

2024 Beckman Young Investigator Program Letter of Intent Frequently Asked Questions

For additional questions, contact:

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Eligibility:

1. The Beckman Young Investigator program states that applicants must have the title of Assistant Professor or equivalent with a hire date no sooner than Jan 1, 2019. **Am I eligible if I:**

A. Hold a non-tenured assistant professor position

B. Will accept a tenure-track position with a start date on/after August 1, 2023

C. Currently hold a tenure-track position with more than 4 years since my hire date at my current or previous institution

No. Examples A, B and C are not eligible to apply for the BYI Program.

2. I am not currently a United States citizen or permanent resident. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes, you are eligible to apply. Applicants are required to have permanent resident or citizen status by the end of the full application review in order to advance to the interview and be considered for the award (spring 2024).

3. I currently have over \$225,000 in external funding but:

A. Funding will end one year into the BYI award

B. I am a Co-PI/Co-I on some awards

Am I eligible to apply?

No. Applicants must have no more than \$225,000 per year at time of application. Please be sure to only count the direct amount your lab will receive on Co-PI/Co-I awards.

4. I have an R00 grant that together with my other awards exceeds \$225,000 annually. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes. Transition grants (grants received as a postdoc), department wide instrumentation grants and start-up funds do not count toward the \$225,000 annual limit.

5. I was notified that I will receive an award and have signed a formal agreement but am awaiting funding. Is this funding considered pending?

No. The Foundation defines CURRENT Funding as funds in which your lab has received, or funds in which your lab awaits receiving upon signing a funding agreement. PENDING Funding refers to funding in which you have submitted a proposal and are awaiting a response.

6. I have a cutting-edge proposal that fits the Beckman prompt but requires a clinical trial. Am I eligible to apply?

No. The Foundation does not support clinical research, clinical trials, or single target drug discovery projects. Individuals with strictly clinical appointments are not eligible to apply.

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7. I received my PhD and spent several years in industry before beginning my current assistant professor position. Am I eligible to apply?

Maybe. Applicants must have no more than 10 years post terminal degree and no more than 5 years' experience in a non-tenure track or industry position. Exceptions are made for postdoctoral training, MD/PhD training, and other similar situations.

8. I still meet the eligibility requirements but have submitted twice. Am I eligible to apply?

No. Applicants may only submit a maximum of two letters of intent.

9. All components of my letter of intent are complete but I am missing an endorsement. Can I submit?

No. The letter of intent requires two signatures from the Chief Academic Officer and Dean OR similarly authorized person(s).

10. I am an assistant professor in social sciences. Am I eligible to apply?

The Foundation supports chemical and life sciences applications. Please review [previous awardees](#) to better determine if your research aligns with our mission.

Application:

11. My proposal includes a collaboration with another lab. Is this allowed?

Only one principal investigator is allowed on the application, but if awarded, grant money can be used to fund collaborations.

12. I can only commit 5% of my research time to the program. Is this acceptable?

Yes. The BYI Award does not require a minimum time effort. Research effort does not include teaching or administrative duties.

13. I submitted a similar proposal to the NIH. Can I still apply?

The BYI program requires that the project be solely funded by the Beckman Foundation. Minimal overlap is allowed.

14. I have additional information that I would like to include in my application outside of the required documents. May I include supporting materials?

No. Applicants are only permitted to upload required documentation.

15. Will reviewers see all components of my application during the blind review?

No. The Letter of Intent is conducted blind and reviewers will only have access to your pre-proposal documentation. Identifying information (name, lab members, institution, mentor) is not allowed in the pre-proposal. Failure to follow guidelines may lead to application ineligibility.

Application Submission and Next Steps:

16. I ran into an issue and missed the 5 PM PST deadline to submit my application. Can I still submit?

No. The Foundation firmly adheres to the predetermined deadline and does not make exceptions for late applications. We strongly urge applicants to submit early to avoid website traffic and last-minute mishaps.

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17. I am experiencing a technical issue with the online application. Who can I contact for assistance?

Please contact the [application help desk](#) for assistance.

18. I have submitted my Letter of Intent. When will I hear back from the Foundation?

The BYI applications undergo an extensive review process, beginning with the LOI. Applications are reviewed blind by a panel of three reviewers. Approximately 100 candidates with the most meritorious pre-proposals will advance to the Full Application round. Applicants should expect to hear from the Foundation in mid-November if they are or are not advancing.