

From: Tarnjit Singh tarnjit@mit.edu
Subject: [Mitfundops] *Deadline Extended* The Moore Inventor Fellows and related cost share questions
Date: October 15, 2020 at 4:34 PM
To: mitfundops mitfundops@mit.edu
Cc: researchdev researchdev@mit.edu

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Dear MIT Fund Ops Community,

We have received a few questions regarding the cost share component for the Moore Inventor Fellows. Below you will find some additional information we hope will clarify some of those questions. Research Development has also extended the deadline to help potential applicants address any questions or concerns they may have. A revised announcement is below.

- There is a \$50K per year mandatory contribution towards the inventor's work from the nominating institution that the nominating DLC must determine how to fund. (\$150K total over the three years) This may include support for undergraduate or graduate students, equipment, supplies and other needs that will enable the fellows to focus on their inventions. Direct support in the form of salary is acceptable; however, the direct support requirement cannot be met without a proportionate release of time that the inventor spends on other duties (e.g., teaching). Clarification of the nature of institutional support will be required in nomination materials.
- Salary support is acceptable as an institutional commitment when it is intended to provide the inventor with the time to work on the project. It would not be appropriate if we MIT is already covering the salary and have the same expectations for work. The Foundation would expect payment of salary and release time from teaching/other obligations.
- The MIT tuition subsidy for graduate students working on the project does not meet the Foundations expectations for institutional support.
- MIT could contribute postdoc salary or RA stipends however the Foundation would expect the contribution to be in addition to what is standardly covered - Not an institutional off-set.
- The 25% effort dedicated to the invention does not have to be consistent throughout the year, but the expectation is that time is sufficiently made available. 100% of three summers would be possible if fully dedicated with no other obligations.

Best Regards,

Tannu Singh, M.A.
Research Development Coordinator
Office of the Vice President for Research

DEADLINE EXTENDED

The Moore Inventor Fellows – 2021

ONLY Department Heads may submit nominations

This award will incur under-recovery and includes mandatory DLC Contributions

INTERNAL DATES:

Internal Competition nominations due: October 19, 2020

FOUNDATION:

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation: <https://www.moore.org/home>
Moore Inventor Fellows: https://www.moore.org/docs/default-source/moore-inventor-fellows/moore-inventor-fellows-guidelines-2020.pdf?sfvrsn=892b6f0c_2

AMOUNT OF THE AWARD:

From Moore Foundation

Total award:	\$675,000 over three years
To Fellow:	\$600,000 (\$200,000 per year for three years)
Towards MIT F&A:	\$ 75,000 (\$25,000 per year for three years)

MIT Obligations

Mandatory Cost-Share:	\$150,000 (\$50,000 per year for three years) in cost-share in direct support of the project (may be in-kind, but cannot be used to offset under-recovery.)
Release Time:	DLC must certify Fellow is able to devote at least 25% time to this project for the duration of the award. Salary and EB associated with faculty release time can be used towards fulfilling the mandatory cost-share.

***This is not a traditional fellowship program. The award will be administered as organized research and, as such, will incur full F&A.**

The nominating DLC is responsible for identifying the source(s) of underrecovery and mandatory institutional financial contribution at the time of nomination. The mandatory institutional contribution must be for direct support of the fellow and cannot be used to offset underrecovery.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION:

The foundation seeks to identify outstanding inventors and innovators who harness science and technology to enhance the conduct of scientific research, strengthen environmental conservation, or improve the experience and outcomes of patient care. The Moore Inventor Fellows program focuses on supporting scientist-inventors at a critical stage of research to capture opportunities that otherwise might be missed. The Foundation seeks to provide freedom and support to promising inventors with the most compelling ideas to pursue creative work.

REQUESTS FOR NOMINATIONS:

Proposals should align within the Foundation's three main areas of interest: Scientific Research, Environmental Conservation and Patient Care. Proposals in the Patient Care category must overlap with the Moore Foundation's current emphasis on improving the experience and outcomes of patients, including solutions in the areas of diagnostic excellence, medication safety in the community and community-based serious illness care.

The Foundation seeks to support:

- Early stage inventions that could lead to proof-of-concept work on an invention or advance an existing prototype that tackles an important problem
- Innovations with the promise of making a long-lasting impact by addressing underlying problems in their field, but a clear path toward commercialization is not a requirement

The Foundation will not support projects that are at a stage where significant venture capital is available.

AREAS OF RESEARCH SUPPORTED:

Science, Environmental Conservation, and Patient Care from a broad array of academic programs and research departments.

NUMBER OF PROPOSALS:

MIT may nominate two (2) individuals.

Department Heads may submit more than one nomination. If a Department Head elects to submit more than one nomination, they must submit a separate email to Research Development (ResearchDev@mit.edu) and provide their own ranking of their Department's submissions along with their view of the strengths and weaknesses of the submissions put forward.

DUE DATES:

Internal Nominations due: October 19, 2020

Nominee Information and Institutional Certifications due to RAS: November 9, 2020

Nominee Information and Institutional Certifications due to Foundation: November 16, 2020

Full Nomination package due to RAS: December 7, 2020

Full Nomination package due to Foundation: December 14, 2020

WHO MAY NOMINATE:

ONLY Department Head nominations will be accepted.

Lab Directors please coordinate any nomination with the individual's Department Head.

ELIGIBILITY:

Candidates may be faculty, research scientists, postdocs or other full-time staff and must be no more than ten (10) years past receiving their terminal advanced degree in their field.

For any nominee who is not a faculty member, principal or senior research scientist, nominators (Department Head) must request PI status and receive approval from the nominator's Dean's Office.

NOMINATION MATERIALS:

The following nomination materials should be submitted on behalf of the nominee by October 19, 2020 at <https://mitfunding.infoready4.com/>:

- Cover page including name, home department and Laboratory or Center, and contact information for both the nominator and the nominee;
- Plans from Department Head and/or Lab Director to assure the nominee has at least 25% of their time devoted to their invention; AND to cover the mandatory \$50,000 per year institutional contribution;
- Statement of Invention in which the first paragraph clearly defines (without jargon) the invention, the problem it seeks to address and its potential impact (two-page maximum including citations). This document should also include a description of the invention, its importance to one of the three Moore Foundation focus areas (science, environmental conservation or patient care), the stage of the invention, current funding, feasibility and the approach for measuring progress during the grant term;
- Summary CV (two-page maximum); and
- Budget Narrative explaining how the funds will be used (one-page maximum).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Moore Inventor Fellows FAQ: https://www.moore.org/docs/default-source/moore-inventor-fellows/moore-inventor-fellows_faq_2020.pdf?sfvrsn=d4236f0c_2

If you have questions about this solicitation or others please contact Research Development at ResearchDev@mit.edu.

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