The Packard Fellowships for Science and Engineering

2016 Guidelines

The Packard Fellowships for Science and Engineering program invests in future leaders who have the freedom to take risks, explore new frontiers in their fields of study, and follow uncharted paths that may lead to groundbreaking discoveries.

Program Overview

The success of the Hewlett-Packard Company has been built on technology, derived in large measure from research and development in university laboratories. Because the endowment of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation would not have been possible without the success of HP and because the research performed by university-educated engineers and scientists will provide the basis for future high-value economic activity for the nation, the Foundation has a long-standing interest in strengthening both university-based research and graduate education.

In 1988, the Foundation established the Packard Fellowships for Science and Engineering to allow the nation's most promising early career professors to pursue their science and engineering research with few funding restrictions and limited paperwork requirements.

Every year, the Foundation invites the presidents of 50 universities to nominate two early-career professors each from their institutions. Nominations are carefully reviewed by the Fellowship Advisory Panel, comprised of distinguished scientists and engineers. Eighteen recipients will receive individual grants of $875,000 distributed over five years. Of the $175,000 paid each year, $17,500 is available to the university as compensation for administrative costs.

Over 27 years, the Foundation has awarded $362 million to support over 540 scientists and engineers from 52 top national universities. It is among the nation's largest nongovernmental fellowships, designed to allow maximum flexibility on how the funding is used. Packard Fellows have gone on to receive many additional awards and honors, including the Nobel Prize in Physics; the Fields Medal; the MacArthur Fellowships; and elections to the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering.

What We Fund

Candidates must be faculty members who are eligible to serve as principal investigators engaged in research in the natural and physical sciences or engineering and must be within the first three years of their faculty careers. Disciplines that will be considered include physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, astronomy, computer science, earth science, ocean science, and all branches of engineering. Candidates engaged in research in the social sciences will not be considered.

The Fellowship Program provides support for highly creative researchers early in their careers; faculty members who are well established and well-funded are less likely to receive the award. Packard Fellows are inquisitive, passionate scientists and engineers.
• Educational background
• Professional positions held
• Honors and awards
• Current external research support
• Publications
• Research statement
  The research statement should describe why
  the research is important and outline the
  general goals for the next five years. The
  statement should also indicate, in general,
  how funds will be used. This does not need to
  be a detailed budget and will not be binding
  on the actual use of funds. The research
  statement is limited to 1,400 words
  (maximum two pages of text, prepared in 12-
  point font with 1-inch margins). If there are
  relevant figures, images or references, please
  include these separately on a third page.

3. Four letters of recommendation that include the
   following:

• A recommendation from the nominee’s
  department head, which should describe first-
  hand knowledge of the nominee’s ability to
  do creative research. Nominees with joint
  appointments may submit a single letter
  signed by both department heads. Emphasis
  in this letter should be given to information
  not available in other letters of
  recommendation.

• Recommendations from three people outside
  the nominee’s university who are personally
  familiar with the nominee’s work and creative
  ability. At least one recommendation must be
  from a person who has had no supervisory or
  collaborative contact with the nominee.

Letters of recommendation may be submitted
through file upload on the Foundation’s online
application system or sent directly to Foundation staff
by email or standard mail. Due to poor reproduction,
letters should not be submitted by facsimile. Letters
should not exceed two pages, and should be prepared
in 12-point font with 1-inch margins. It should be
noted that the referee will not have access to the
online system until the nominee enters their name
and contact information into the system.

**Reporting Requirements**

The Packard Fellowship Program seeks to keep
reporting requirements to a minimum for active
Fellows. However, because this award is dependent
upon satisfactory research progress, Fellows must file
annual narrative and financial reports.

• The narrative report must be filed online
  (fellows.packard.org) by October 15 of each
  year and consists of a brief, two page
  description of research progress, a publication
  list, and updated curriculum vitae information.

• The financial report must be submitted by
  December 31 of each year and should outline
  actual expenditures and the award balance for
  the reporting period, as well as cumulative
  figures for the entire grant period. The financial
  report should be submitted by a university’s
  financial office on behalf of the Fellow.

Fellows within the first five years of their fellowship
will be invited to participate in the annual Packard
Fellows Meeting, which is held each fall in Monterey,
California. Fellows are expected to give an oral
presentation on their work in their first and fifth years
and are encouraged to make poster presentations in
other years.
Program Modifications

This program may be modified from time to time as experience is gained from its operation. Suggestions for modification will be solicited on a continuing basis from the Fellowship Advisory Panel and from the Fellows. The Board of Trustees of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation reserves the right to make any changes it considers desirable at any time.

How To Reach Us

Fellowships for Science and Engineering
Conservation and Science Program
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
343 Second Street
Los Altos, California 94022
Phone: 650-917-7275
Fax: 650-948-2957
Email: fellows@packard.org

The online application and reporting system is found at fellows.packard.org.
2016 Packard Fellowships for Science and Engineering
Nomination from the President/Chancellor

Please submit the names of your nominees to the Packard Foundation by March 15, 2016 to allow each candidate ample time to complete the requirements by the application deadline of April 20, 2016. The online application system will be available February 15, 2016 at fellows.packard.org.

Name of University: 

Name of Nominee: 

Email: 

Phone Number: 

Department Affiliation: 

Address: 

Name of Nominee: 

Email: 

Phone Number: 

Department Affiliation: 

Address: 

President/Chancellor: 

Name

Signature Date

Please email, mail or fax this completed and signed form to:

Xiao-Wei Wang, Packard Fellows Program Manager
David and Lucile Packard Foundation
343 Second Street, Los Altos, CA 94022
Fax: (650) 948-2957
fellows@packard.org

To request an electronic copy of this form, please email fellows@packard.org.