

To: Dave Tirrell, Jacqueline Barton, John P. Grotzinger, Fiona Harrison,
Steve Mayo, Guruswami Ravichandran

From: Foundation Relations, fr@caltech.edu

Date: July 13, 2018

Re: Career Awards at the Scientific Interface
BURROUGHS WELLCOME FUND

Deadlines: Online Pre-Proposal Submission: **September 5, 2018 by 1pm PST**

Cognizant Office: Office of Sponsored Research
(Office through which submissions and awards will be processed)

The Burroughs Wellcome Fund **Career Awards at the Scientific Interface** are intended to foster the early career development of researchers who have transitioned or are transitioning from undergraduate and/or graduate work in the physical/mathematical/computational sciences or engineering into postdoctoral work in the biological sciences, and who are dedicated to pursuing a career in academic research.

The Award:

- \$500,000 over five (5) years
 - o Includes support for up to two (2) years of advanced postdoctoral training and the first three (3) years of faculty service
- Does not provide for indirect costs
 - o **A minimum of 15% of the total award is required to meet Caltech's institutional overhead requirement for non-federal funds. Applicants must work within their division to account for necessary overhead via an approved MORA form**
- Candidates selected to submit a full application will be notified by November 14, 2018. The full application will be due January 9, 2019

Eligibility:

- Candidates must complete an eligibility quiz in order to access the online preproposal portal
- *Please review full eligibility guidelines in the RFP (link below)*
- Candidates must hold a Ph.D. degree in one of the fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry, computer science, statistics, or engineering (this includes related areas of physical, mathematical, computational, theoretical, and engineering science)
 - o Exceptions will be made only if the applicant can demonstrate significant expertise in one of these areas, evidenced by publications, undergraduate major, or master's degree
- Candidates whose Ph.D. is in biochemistry/biophysics/biology/cell biology/etc. may be eligible if significant accomplishment or competence in one of the areas of mathematics, physics, chemistry, computer science, statistics, or engineering can be shown (i.e. papers published, advanced coursework, or undergraduate major), and if the proposal draws on that background. Work must be interdisciplinary and make use of non-biological approaches
- Candidates who hold an M.D. are eligible to apply if they hold both an M.D. and a Ph.D. and the Ph.D. is in one of their fields of mathematics, physics, chemistry, computer science, statistics, or engineering
- Candidates must have completed at least 12 months, but not more than 60 months of postdoctoral research by the date of the full invited application deadline (January 9, 2019)
 - o If part of the candidate's postdoctoral work was not in a science research field, and the scientific work experience does not exceed 60 months, he/she may be eligible, but must gain approval from a BWF program officer
 - o Candidates who are not titled "postdoctoral" fellows may be eligible, see RFP (link below)

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Eligibility (continued):

- Candidates cannot hold nor have accepted, either in writing or verbally, a faculty appointment as a tenure-track assistant professor at the time of application (both the pre-proposal and full application)
- Candidates must be committed to a full-time career in research as an independent investigator at a North American degree-granting institution
- Candidates must have at least one first-author publication, including papers on which “first authorship” is shared
 - o Candidates who have submitted a first-author manuscript from graduate or undergraduate studies, but it has not yet been published, may apply if the manuscript is accepted for publication or in press
- Candidate’s primary postdoctoral mentor must hold an appointment at the same accredited, degree-granting institution in the U.S. or Canada. Two postdoc mentors are permitted; one must be designated as the primary mentor who will sign off on the pre-proposal application form. Mentors or institutions may not be changed after submitting a pre-proposal
- Citizens and non-citizen permanent and temporary residents of the U.S. and Canada who are legally qualified to work in the U.S. or Canada are eligible
- Candidates must not hold nor have accepted a K99 award from the NIH
- Candidates with a KO1 award from the NIH may apply for this award as long as they meet all the remaining criteria, however, if granted a CASI award, the NIH will need to fund the postdoc portion and the BWF will only fund the faculty portion of the award
- Candidates may not submit more than one pre-proposal
- Award recipients must devote at least 80% of their time to research-related activities

Reporting Requirements:

- Annual and final scientific progress and financial reports

Recent Caltech Recipients:

- Walter Gonzalez (2018)
- Octavio Mondragón-Palomino (2017)
- Ahmet Coskun (2016)
- Lacramioara Bintu (2015)
- Mikhail G. Shapiro (2013)
- Lulu Qian (2012)
- Daniel Wagenaar (2009)
- Georg Seelig (2008)

Guidelines: <http://www.bwfund.org/grant-programs/interfaces-science/career-awards-scientific-interface>

RFP: https://www.bwfund.org/sites/default/files/media/files/grant-programs/BWF%20CASI%20RFP_2019.pdf

Past Recipients: <http://www.bwfund.org/grant-programs/interfaces-science/career-awards-scientific-interface/grant-recipients>

Review Board: <http://www.bwfund.org/grant-programs/interfaces-science/career-awards-scientific-interface/advisory-committee>

Please notify the Foundation Relations team if you anticipate making a submission. *We are here to help ensure that Caltech’s proposals are competitive.* We can assist with proposal development and advise you on the routing of your paperwork. Interested researchers should work with their division grant manager to prepare the budget, the MORA form, and the Division Approval Form (DAF). **Submissions and awards for this grant program will be processed through the Office of Sponsored Research.**