



# INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS Program Announcement 2016

**hhmi** | Howard Hughes  
Medical Institute

BILL & MELINDA  
GATES *foundation*

**wellcome** trust



CALOUSTE  
GULBENKIAN  
FOUNDATION

# INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS

## *2016 Competition*

Five-year basic biomedical research grants: \$250,000 in Year 1;  
\$100,000 in subsequent years

Application deadline: June 30, 2016

Applicants notified: April, 2017

**S**cience is a multinational, cross-cultural endeavor that connects researchers across the borders created by discipline and continent. The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation are announcing a new International Early Career Scientist Program that will support up to 50 outstanding scientists working in selected countries outside the United States and United Kingdom. HHMI, The Gates Foundation, the Wellcome Trust, and The Gulbenkian Foundation (The Funders) seek to identify scientists who are or have the potential to become scientific leaders. Successful applicants will receive five-year grants that will each total \$650,000.



## INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The International Research Scholars Program will select and support highly qualified scientists working in selected countries outside the United States and United Kingdom who are in the critical beginning stages of their independent careers. Successful applicants will have trained through the postdoctoral level in a vigorous basic research environment.

Eligible candidates must have trained in the United States or United Kingdom at the doctoral, medical, or postdoctoral level for at least 1 year. Applicants are expected to have outstanding scientific training records and exceptional potential for significant productivity and originality in their independent careers. The Funders recognize that a supportive research environment is crucial to launching a successful research program so awards will be made only to institutions that can clearly support the research activities of the grant recipient.

### Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Hold a doctoral or medical degree and have completed postdoctoral research training.
- Hold a full-time position as an independent scientist at a research-oriented university, medical school, or nonprofit institution in any country other than:
  - » The G-7 Countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, & United States)
  - » Countries identified by the US Department of Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) as being subject to comprehensive country or territory-wide sanctions or where current OFAC regulations prohibit U.S. persons or entities from engaging in the funding arrangements contemplated by this grant program. For this program, such sanctioned countries or territories currently include Iran, North Korea, Sudan, Syria, and the Crimea region of Ukraine
- Have received training at the doctoral, medical, or postdoctoral level in the United States or the United Kingdom for at least 1 year.
- Have been the first or senior author on at least two peer-reviewed, English-language, original research publications.

- Have started their first independent research position on or after April 1, 2009.
- Control their own research direction, laboratory space, and funding; devote most of their professional time to research, mentoring, and teaching; and have no major administrative duties.
- Conduct biomedical research on basic biological and disease mechanisms; the research may also be in areas of chemistry, physics, computer science, or engineering that are directly related to biology or medicine. Clinical trials and research on health education, health care delivery, or health services are not eligible research areas.

### Application and Selection Process

- Evaluation of applications will be based on the quality of the applicant's training experience, the applicant's record of research accomplishments, the scientific merit of the research program, and his or her promise for future contributions. Country of residence relates only to eligibility; it is not a selection criterion. Awards will not necessarily be made in all eligible countries.
- **The deadline for competitions is June 30, 2016, at 3:00 PM (U.S. Eastern Daylight Time).** All applications must be submitted electronically through a Web-based competition system.

The review process will include

evaluation by distinguished scientists, leading to a selection of semi-finalists in November, 2016. Semi-finalists will be asked to submit reference letters and a slide presentation with an audio recording. **Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the competition in April, 2017.**

### Grant Awards

- Each grant is for a term of five years beginning in July or August of 2017 and will provide \$250,000 in the first year and \$100,000 for each of the following four years.
- Allowable expense categories include salaries and stipends for award recipients, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and technicians, as well as equipment and supplies, travel, and publication costs. Grant funds may not be used for laboratory renovations.

### Responsibilities of International Research Scholars

- International Research Scholars must submit annual progress reports and the grantee institution must submit annual financial reports.
- International Research Scholars will participate annually in scientific meetings sponsored by the Funders. These meetings facilitate the exchange of ideas, stimulate new research, and provide an opportunity for collaborative endeavors within the international scientific community.

### Information

For questions about this competition, contact program staff by e-mail at [IECS@bhmi.org](mailto:IECS@bhmi.org)

To submit an application, go to HHMI's web-based competition system at <http://www.bhmi.org/research/application/irs2017>.

#### **THE HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE**

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute plays a powerful role in advancing scientific research and education. Its scientists, located across the country and around the world, have made important discoveries that advance both human health and our fundamental understanding of biology. The Institute also aims to transform science education into a creative, interdisciplinary endeavor that reflects the excitement of real research. HHMI is headquartered in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

*[www.bhmi.org/about/](http://www.bhmi.org/about/)*

#### **THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION**

Guided by the belief that every life has equal value, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation works to help all people lead healthy, productive lives. In developing countries, it focuses on improving people's health and giving them the chance to lift themselves out of hunger and extreme poverty. In the United States, it seeks to ensure that all people – especially those with the fewest resources – have access to the opportunities they need to succeed in school and life. Based in Seattle, Washington, the foundation is led by CEO Sue Desmond-Hellmann and Co-chair William H. Gates Sr., under the direction of Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett.

*[www.gatesfoundation.org/](http://www.gatesfoundation.org/)*

#### **THE WELLCOME TRUST**

The Wellcome Trust is a global charitable foundation dedicated to improving health. We support bright minds in science, the humanities and the social sciences, as well as education, public engagement and the application of research to medicine. Our investment portfolio gives us the independence to support such transformative work as the sequencing and understanding of the human genome, research that established front-line drugs for malaria, and Wellcome Collection, our free venue for the incurably curious that explores medicine, life and art.

*[www.wellcome.ac.uk](http://www.wellcome.ac.uk)*

#### **THE CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN FOUNDATION**

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation is an international foundation that bears the name of businessman, art collector and philanthropist of Armenian origin, Calouste Sarkis Gulbenkian (1869-1955). For almost 60 years, the Foundation has been carrying out extensive activities both in Portugal and abroad through the development of in-house projects -- or in partnership with other institutions -- and by awarding scholarships and grants. Headquartered in Lisbon, where Calouste Gulbenkian spent his last years, the Foundation is also home to a scientific investigation centre in Oeiras, and runs delegations in Paris and London -- cities where Calouste Gulbenkian lived.

*[www.gulbenkian.pt/inst/en/Homepage](http://www.gulbenkian.pt/inst/en/Homepage)*

