

UNM JOINT HSC+Main Limited Competition Announcement

The [Pew Biomedical Scholars Program](#) provides funding to young investigators of outstanding promise in science relevant to the advancement of human health. The program makes grants to selected academic institutions to support the independent research of outstanding individuals who are in their first few years of their appointment at the assistant professor level. Candidates whose work is based on biomedical principles but who bring in concepts and theories from more diverse fields are encouraged to apply.

This is a limited competition. UNM (including HSC and branch campuses) is limited to one (1) nomination per cycle.

Sponsor: Pew Charitable Trusts

Opportunity Title: Pew Biomedical Scholars Program 2027

Limited Comp. Due Dates: **Required SOI – March 30, 2026, by 12 PM; Pre-Proposal – April 6, by 12 PM**

Sponsor Due Date(s): UNM must provide the name of the selected nominee to the Pew Charitable Trusts by May 13, 2026. The selected nominee's full application will be due to the agency on September 3, 2026.

Award Range: \$75,000 (inclusive of 8% F&A) per year for four years

Number of Submissions Allowed from UNM: One (1)

Solicitation: <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/pew-biomedical-scholars/program-details>

Eligibility criteria:

- Hold a doctorate in biomedical sciences, medicine, or a related field, including engineering or the physical sciences.
- As of Sept. 3, 2026, run an independent lab and hold a full-time appointment at the rank of assistant professor. (Appointments such as research assistant professor, adjunct assistant professor, assistant professor research track, visiting professor, or instructor are not eligible).
- Must *not* have been appointed as an assistant professor and run an independent lab at any institution prior to June 10, 2023, whether or not such an appointment was on a tenure track. Time spent in clinical internships, residencies, in work toward board certification, or on parental leave does not count as part of this four-year limit. Candidates who need an exception on the four-year limit should contact Pew's program office to ensure that application reviewers are aware an exception has been given.
- May apply to the program a maximum of two times. All applicants must be nominated by their institution and must complete the 2027 online application.
- If applicants have appointments at more than one eligible nominating institution or affiliate, they may not reapply in a subsequent year from a different nominating entity.
- May not be nominated for the Pew Scholars Program and the Pew-Stewart Scholars Program for Cancer Research in the same year.

Additional information: An award of \$75,000 per year for four years will be provided to the sponsoring institution for use by the scholar, subject to annual review of the scholar's progress. The awarded funds may be used at the discretion of the Pew Scholar for personnel, equipment, supplies, or travel directly related to the scholar's research, and as to best advance their research and career. Not more than \$12,500 of the annual award may be used for the Scholar's salary (including benefits). Not more than 8% (\$24,000) of the total award may be allocated for F&A. It is expected that Pew Scholars will spend at

least 80% of their time in work or activities related to the accomplishment of their overall research goals (which are not restricted to the specific aims proposed for this award); however, Pew provides flexible support to the general research aims of the scholar and does not require effort reporting. During the four-year grant term, program participants are required to attend an annual meeting held in March or April. All eligible expenses for attendees' travel, lodging, and meals are paid by Pew.

Candidates should demonstrate outstanding promise as contributors in science relevant to human health. This program does not fund clinical trials research. Strong proposals will incorporate particularly creative and pioneering approaches to basic, translational, and applied biomedical research. Ideas with the potential to produce an unusually high impact are encouraged. Selection of the successful candidates will be based on a detailed description of the work that the applicant proposes to undertake, evaluations of the candidate's performance, and notable past accomplishments, including honors, awards, and publications. In evaluating the candidates, the National Advisory Committee gives considerable weight to both the project proposal and the researcher, including evidence that the candidate is a successful independent investigator and has the skill set needed to carry out their high-impact proposal. Funding from the NIH, other government sources, and project grants from nonprofit associations do not pose a conflict with the Pew Scholars program.

Complete program details can be found on the [Pew website](#).

Limited Competition Instructions: We will be conducting a two-step internal competition to ensure we have a review committee in place by the pre-proposal deadline. You must complete both steps if you are interested in participating.

- **STEP ONE:** Please enter your **~100-word statement of interest** by **NOON** on **March 30, 2026**, in UNM's [InfoReady Review](#) portal.

Note: Additionally, you must upload a signed letter or email from your chair that acknowledges and approves the following sponsor requirement: "It is expected that Pew Scholars will spend at least 80% of their time in work or activities related to the accomplishment of their overall research goals (which are not restricted to the specific aims proposed for this award)."

This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered.

- **STEP TWO:** Please submit a **3-page pre-proposal** by **NOON on April 6, 2026**, via UNM's InfoReady Review Portal. Additionally, include a draft budget and an NIH biosketch or 2-page curriculum vitae. You will receive an email when the InfoReady competition has been converted from the SOI application to the pre-proposal application, but you can work on your documents outside the system before that.

****This process, including submitting responses to both steps through InfoReady, applies to all UNM campuses, including HSC.** No late submissions will be considered.**

In the pre-proposal, please briefly describe:

- Your proposed research plan
- Why your proposed research is significant
- The most innovative and novel aspects of your proposed research
- A risky or creative approach you might use in pursuit of your goals
- Your most significant research contribution to date
- How you would benefit from the receipt of a Pew scholarship

Pre-proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. The candidate's career performance to date, including notable past accomplishments, honors, awards, and publications
2. Alignment with Pew's [biomedical research](#) program
3. Significance and potential impact of proposed research
4. Creativity and risk-taking aspects of the proposed research
5. Demonstration that the candidate has the skills and access to the resources necessary to carry out the proposed project

Please reach out to your respective limited competition team with any questions:

for faculty affiliated with main campus: limited@unm.edu; for faculty affiliated with the Health Sciences Center (HSC): HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu.