UMass Amherst has been invited to submit nominees to the following two Simons Foundation grant programs:

1. **Simons Investigators in Mathematical Modeling of Living Systems (MMLS)** is a joint program of the Mathematics and Physical Sciences and Life Sciences divisions of the Simons Foundation. Investigators in MMLS are outstanding scientists, often with mathematics or theoretical physics backgrounds, now engaged in research based on mathematical modeling in the life sciences.

A broad spectrum of research areas within the life sciences will be considered, ranging from cellular-level issues of organization, regulation, signaling, and morphogenic dynamics to the properties of organisms and ecology, as well as neuroscience and evolution; however, preference will be given to areas in which modeling approaches are less established and, for this reason, bioinformatics- and genomics-related proposals fall outside the scope of the program. In all cases, preference will be given to work that relates closely to experiment, developing mathematical models that can explain data, suggest new classes of experiments and introduce important new concepts.

- **Eligibility:** at the time of appointment (August 1, 2018), Investigators
Eligibility:

- Investigators should be in the early stages of an academic career (within 8 years of the start of first faculty position) and have a primary appointment as a faculty member. Their primary department affiliation must have a PhD program.
- **Award Amount:** $660,000 over 5 years ($100,000/year in research support for Investigator; $10,000/year for the Investigator's department; $22,000/year in overhead)
- **Number of Awards:** 7
- **Number of UMass Amherst Nominees:** up to 2

2. **Math+X Investigators** is designed to encourage novel collaborations between mathematics and other fields in science or engineering by providing funds to professors at universities to establish programs at the interface between mathematics and other fields of science or engineering. The Investigator will be expected to teach in both the mathematics and the X partner departments and be appointed in both departments by the award's state date (courtesy appointments will be allowed).

- **Eligibility:**
  - Investigators must be a current tenured faculty member with a primary appointment in the mathematics department.
  - The X partner should be a department or institute of science or engineering at the Investigator's university that will engage in significant collaboration with the mathematics department in an area where such collaboration is not the norm. Both departments must have doctoral programs.
  - X partners in finance and business will not be considered.
- **Award Amount:** $1.5 million ($300,000/year over 5 years), renewable for up to 5 more years
- **Number of Awards:** 2
- **Number of UMass Amherst Nominees:** 1

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**Deadlines**

- **Internal:** September 15, 2017
- **External:** October 31, 2017

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**Internal Application Process**

The internal selection process will be led by a committee composed of the deans of internal applicants’ respective schools and colleges or their designees and, if necessary, the Provost, Vice Chancellor for Research Engagement, or faculty with relevant expertise and informed by the grant programs' guidelines and submission
If you are interested in applying to either of these programs please email a pre-proposal with the following items, in the order listed, in a single PDF by September 16, 2017 to cfr@admin.umass.edu:

1. **Simons Investigators in the Mathematical Modeling of Living Systems**
   - A research statement outlining your research vision and plans (two-page limit; references and figures do not need to be included in the page limit but should not exceed an additional page).
   - Curriculum vitae, including Ph.D. year, institution, advisor, postdoctoral institutions and advisors, positions held subsequent to award of doctorate, and up-to-date publication list.
   - A list of postdoctoral fellows and Ph.D. students previously and currently supervised.
   - List of current and pending grant awards.

2. **Math+X Investigators**
   - A statement (five-page limit, plus one additional page for references and figures) that addresses the following:
     - Vision of the novel collaborations and possibilities the award will produce. The involvement of both departments should be clearly described.
     - Vision of how the research funding will be used to establish new links between the two departments and, more generally, between the disciplines involved.
   - Curriculum vitae, including Ph.D. year, institution, advisor, postdoctoral institutions and advisors, positions held subsequent to award of doctorate, and up-to-date publication list.
   - A list of past and current postdoctoral fellows and Ph.D. students supervised within the last five years and a list of those who may be supported by the grant.
   - Current and pending external and internal research support (award number, award title, role, start and end dates, sponsor, total award amount).

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**Additional Information**

For additional information, visit the programs’ website. To view the typical profile of successful nominees, applicants are encouraged to visit Current Awardees. If you have technical questions about the grant program(s) or your eligibility, please contact Liz Smith in Corporate and Foundation Relations.

Please click on the following links for more information on 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