

Frequently Asked Questions

As an institution eligible to participate in the Moore Inventor Fellows program, is there a specific process for internal solicitation and selection we should follow?

There is no specific process for internal solicitation and selection outlined by the foundation. We recognize 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 and gerontology.

In the RFP, you highlight targeted areas for patient care but not the other programs. Can you say more about what you are looking for and what you are not looking for in the realm of patient care?

With respect to patient care only, we focus this call on areas in which our foundation is currently engaged. We are interested in solutions in diagnostic excellence, medication safety in the community and community-based serious illness care. While we are open to ideas outside of these specific areas, we seek projects in patient care that directly improve the experience and outcomes of patients. We do not plan to make fellowship awards in ideas that focus on disease specific inventions, randomized control trials for drug efficacy or basic biomedical research.

I have an application to submit for the program. How do I gain access to the online application portal?

Only the primary contact for each eligible institution can access to the application portal and should submit applications on behalf of their institution's nominees. If you are the primary contact and would like to request a login to the portal, please email inventors@moore.org.

Can an institution nominate a person who has previously been considered for the Moore Inventor Fellows program?

Yes, institutions can nominate a person who was previously nominated, provided they still meet the eligibility requirements of the program.

My institution is not listed as eligible to participate in the Moore Inventor Fellows program. Is there an alternative route by which I can submit an application for consideration?

At this time, the competition is open only to inventors at Research 1 universities, selected medical schools, and selected environmental research and patient care institutions. Each eligible institution may nominate two people.

If an institution is part of a larger university system, do you allow nominations from other campuses not stated on the list of eligible institutions? What is the full list of eligible institutions?

Each institution is limited to nominating candidates from within its own campus. Schools that are part of systems with multiple campuses (e.g., large state systems) may not submit nominations for a candidate from another campus. The eligible institutions are:

Albert Einstein School of Medicine
Amazon Conservation Association
Amazon Conservation Team
American Museum of Natural History
Arizona State University-Tempe
Baylor College of Medicine
Baystate Medical Center
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Brown University
California Academy of Sciences
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Institution of Washington
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Clark University, Clark Labs
Clemson University
Cleveland Clinic
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Columbia University
Conservation International
Conservation X Labs
Consortium for Ocean Leadership Inc
Cornell University
CUNY Graduate School and University Center
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Emory University
Environmental Defense Fund
Field Museum of Natural History
FlipLabs / Future of Fish (ImpactAssets)
Florida International University
Florida State University
Geisinger

George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia State University
Gulf of Maine Research Institute
Harvard University
Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai
Indiana University
Intermountain Healthcare
Iowa State University
Island Conservation
J Craig Venter Institute, Inc.
Johns Hopkins Medicine
Johns Hopkins University
Kaiser Permanente
Kansas State University
Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College
Marine Biological Laboratory
Massachusetts General Hospital
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Mayo Clinic
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical University of South Carolina
MedStar Health
Michigan State University
Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute/Monterey Bay Aquarium Foundation
National Aquarium
National Geographic Society
Nationwide Children's Hospital
New England Aquarium
New York Botanical Garden
New York University
North Carolina State University
Northeastern University
Northwell Health
Northwestern University
Ohio State University
Oregon Health and Science University
Oregon State University
Penn State Health (Hershey Medical Center)
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Rice University
Rocky Mountain Institute
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Smithsonian Institution
Stanford University
Stony Brook University - SUNY
Stroud Water Research Center Inc.
SUNY at Albany
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas A&M University
Texas Tech University
The Botanical Research Institute of Texas
The Conservation Fund (The Freshwater Institute)
The National Center for Genome Resources
The Nature Conservancy
The University of Texas, MD Andersen Cancer Center
The University of Texas, Southwestern
Tufts Medical Center
Tufts University
Tulane University
University at Buffalo - SUNY
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Arizona
University of Arkansas
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of California, San Francisco
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Central Florida
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati-Main Campus
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Colorado, Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Houston
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky

University of Louisville
University of Maryland, Baltimore (School of Medicine)
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Massachusetts-Amherst
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri-Columbia
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
University of New Mexico-Main Campus
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Texas
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma-Norman Campus
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina-Columbia
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Tennessee
University of Texas at Arlington
University of Texas at Austin
University of Texas at Dallas
University of Utah
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Wake Forest University
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
Wayne State University
West Virginia University
Wildlife Conservation Society
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Woods Hole Research Center
World Resources Institute
World Wildlife Fund (WWF US)
Yale University

I am an eligible individual at a participating institution but may leave my current institution during the course of the grant. Am I still eligible? Would you consider transferring a grant?

Yes. The most important goal is for an individual to make progress on their project. We would make the grant to your current institution and discuss, on a case-by-case basis, the best way to handle the full term of the award if a fellow's status changes.

Are only individuals who have completed the terminal degree in their field eligible for nomination (e.g., no undergraduate or graduate students)?

Yes. This competition is open only to faculty and staff at eligible institutions.

Is there a specific cutoff date for the career stage requirement?

All candidates must be no more than ten years past receiving their Ph.D., M.D., M.S. or other terminal degree. A degree received on any date in 2009 is acceptable.

I am an associate professor at an eligible university, within ten years of starting my tenure-line post but beyond ten years of receiving my degree. Am I eligible to apply?

No. All candidates must be within ten years of receiving their Ph.D. or other terminal degree. However, a degree received on any date in 2009 is acceptable.

Is there an exception for time taken for maternity or family leave?

We recognize that the early career window differentially impacts candidates who have taken maternity or family leave. In these cases, please reach out to us to discuss the specifics, as we will make an exception to the 10-year requirement.

I am a surgeon who received my degree more than ten years ago, but spent multiple years in clinical training after receiving my degree because of the specific field of medicine I am in, am I eligible?

An exception is made for physicians with five or more years of clinical training since obtaining their terminal degree. These clinicians are eligible if they are within five years of completing clinical training. For example, a cardiothoracic surgeon who completed five years of general surgery residency and three years of fellowship, would have five years of eligibility beyond the completion of their fellowship.

I have a master's degree but not a Ph.D. Am I still eligible for nomination?

Yes. Different fields have different practices with regard to terminal degrees. We want to allow the most highly qualified candidates to be nominated. The terminal degree should be a graduate level degree, such as a Ph.D., M.D., MBA, MSc, MPH, or other similar degree.

I am a member of an institution whose research, teaching and service responsibilities prevent me from spending a quarter of my time on invention activities. Does this mean I am ineligible?

Yes. Fellows must be engaged in the pursuit of their invention at least 25 percent time for the three-year duration of the award.

We are a team of two or more eligible faculty/staff. Can we apply as a group or must nominations be for an individual?

Each nomination must be for a single individual who is the project lead. However, we understand that many projects are made possible through collaboration and allow grant funds to be used toward collaboration in service of the project.

How much flexibility does the fellow have with respect to budget allocations?

Fellows can determine how grant funds are used for project purposes. Grant funds may be used to support portions of salary, undergraduate or graduate students, equipment or supplies.

Is the grant award for fellows \$600,000 or \$675,000?

The total grant award is \$675,000 for a three-year period. The fellow receives a total of \$600,000 (\$200,000 each year, for three years). The home institution will receive a total of \$75,000 (\$25,000 each year for three years to offset costs associated with grant management).

Can you please clarify what costs are permissible as part of the institution's \$50,000 annual contribution?

Each host institution needs to contribute \$50,000 in annual direct support of the inventor's work each year of the fellowship. This could include support for undergraduate or graduate students, equipment, supplies and other needs that will enable the fellow to make progress on their work. Direct salary support is acceptable provided it includes a proportionate release of time from teaching or other duties. Funds that were designated for a fellow's use before the fellow was awarded a Moore Inventor Fellowship (such as start-up funds) do not qualify. A clear statement of the proposed institutional support is part of the nomination.

I have an idea for an invention but am not sure if it fits within the Moore Inventor Fellows program goals. How can I check?

We seek to support ideas and inventors grounded in science and technology that could make important contributions to the areas of science, patient care or environmental conservation. We've made specific adjustments to our patient care parameters and these can be found in this FAQ. To help ensure we have the strongest applicant pool

possible, we have asked each eligible institution to nominate two candidates for consideration. We suggest you contact your institution point person to better understand the process for selection. The foundation does not plan to respond to preliminary inquiries from individuals.

What kind of information are you looking for in the “statement of invention”? How in-depth and technical should the description be, and do you allow figures, charts or other graphics?

From the call for proposals, we expect no more than two pages describing: the main idea, that idea’s importance, its stage of invention, the problem the idea seeks to address, any existing or planned funding, technical feasibility and potential impact of the invention in one of our three programmatic themes: science, environmental conservation or patient care. You may include figures, charts and references within the total page length limit.

Will the intellectual property presented in the “statement of invention” be protected during the competition?

Yes, absolutely. We appreciate that nominees are sharing potentially valuable information with the foundation. All staff and external advisors who review applications have signed nondisclosure agreements with the foundation. All material submitted is protected. The foundation’s [Data Sharing and Intellectual Property Policy](#) states all intellectual property 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.

In a project centered around invention, IP terms may be important to achieving the intended impact, so it may be appropriate to negotiate project-specific IP terms for the grant agreement. Intellectual property terms can be negotiated on a case-by-case basis once projects have been selected for funding. Submission of an application does not commit the university/institution or PI in advance to any particular IP terms.

Will I receive an update on the status of my nomination?

We will inform institutional contacts of their nominees’ application status, but are unable to provide any review, feedback or assessment information.

Please read the [Moore Inventor Fellows Guidelines](#) for more details.