Howard Hughes Medical Institute is pleased to announce a national competition for the appointment of outstanding scientists as HHMI investigators. This competition will enable HHMI to strengthen its community of basic researchers and physician scientists who bring innovative approaches to the study of biological problems through biomedical disciplines, including plant biology, as well as adjacent fields of evolutionary biology, biophysics, chemical biology, biomedical engineering, and computational biology.

From this competition, HHMI expects to appoint 20 to 25 new investigators who will be among the most creative and promising in the nation. HHMI investigators are expected to demonstrate a combination of the following attributes that distinguish them from other highly competent scientists in their field.

- They identify and pursue significant biological questions in a rigorous and deep manner.
- They push their chosen research field into new areas of inquiry, being consistently at its forefront.
- They develop new tools and methods that enable creative experimental approaches to biological questions, bringing to bear, when necessary, concepts or techniques from other disciplines.
- They forge links between basic biology and medicine.
- They demonstrate great promise of future original and innovative contributions.

This investigator competition places no restrictions on the number of applications from any eligible institution. Researchers with faculty appointments will apply directly; prior institutional endorsement is not part of the application process. These appointments are highly selective. Those candidates with outstanding records who have shown evidence of significant originality and accomplishments are encouraged to apply. HHMI welcomes applications from women and members of minority groups that are under-represented in biomedical sciences.

For additional information regarding the HHMI Investigator Program and this competition please link to: [www.hhmi.org/inv2015](http://www.hhmi.org/inv2015).

**Eligibility**

- PhD and/or MD (or the equivalent).
- Tenured or tenure-track position as an assistant professor or higher academic rank (or the equivalent) at an eligible U.S. institution. Federal government employees are not eligible.
- More than 5, but no more than 15, years of post-training, professional experience. To meet this requirement, the applicant’s professional appointment(s) must have begun no earlier than June 1, 1999, and no later than July 1, 2009.
- Principal investigator on one or more active, national peer-reviewed research grants with a duration of at least three years, such as an NIH R01 grant, by June 3, 2014. Mentored awards, career development and training grants do not qualify. Multi-investigator grants may qualify.
Important Conditions:

- Appointees become full-time employees of HHMI and are appointed for a five-year, renewable period.

- HHMI investigators are required to devote at least 75% of their total effort to the direct conduct of biomedical research. Applicants with administrative responsibilities or other duties inconsistent with this time commitment may apply, but must reduce those other commitments to be appointed.

- At the time of the submission deadline, applicants must hold a qualifying position at the institution where his or her HHMI appointment would be made. In addition, an investigator may not transfer to another institution during the first appointment term and retain his or her HHMI appointment.

- Any questions regarding eligibility or HHMI policies should be addressed to sciencecomp@hhmi.org.

Application Process

Establish eligibility and apply here: www.hhmi.org/research/application/comp2015

The deadline for applications is June 3, 2014, at 3:00 PM (Eastern Daylight Time). All applications must be submitted electronically following instructions on the competition web site.

The application includes the following documents:

- A curriculum vitae, including a complete bibliography and a list of current research support.
- An overview of the applicant’s most significant research achievements (not more than 250 words).
- A summary of the applicant’s ongoing and planned research program (not more than 3,000 words; references and up to one page of figures are not counted toward the 3,000-word limit).
- A statement of how the applicant’s research program would meet HHMI’s expectations of an investigator (not more than 250 words).
- PDF files of five selected publications that report the applicant’s most important scientific contributions with a focus on the most recent five years, as well as a paragraph describing the significance of each publication.
- Two reference letters will be required only from those selected as semifinalists.

Selection of Investigators

The HHMI review process will include evaluation of applications by distinguished scientists, leading to the selection of semifinalists by early 2015. Further review will include a symposium attended by HHMI scientific leadership and the final advisory panel, at which each semifinalist will make a brief research presentation. Finalists will be announced in the spring of 2015, with appointments as early as September 1, 2015. All applicants should mark their calendars for the April 13-14, 2015 symposium at HHMI’s Janelia Farm Research Campus in Ashburn, Virginia. Those named as semifinalists will be required to attend and should plan to arrive on April 13.

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute is an equal opportunity employer.