

UNM Limited Competition Announcement

Dear UNM Researchers,

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting statements of interest and pre-proposals for the **Moore Inventor Fellows** limited competition. The Moore Inventor Fellows fellowship focuses on supporting scientist-inventors at a critical prototyping stage to capture opportunities that otherwise might be missed. 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 foundation aims to support inventions at an early stage that could lead to proof-of-concept work of an invention or advance an existing prototype that tackles an important problem. The foundation seeks to support people who create new tools, technologies, processes, or approaches with a high potential to accelerate progress in the foundation's three main areas of interest: scientific research, environmental conservation, and patient care.

Sponsor: Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

Opportunity Title: Moore Inventor Fellows

Sponsor Due Date(s): 11/15/2024 - Nominations due; 12/13/2024 – deadline for complete applications

Award Amount: \$675,000 over three years

Number of Submissions Allowed from UNM: Two (2)

Solicitation: <https://www.moore.org/docs/default-source/moore-inventor-fellows/moore-inventor-fellows-guidelines.pdf>

Additional Requirements:

- Candidates must be faculty, research scientists, postdocs, or other full-time staff at eligible institutions. Candidates must be no more than ten years past receiving the terminal advanced degree in their field (M.S., Ph.D. or M.D. received on or after 2015). Each fellow is required to devote at least 25 percent of their time to their invention.
- Cost share is required in the amount of \$150,000 (\$50,000 per year) and must be nonfederal funds. Unrecovered F&A and Imputed F&A cannot be used as part of the cost share contribution as per the sponsor. This could include support for undergraduate or graduate students, equipment, supplies, and other needs that will enable the fellow to make progress on their work. Direct salary support is acceptable provided it includes a proportionate release of time from teaching or other duties. Funds that were designated for a fellow's use before the fellow was awarded a Moore Inventor Fellowship (such as start-up funds) do not qualify.

Limited Comp. 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. *Only applications from UNM Main Campus are considered eligible for this competition.*

Limited Comp. STEP 1: Required SOI Due Date: **NOON on September 20, 2024** (for planning purposes)

Limited Comp. STEP 2: Pre-proposal Due Date: **NOON on September 30, 2024**

STEP ONE: Please submit your ~100-word **statement of interest** in UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). The statement should include a brief description of the invention/project. This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered. Note that SOIs will NOT be scored; we require them to assist us in forming a review committee.

STEP TWO: Submit a 2-page pre-proposal, an abbreviated budget, a cost share plan, and a 2-page CV.

The pre-proposal must address the following:

- The first paragraph of the pre-proposal should clearly describe, without jargon, the invention, the problem it seeks to address, and its potential impact.
- Description of invention, stage of invention, feasibility, and current funding.
- Importance to the foundation's areas of interest (science, environmental conservation and patient care), potential impact, risks, and approach to measuring success and progress over the 3-year fellowship.
- Describe any technical risks that might lower chances of success and what you will do mitigate these risks. For example, "If A doesn't work, we'll do B."

Cost share plan: Investigators must identify college/departmental in-kind and cash contributions, and are encouraged to get approval from Chairs and/or Deans to allocate resources for the match. Arrangements for meeting cost sharing requirements must be made in advance of submission of the pre-proposal, as these contributions will be used as criteria for evaluation during review by the Limited Competitions Committee

The pre-proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- The candidate's capabilities as an inventor.
- The potential of the proposed invention to make a difference in the foundation's areas of interest: scientific discovery, environmental conservation, and/or patient care.
- The potential for measurable progress within a 3-year period.
- The potential impact of the proposed project.
- The plausibility of the invention to achieve its stated impact.
- Reasonable budget and cost share plan
- Overall application, considering the inventor, invention, budget and cost share plan.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at limited@unm.edu.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu for more information.