Simons Early Career Investigator in Marine Microbial Ecology and Evolution Awards

2017 Request for Applications

The Simons Foundation is now accepting applications for its Simons Early Career Investigator in Marine Microbial Ecology and Evolution Awards. The deadline for receipt of letters of intent (LOI) is November 7, 2016, 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.

Overview

Microbes inhabit and sustain all habitats on Earth. In the oceans, microbes capture solar energy, catalyze biogeochemical transformations of important elements, produce and consume greenhouse gases, and provide the base of the food web.

The purpose of these awards is to help launch the careers of outstanding investigators who use quantitative approaches to advance our understanding of marine microbial ecology and evolution. Investigators with backgrounds in different fields or with an interest in modeling or theory are encouraged to apply.

Eligibility

Applicants must hold a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. She/he must have carried out research in an independent position (tenure-track or equivalent) for at least one year and no more than eight years (start date between November 2008 and November 2015) and must currently hold a tenure-track or tenured position, or equivalent, in a U.S. or
Canadian institution. She/he must be the principal investigator (PI) or co-PI currently or within the past year on a grant from a federal agency or major foundation.

**About the Awards**

Grants will be for $180,000 USD per year, including indirect costs (limited to 20 percent of modified total direct costs), for a period of three years, subject to annual reviews and continuation of research in areas relevant to the purpose of this program. Appropriate expenses include salary support for the investigator and postdoctoral and graduate research assistants, travel, equipment, supplies and other research expenses. Awards will begin April 1, 2017. Awards will be governed by the Simons Foundation Life Sciences policies, which can be found at [http://www.simonsfoundation.org/funding/policies-and-forms/](http://www.simonsfoundation.org/funding/policies-and-forms/).

**Submission of Letter of Intent**

Prospective applicants must submit a letter of intent (LOI) by November 7, 2016, 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time. LOIs must be completed electronically and submitted using forms provided at [https://proposalcentral.altum.com/](https://proposalcentral.altum.com/). Please log in as an applicant, go to the GRANT OPPORTUNITIES tab, scroll to SIMONS FOUNDATION and click APPLY NOW for the “Simons Early Career Investigator in Marine Microbial Ecology and Evolution Awards” program. For assistance, please call 800-875-2562 or email pcsupport@altum.com.

The following templates must be downloaded and submitted to proposalCENTRAL:
1. Biosketch of investigator, including the start date of first appointment in an independent position, publications list, and past, current and pending support (two-page limit, excluding support).

2. Narrative describing your research vision and plan (two-page limit, excluding references and up to three figures).

3. Paragraph describing the significance of your most important publication during the last five years and your contribution to the work reported in the paper (250 words).

4. Two letters of recommendation from former mentors or other scientists who are familiar with your research. Confidential letters must be submitted through proposalCENTRAL (see instructions available for download in proposalCENTRAL) by October 31, 2016, 5:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time.

**Review Process**

The review process will include evaluations by experts in the field, who will make recommendations to the Simons Foundation Life Sciences staff. LOIs selected for further consideration will be announced by February 1, 2017.

Full applications will require submission of a budget and brief budget justification, renewable reagents and data-sharing plan, and signature page with institutional approval by February 22, 2017. Applicants will be notified of decisions by March 15,
2017. The foundation anticipates appointing up to three investigators in 2017.

**Simons Foundation Life Sciences Policies**


**Deadline and Notification Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOI Available</th>
<th>Reference Letters Deadline</th>
<th>LOI Deadline</th>
<th>LOI Notification</th>
<th>Full Proposal Deadline (Finalists Only)</th>
<th>Award Notification</th>
<th>Award Start Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Contacts**

Administrative inquiries: lifegrants@simonsfoundation.org | 646-751-1280

Technical assistance: pcsupport@altum.com | 800-875-2562