



We are pleased to announce the launch of the Keck Foundation internal application, winter 2020 competition. Click on the link below to view more information. Thank you!

- **Internal Application Deadline:** Thursday, January 9, 2020
- **Funding Organization's Deadline:** Friday, May 1, 2020
- **Award Cycle:** FY2020
- **Discipline/Subject Area:** Medical Research and Science & Engineering
- **Funding Available:** \$1,000,000
- **Description:**

This announces the internal process to select Emory candidates for the **Keck Foundation Grant Programs** limited submission opportunity. Per Keck's proposal submission process, preliminary proposals will be shared with the Keck program officers in January/February 2020. At that meeting the Keck program officers will identify which proposals Emory will submit for the May 1, 2020 application deadline.

Overview

Keck funds innovative, high-risk, and high-impact projects that are top institutional priorities. Typically Keck projects solve important science and engineering questions and also develop novel techniques and/or instruments that can be disseminated throughout the research community: "By funding the high-risk/high-impact work of leading researchers, we are laying the groundwork for new paradigms, technologies and discoveries that will save lives, provide innovative solutions, and add to our understanding of the world. Both Senior and Early Career investigators are encouraged to apply." Keck does not, however, fund translational biomedical research. Keck seeks to fund projects that do not fit within established federal agency funding schema. To help one determine the "fit" of a potential project for Keck, please see the abstracts of recent Keck award winners available through the Foundation website ([link](#)). The Off. of Foundations is also happy to provide feedback to PIs regarding project fit; please feel free to contact limited-ops@emory.edu. Emory may ultimately submit two (2) [Phase I](#) proposals, 1 in Medical Research, and 1 in Science & Engineering by the May 1, 2020 deadline.

Eligibility

- Senior or early career investigators performing basic (not clinical) research
- Projects must be distinctive, novel, pushing the edge of the field or questioning the prevailing paradigm
- Support is for pioneering biological, science, and engineering research and the development of breakthrough technologies, methodologies, and/or instrumentation
- Projects should fall outside the mission of public funding agencies, demonstrating that private philanthropy, generally, and the W.M. Keck Foundation, in particular, is essential to the project's success
- Medical research projects conducted in hospitals are not eligible

Additional Information

<http://www.wmkeck.org/grant-programs/research>

Recent Keck award winners are listed in the Keck annual reports ([link](#)).

Cost Share/Award Size

Recent Keck awards have typically been around \$1M. Cost sharing is not required; however, Keck does look for the University to support the effort in some form. This support can be in the form of cash, equipment, facilities, etc. We recommended an institutional match of 0.75:1 to 1:1. For example, a \$1M Keck award over three years would require an Emory match of \$750,000 to \$1M over three years. Thus, the total project budget over three years would be roughly \$1.75-2M. As you calculate institutional support, please keep in mind that the Foundation does not fund general operation expenses (i.e., indirect costs) so any support provided by the University in these areas would also be deemed as cost sharing or institutional support.

Instructions for submitting the Internal Application:

To apply, click on [View competition](#) and follow the directions to submit your internal application, which must be received by **5PM January 9, 2020**.

The internal application must include the following:

1. a 1-page project summary identifying the research area (*Medical Research or Science & Engineering*) that should include:

- an abstract/overview of the research proposed, emphasizing unique aspects;
- a mention of pilot studies or data, if any — including unpublished findings — that support the idea;
- a brief description of the key personnel and methodologies; a brief justification of the need for Keck support;
- an estimated budget broken down, if possible, by major areas, e.g., personnel, equipment, consumable supplies, etc. (Budgets can be rough approximations at this stage.)
- if a reference is absolutely necessary, abbreviate it as (Science, 323, 45, '11)

2. If you have previously applied for federal funding and been rejected: please write a 1-paragraph discussion of the feedback you received from federal program officers about your proposed project; Keck will require evidence that your proposal, while innovative and potentially high-impact, is outside the mission of federal agencies. If you have not applied for federal funding for this proposed work: please provide a brief summary of why your project would be ineligible for federal funding.

3. 2-page biosketch for the PI only.

4. Dean endorsement letter, including commitment to match.

Limited Submission Process and Review

To summarize, reviewers for individual limited submission opportunities are drawn from a standing committee of tenured faculty members who are nominated by the Schools and appointed by the Off. of the Provost. *Ad hoc* committee members may also be invited to serve on specific panels based on their subject expertise and/or their experience with a particular sponsor or program. The internal review committee provides critical reviews of internal pre-proposals and makes recommendations for the pre-proposals that should go forward for external submission. The Off. of the Provost follows the best practice of many foundations and agencies and does not disclose the names of individual reviewers who contribute to a specific review panel. The limited submission team notifies individual internal applicants of their pre-proposal review results via email. The limited submission team notifies the Department,

School, and Office of Sponsored Programs of the proposal(s)
that will go forward for external submission via email.

Questions: email limited-opps@emory.edu

[View competition](#)