



To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office  
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competitions: The 2021 Beckman Scholars Program

Date: February 26, 2020

The University of New Mexico has been invited to submit **one institutional Beckman Scholar Award** over a three-year period. The purpose of the Beckman Scholars Program is to help stimulate, encourage and support research activities by exceptionally talented, full-time undergraduate students who are pursuing their studies at accredited four-year colleges and universities located in the United States of America. These research activities shall be centered in either *chemistry*, *biochemistry*, the *biological* and *medical sciences* or some interdisciplinary combination of these subjects.

The research activities performed by Beckman Scholars shall be conducted under the guidance of a full-time, approved faculty member at the college or university receiving an award. Research activities must be performed part-time (ten hours per week) during one academic year, and full-time over two summers (ten 40-hour weeks each summer) immediately before and after the academic year research experience.

Students will be named as Beckman Scholars in the spring of their freshman through junior years at their university or college. Once selected to be a Beckman Scholar, a student will retain the funding for 15 months as long as he/she continues to excel academically and his/her research work shows satisfactory progress. Beckman Scholar funds provided to any one student may not exceed two summers and one academic year. Beckman Scholar summer funds may extend through the summer following graduation.

The Beckman Scholars Program is a merit-based award. Beckman Scholars will ultimately become prominent leaders in their scientific and professional pursuits. As such, the Foundation has set forth the following requirements of a candidate for the Beckman Scholars Program:

- Undergraduate student: chemistry, biochemistry, the biological and medical sciences or some interdisciplinary combination of these subjects.
- Must be a full-time student throughout duration of award.
- Must maintain good academic standing (minimum 3.5 GPA).
- Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States or its possessions.
- Articulate, well spoken.
- Strong writing skills.
- In pursuit of PhD, MD, MD/PhD; or other scientific pursuits.

Demonstrated financial need and issues of race and gender may not be a qualifying criterion in the selection of Beckman Scholars.

Each Beckman Scholar Award may fund up to six Beckman Scholars (with funding for student and mentor stipends and travel funds and research supplies) extending over two summers and one academic

year. More details can be found in the attached application overview. Proposals to the sponsor are due June 15, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. PDT / 8:00 p.m. EDT.

**This is a limited competition; each institution is limited to one proposal.** If you are interested in submitting a proposal, please send your name, department, the name of the proposed contact person for communications to the sponsor concerning the proposal's application and award (if different) and a brief description (350 words) of your proposed project idea including the research activity subject students will pursue, how students will be recruited and selected, and how the program will be managed by **noon, Thursday, March 12, 2020** via e-mail to [limited@unm.edu](mailto:limited@unm.edu) **with the subject line: Beckman – your name**. Based on the e-mail responses received, the Limited Competition Management Team may announce a call for preproposals. Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

*If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford ([CFord@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CFord@salud.unm.edu)) or Cassandra Misenar ([CMisenar@salud.unm.edu](mailto:CMisenar@salud.unm.edu)) for more information.*