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From: Susan De Los Santos, Faculty Research Support Officer  
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Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: W.M. Keck Foundation Grant Opportunity

Date: March 26, 2014

UNM Main Campus researchers are eligible to apply for a W.M. Keck Foundation Science and Engineering program area grant. The Keck Foundation is focused on funding distinctive and novel science, engineering, and medical research and undergraduate education initiatives. They are particularly interested in supporting applications that propose high-risk endeavors with high potential for “transformative impact.” Thus, they are looking to support research on questions that “push the edge of the field, present unconventional approaches to intractable problems, or challenge the prevailing paradigm.”

Grants range from \$500,000 to \$5 million and are typically \$2 million or less. Grant duration ranges from 1 to 5 years.

Under a new process, the Keck Foundation will accept up to four, one-page preliminary concept papers in the Science and Engineering program area for “pre-application counseling.” The Foundation will review and discuss each of the concepts to indicate whether they may be receptive to a proposal for that project. Based on that feedback, UNM will choose one concept to submit as a Phase I application for a November 1 deadline.

**This is a limited competition. For consideration, please send a one-page concept paper, CV, and a statement concerning planned institutional commitment in a SINGLE PDF file by NOON on May 1, 2014 to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu) with the subject line indicating: Keck - your name.** The one-page concept paper should be in 12-point font with 1-inch margins and include:

- an overview of the proposed project emphasizing any unique aspects and pilot studies for Research Program concepts;
- a description of the methodologies and key personnel;
- a brief justification of the need for Keck support; and
- 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). Keck will not pay any F&A.

If there's room, authors are free to add other details (e.g., background to put the research into perspective, description of the institution's prominence in the field, etc.).

***Note: While Science and Engineering grants may incorporate medical research concepts, the opportunity to apply for a Science and Engineering program area grant is available only to Main Campus researchers. HSC researchers should contact the HSC Research Office.***

More information can be found at:

Keck Foundation website: <http://www.wmkeck.org/>

Application process: <http://www.wmkeck.org/grant-programs/research/application-process-14030>

Concept paper description: <http://www.wmkeck.org/grant-programs/research/application-process-14030/214-grantprograms/shared/1482-concept-papers>

Funded grant abstracts - <http://web.archive.org/web/20131010125600/http://www.wmkeck.org/grant-programs/science-engineering/science-and-engineering-grant-abstracts.html>

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Susan De Los Santos ([sdelossa@unm.edu](mailto:sdelossa@unm.edu) or 277-0272) or Monica Fishel ([mlfishel@unm.edu](mailto:mlfishel@unm.edu) or 277-8114).

You may also contact Betsy Till, Sr. Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at the UNM Foundation at (505) 277-1589 or [betsy.till@unmfund.org](mailto:betsy.till@unmfund.org) with any questions about the Keck Foundation.