



Ono Pharma Foundation

Ono Pharma Breakthrough Science Initiative Awards Program

Frequently Asked Questions

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Ono Initiative Awards Program

1. What is the goal of the Ono Pharma Breakthrough Science Initiative Awards Program?

The Ono Initiative supports creative research conducted by emerging Chemical Biologists in search of new discoveries, solutions, and the development of high-impact science.

The goals of the Ono Initiative are to:

- Identify and develop innovative research proposals and results that could lead to the development of breakthrough treatment solutions for patients.
- Support academic research and the career development of promising young and established scientists.
- Build strong relationships within the community in order to lead to transformative research aligned with Ono Initiative's interest.

2. What is the length of this Award?

All grants awarded by Ono Pharma Foundation have a three year term.

3. What is the funding level of these Awards?

Awards will consist of annual funding of \$300,000/year, totaling a maximum of \$900,000 for the normal term of a research project. The Ono Pharma Foundation will provide up to an additional 15% (\$45,000) per year to be used for indirect costs of the PI's institution. In total, Ono Pharma Foundation's three-year research awards provide up to \$1,035,000 to researchers and their institutions.

Eligibility & Nomination

1. Who is eligible?

Applicants must meet the following requirements. Letter of Interest (LOI) and final Proposals from applicants not meeting the requirements listed below will not be considered.

- PIs applying must be working at one of the nominating institutions. Nominating institutions might be replaced or added to in subsequent years.
- The PI must have an MD and/or a PhD degree.
- The PI must be a new applicant to the Ono Initiative, or, if they are a returning applicant, must be applying for a project different from the one they previously proposed.
- The PI must be a young and/or mid-career scientist (15 years or below of experience from starting independent academic position).
- The PI may not already be engaged in other sponsored research with Ono Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. and/or grant program with Ono Pharma Foundation.

- The PI may not apply for funding to amplify current work. However, PIs may research a new idea based on a prior finding of the PI.
- The PI must not be a healthcare professional defined as individuals currently holding an active state license for which they are (a) qualified to prescribe, administer, use or supply any medicinal or medical products or (b) perform any professional clinical services. A PI with an MD but without an active state medical license is still eligible.
- PIs serving on a healthcare formulary or similar committee are not eligible.
- More detail as to eligibility criteria can be found in the *“Ono Pharma Breakthrough Science Initiative Awards Program: Program Information & Overview”* document.

2. Is the PI eligible if they have previously applied?

The PI must be a new applicant to the Ono Initiative, or, if they are returning, be proposing a project different from the one they initially submitted. If a PI submits the same project, the PI will be contacted and asked to apply with a different project, assuming the application deadline has not already passed.

3. Is the PI eligible if their experience is over 15 years when awarded?

Eligibility is determined based on the LOI date of submission. PI's who have 15 or fewer years since starting in an academic position are eligible. PI's with more than 15 years of experience since starting in an academic position at the date of LOI submission are ineligible.

4. What leaves factor into the 15-year requirement for eligibility?

Only parental leave will be considered when calculating eligibility as “mid-career” scientist.

5. Which are the Nominating Institutions?

2024 Applicant Nominating Institutions in Chemical Biology Research *

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Albert Einstein College of Medicine | 15. Kennesaw State University |
| 2. Baylor College of Medicine | 16. Louisiana State University |
| 3. Boston College | 17. Loyola University Chicago |
| 4. California Institute of Technology | 18. Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| 5. Carnegie Mellon University | 19. McGill University |
| 6. Columbia University | 20. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center |
| 7. Cornell University | 21. Michigan State University |
| 8. Duke University | 22. Northeastern University |
| 9. Emory University | 23. Northwestern University |
| 10. Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute | 24. Ontario Tech University |
| 11. Georgia Institute of Technology | 25. Oregon Health and Science University |
| 12. Harvard University | 26. Princeton University |
| 13. Huntington Medical Research Institutes | 27. Rice University |
| 14. Johns Hopkins University | 28. Salk Institute for Biological Studies |

29. Stanford University
30. The Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT
31. The Rockefeller University
32. The Scripps Research Institute
33. The University of Chicago
34. The University of Texas – Austin
35. The University of Texas – Southwestern Medical Center
36. The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
37. The University of Utah
38. University of Alberta
39. University of British Columbia
40. University of California – Berkeley
41. University of California – Davis
42. University of California – Irvine
43. University of California – Los Angeles
44. University of California – San Diego
45. University of California – San Francisco
46. University of California – Santa Barbara
47. University of Colorado – Boulder
48. University of Florida
49. University of Illinois at Urbana – Champaign
50. University of Massachusetts – Amherst
51. University of Massachusetts – Medical School
52. University of Michigan
53. University of Minnesota
54. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
55. University of Notre Dame
56. University of Pittsburgh
57. University of Toronto
58. University of Virginia
59. University of Washington
60. University of Wisconsin – Madison
61. Wayne State University
62. Vanderbilt University
63. Virginia Commonwealth University
64. Weill Cornell Medicine
65. Whitehead Institute
66. Yale University

**Each Nominating Institution may nominate up to two (2) applicants in Chemical Biology Research.*

6. How may an Institution be added to the nominating list?

If an Institution is interested in becoming a nominating Institute, they should email ono@tccgrp.com. No submission materials are needed to be considered. At the end of each Initiative cycle, the Ono Initiative Scientific Advisory Board meets to determine the list of Institutions to invite.

7. What are the research requirements?

Applicants/PIs are expected to:

- Design studies to generate novel science to address the Scientific Research Area of interest for 2024:
 - Chemical Biology
 - Target research of Chemical Biology is not specified by the Ono Initiative.
 - Chemical Biology is defined as research that deals with the interface between chemistry and biology. The criteria for this field are deliberately broad so as not to disqualify potentially innovative and

groundbreaking projects. The subjects of interest (SOIs) for 2024 include but are not limited to:

- Modulating interactome and cell/tissue crosstalk with chemical induced proximity
- Manipulating biomolecular condensates and protein quality control systems
- Deep understanding and emerging applications of chemical glycobiology
- New concepts of drug delivery and localization to tissue/cell/organelle

The Ono Initiative aims to grant at least one of the three awards to a proposal related to these SOI, but this is not a guarantee.

- Complete the two-step application process which is: (i) submission of a Letter of Interest, and (ii) if selected, submission of a full Proposal within the time designated by the Ono Pharma Foundation.

8. Why does Ono Pharma Foundation focus on Chemical Biology?

Chemical biology is vital to the transformation of human health. Through studying biological systems at the chemical level, chemical biology helps answer biological questions and elucidate mechanisms of disorder, leading to the discovery and development of treatments for diseases. We do not limit the definition of chemical biology to the application of small molecules. Instead, we encourage applicants to leverage high-impact and transformative research and are flexible in our review of applications.

Application Process

1. What are the Selection Criteria?

Applications will be assessed, and Awards will be made based upon the following criteria:

- Scientific merit of the research LOI and/or Proposal
- Relevance of proposed research to the mission of the Ono Initiative
 - Significance
 - Innovation
 - Approach
- Technical considerations for the research
- Qualifications and relevant experience of the PI
- Evidence of a suitable research environment

2. What is the application process?

The application processes for the scientific research is:

- **LOI in Chemical Biology Research:** PIs should first contact the administration office of their Institution. Institutions will be asked to nominate PIs, but only the PI may submit LOIs and Proposals. An LOI should be submitted through the Ono Pharma Foundation online portal. To access the website, please click on the link below to the application portal, select “REGISTER,” and follow the online instructions. If this is your first time visiting the portal, you will be sent your login information within 24 hours of submitting your “Registration.” If this is not your first time visiting the portal, you will still need to register to be assigned an LOI form for the current program year, but your username and password remain the same as when you previously applied. Proposal submission by LOI applicants and selected by a Scientific Advisory Board will be invited by the Ono Pharma Foundation to submit a full Proposal. The Proposal must be submitted through the Ono Pharma Foundation Portal. Please access the Application Portal on the Ono Pharma Foundation website.
- More detail as to the application process can be found in the “*Ono Pharma Breakthrough Science Initiative Awards Program: Program Information & Overview*” document.

Please see below for links to the Ono Pharma Foundation website and application portal:

- Website: www.onofound.org
- Application Portal: <https://ono.fluxx.io>

3. How will I know if I am invited to submit a full Proposal?

The Ono Pharma Foundation will make announcements about LOI selections and send Requests for Proposals (“RFP”) to selected PI/Applicants in April, 2024. RFPs will be made based on:

- Eligibility of Applicant
- Completion of Research Requirements
- Strength of proposed project against Selection Criteria

4. What is the timetable?

Step	Timeline	Responsible Party
Funding Opportunity Program Announcement	November 27, 2023	Ono Pharma Foundation
LOI submission open	November 27, 2023	Ono Pharma Foundation
LOI submission due date	February 15, 2024, 5pm ET *	PI/Institution
RFPs sent out	April, 2024	Ono Pharma Foundation
Proposal due date	May 9, 2024	PI

Announcement of the Awards	July 2024	Ono Pharma Foundation
Project Start	August - October, 2024	PI

**Addenda, supplemental materials, changes, or updates will not be accepted after the deadline for submitting either the LOI or the Proposal.*

Awardees

1. How many Awards are given?

Three Awards are planned for 2024, contingent upon Ono Pharma Foundation appropriations and the submission of sufficient meritorious applications.

2. Who will make the decisions about the Awardees?

The Ono Pharma Foundation selects all Awardees based upon recommendations of its Scientific Advisory Board (“SAB”), which is comprised of outside experts from the fields of Chemical Biology.

3. Who selects the Scientific Advisory Board?

The members of the SAB are selected by the Ono Pharma Foundation based upon their expertise and reputation in the field of Chemical Biology.

Ono Pharma Foundation

1. What is Ono Pharma Foundation’s policy regarding intellectual property?

The parties intend and agree that, to the extent allowable by U.S. intellectual property law, all intellectual property rights related to activities and research funded by the Grant shall be exclusively owned by the PI’s Institution. The Foundation disclaims any intellectual property and related rights developed by the research activities supported by the grant.

2. Who is Ono Pharmaceutical CO.,LTD.?

Ono Pharmaceutical Co.,Ltd. is a leading global healthcare company committed to delivering new, innovative drugs to patients, and championing the fight against disease and pain, together with research, patients, their families, and healthcare providers. Ono Pharmaceutical Co.,Ltd. of Osaka, Japan is a fully integrated, research based pharmaceutical company which traces its origins back over 300 years. In 1717, in Doshomachi, Osaka, Ichibei Fushimiya first opened the apothecary that would eventually become Ono Pharmaceutical Co. Since then, the company has been dedicated to developing innovative and breakthrough pharmaceutical products. The company’s scientists have driven drug discovery through the adoption of world-leading technologies and knowledge. 300 years after Ichibei Fushimiya opened his apothecary, Ono



Pharma USA, Inc. a fully owned subsidiary based in Cambridge, MA founded the independent Ono Pharma Foundation. The Foundation is a continuation of Ono’s commitment to scientific innovation and drug discovery.

3. Who is TCC Group?

Formed in 1980, TCC Group provides strategic planning, program development, evaluation, and management consulting services to foundations, nonprofit organizations, corporate community involvement programs, and government agencies. Its consulting staff includes individuals with wide-ranging expertise and experience in a diverse range of issues including education, arts and culture, community and economic development, human services, health care, children and family issues, and the environment. TCC Group is providing ongoing strategic and administrative support for the Ono Pharma Foundation.