we recommend inclusion of information not available in your biosketch or elsewhere in the proposal. Examples include but are not limited to: quotes from letters that the department collected during your hiring process (from renowned scientists who will not be writing any of the Packard recommendation letters); comparisons to other Packard fellows from the recent past in the same area of science or engineering; a paragraph commenting on your proposal: why is it innovative/transformative/high-risk, and why you are the right person to carry it out; if you have other funding (NOT start-up), describe how it does not overlap with the proposed work (two pages max).

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

**UPLOADING THE INTERNAL PROPOSAL**
1. Click on the Vault ticket provided in the email inviting you to submit the internal proposal.
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. Note: 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.

**COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES**
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely (yehiely@northwestern.edu), Director of ORD, for more information.

**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/