Searle Scholars Program

Overview:

The Searle Scholars Program makes grants to selected universities and research centers to support the independent research of exceptional young faculty in the biomedical sciences and chemistry.

Eligibility:

- Candidates must have begun their appointment as an independent investigator at the assistant professor level on or after July 1, 2016.
- The appointment must be their first tenure-track position (or its nearest equivalent) at an invited institution.
- Candidates are expected to be pursuing independent research careers in biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology, neuroscience, pharmacology, or related areas in chemistry, medicine, and the biological sciences.
- The program does not ordinarily support purely clinical research but has supported research programs that include both clinical and basic components.
- Applicants who were nominated for awards in the previous competition year but were not awarded may still meet the eligibility criteria for the current competition.
Award Background:

- **$300,000** ($100,000/year over three years)
- **15 awards out of 163 applicants**
- **The UMass system has been invited to submit ONE proposal.** The President's Office will choose the final nominee from the pool of internal candidates nominated by Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, and Lowell. (Note: UMass Medical has been invited to submit separately.)
- **Directory of Past Awardees** - we strongly recommend reviewing past awards to determine competitiveness. (Note: UMass Amherst has not received any prior awards.)

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**Deadlines**

**Internal: June 19, 2017**

Nominations due to President's Office **July 14, 2017**

Applications due **September 29, 2017**

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**Internal Application Process**

The University of Massachusetts system has been invited to submit **ONE** proposal for this program. Since this will be drawn from the entire UMass system (Amherst, Boston, Dartmouth, and Lowell) the President's Office will choose the final nominee. If you are interested please send Michelle Wonsey (mwonsey@umass.edu) the following in **ONE PDF** no later than **June 19**:

- 1-2 page research proposal summary. Put name, title, department and research project title on each page.
  - Explain why your proposal is bold. Searle likes projects that are **unlikely to be funded by NIH** because 1) the investigator is young and the goals are too ambitious, 2) the project is too novel, 3) there is no preliminary data or it is something that has been tried and others have failed at it.
  - Explain how your research will have a huge impact if successful.
  - What is your past record - explain briefly how/why you are a "rising star." If possible, show how you made a big impact in the lab where you worked as a post doc. Did you transform your mentor's program?
  - Searle (and the internal reviewers) are looking for the best ideas articulated well.
  - Assess the advisory boards' expertise and submit projects that border their expertise.
- CV
- Current and pending support of PIs

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**Additional Information**
For additional information, visit the program's website. If you have technical questions on the Searle Scholars Program or your eligibility, please contact Liz Smith in Corporate and Foundation Relations.

Please click on the following links for more information on funding opportunities:
Limited Submission Funding Opportunities
On-Campus Funding Opportunities
Funding for New or Early Career Faculty

You can find additional information on the CFR Website:
Private Foundation Limited Submission Opportunities
Grant Writing Tips and Suggestions