

Simons Foundation

UC Irvine Foundation Relations

5/16/16

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Approaching the Simons Foundation

The Simons Foundation Division for Mathematics and Physical Sciences seeks to extend the frontiers of basic research in pursuit of understanding the natural phenomena of our world. The foundation's support of scientists generally takes the form of direct grants to individual investigators and projects, through their academic institutions.

Overview: Simons funds multiple grant programs in mathematics and physical sciences. Additional programs include the Autism Research Initiative as well as the early career Simons Investigator Program.

Areas of Interest: Mathematics, theoretical physics, theoretical computer science, life sciences and autism.

Targeted Grants in Mathematics and Physical Sciences:

- Supports high-risk projects of exceptional promise and scientific importance in math and physics
- Award varies depending on type of support requested
- Duration is up to five years

Simons Collaborations in Mathematics and the Physical Sciences:

- Seeks to stimulate progress on fundamental scientific questions of major importance in mathematics, theoretical physics, and theoretical computer science
- A significant new development must create a novel area for exploration or provide new direction for progress in an established field

Awards and Deadlines

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Targeted Grants in Mathematics & Physical Sciences:

Rolling Deadline

Award Amounts vary

Simons Collaborations in Mathematics & Physical Sciences:

Anticipated due date is September 30.

\$10M over 4 years

Fellows Program:
Anticipated due date is July 1, 2016

\$125K

Targeted Grants to Institutes:

Opens Summer 2016

\$1M over 5 years

Autism Research Initiative:

Rolling Deadline

\$70K

Simons Investigator Program - \$550K

November 2016

- Questions addressed may be concrete or conceptual, but there should be little doubt that answering would constitute a major scientific milestone
- Project should involve outstanding researchers with a range of career stages at the faculty level
- Awards to \$2.5 million per year for an initial period of four years. Two awards in 2016.

Simons Fellows Program in Mathematics and

Theoretical Physics: Program is a semester-long research leave designed to stimulate increased creativity and productivity in research.

- Provides faculty salary replacement for up to 50 percent of current academic year salary, up to a maximum of \$100,000, and up to \$10,000-\$25,000 for expenses.
- Fellows must have a teaching or administrative tenured position within the mathematics, physics or related department.
- Must have an active current research program.
- Applicant may not have been appointed a Simons Fellow within the six years prior to the start of the proposed leave.

Targeted Grants to Institutes:

- Funds centers of excellence to establish scientific culture and strengthen contacts within the international scientific community
- Does not support centers whose main purpose is to provide a focal point for research of faculty at a university
- Awards \$100,000-\$200,000 per year for three to five years

Autism Research Initiative: The mission of the Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI) is to improve the understanding, diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) by funding innovative research of the highest quality and relevance. \$70K for 1 year.

Simons Investigator Award: Simons invites nominations from universities for outstanding theoretical scientists in math, physics and computer science. \$110/year for 5 years.

Life Sciences: Simons offers awards for postdocs in areas of Global brain and Origins of Life, as well as an Early Career Investigator Awards in Marine Microbial Ecology and Evolution.

UC Awardees

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Targeted Grants

UC Berkeley: Surjeet Rajendran and Dmitry Budker

Collaborations

UC San Diego: Ioan Bejenaru

UC Santa Barbara: Guofang Wei

UC Riverside: Frederick Wilhelm

Fellows in Mathematics

UC Berkeley: Michael Hutchings, Bernd Sturmfels
UC Los Angeles: Sorin Popa

Fellows in Theoretical Physics

UC Berkeley: Lawrence Hall, Wick Haxton, Petr Horava

Websites

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Simons Foundation:

<https://www.simonsfoundation.org>

UCI Foundation Relations:

<http://grants.give.uci.edu/>