SCHMIDT SCIENCE FELLOWS

Advancing the next generation of scientists to work across disciplines to solve the world's most pressing problems

Nominations and selection guidance

2019-2020

The Schmidt Science Fellows program, in partnership with the Rhodes Trust, provides the world's best emerging scientists with new skills and perspectives to develop novel solutions to society's challenges, become scientific and societal thought leaders, and unlock new scientific breakthroughs faster.

The 14-month program is delivered through a combination of group sessions at some of the world's leading universities and a special postdoctoral study in a field different from a Fellow's existing expertise. Fellows are exposed to new topics, new ways of thinking, and new people that will help guide their future paths to success. They are awarded a stipend of $100,000 and receive personal and scientific mentoring to enable them to maximise the opportunities from their Fellowship.

Nominations and selection timetable

1 June - 31 August 2018 - Window for nominations from selected institutions. Early nominations ahead of the deadline are welcomed.

1 September - 30 November 2018 - Invitations to apply sent to all nominees, along with unique passcode for online application system. Online system open for individual applications from nominated candidates.

December 2018 - January 2019 - Initial screening of application packages by expert reviewers

February 2019 - Expected shortlisting interviews

April 2019 - Final selection panel interviews and announcement of 2019-2020 class of Schmidt Science Fellows

Nominations and selection process

The nominations window for selected institutions is open until 31 August 2018. Institutions are encouraged to use whatever internal selection process is most appropriate for their circumstances and their graduate student body in order to identify the most worthy nominees for this prestigious program.

For each candidate that an institution wishes to nominate we request the following information:

- **Full legal name**
- **Email address**
- **Scientific field of their PhD**

Nominations should be submitted to: nominations@schmidtsciencefellows.org

Following receipt of nominations, the Schmidt Science Fellows program team will contact all nominated candidates to invite them to apply for the program. This will be managed through an online system to which nominated candidates will receive unique log-in details. The system will be open for applications from 1 September until the deadline of 30 November 2018. Applications will consist of details of academic history, including transcripts, current CV with details of relevant publications, at least five but no more than seven letters of recommendations, a personal statement, and a proposal for potential postdoctoral research direction.

All applications will be reviewed December 2018-January 2019 and submitted to a thorough process of screening, shortlisting interviews, and final selection panels by expert review committees. We expect to announce the 2019-2020 class of Schmidt Science Fellows in April 2019.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for nomination and potential selection as a Schmidt Science Fellow, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Have conducted their graduate degree in the natural sciences (life, physical, and earth sciences), engineering, mathematics, or computing.
- Have completed or expect to complete all of the requirements for the conferral of their PhD in one of these fields between 1 May 2018 and 30 June 2019.
- Be available for the entire period of the 2019-2020 program, from July 2019 to July 2020.

Individuals wishing to be considered for the Schmidt Science Fellows program must be nominated by a designated senior official at one of a select set of leading scientific research universities worldwide.

Please note, the application and selection process as well as the delivery of the Schmidt Science Fellows program is only available in English and all engagement with the program must be in English.

Selection criteria

Applications for the Schmidt Science Fellows program will be judged against the following selection criteria:

- **Scientific curiosity** - Desire to achieve a broad level of exposure to and knowledge in cutting-edge innovations and research across the sciences.
- **Extraordinary achievement** - Clear record of academic achievement in the sciences at leading institutions of higher learning.
- **Intellectual spark** - High degree of intelligence, energy, and intellectual curiosity that will drive future scientific discoveries.
- **Global ambitions** - The will to make a lasting impact in the sciences and society, pursuing knowledge that will benefit the world by engaging in ambitious research and displaying great perseverance throughout the scientific process.
- **Character** - A genuine and demonstrable interest in society and global challenges combined with a desire to use personal talents and expertise to make a positive difference in the world .
- **Collaborative spirit** - Demonstrated history of effective collaboration with diverse team members.
- **Use of innovative tools** - General interest and comfort in using innovative technological tools, such as modern computing and data science techniques.
- **Alignment with the Program** - Interest in pursuing a year or more of postdoctoral study in a field different from the topic of study for which the applicant received their doctorate.

Contact - Schmidt Science Fellows program team

Official institutional nominations must be sent to: nominations@schmidtsciencefellows.org

General inquiries:
Email: info@schmidtsciencefellows.org
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 280256

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