

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: 2019 MICHELSON PRIZES

If I am 35 or older, can I still apply for a Michelson Prize?

No. Applicants born before October 29, 1983 are not eligible to apply for this year's award.

Do I have to be an independent investigator to apply?

No. Doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, clinical fellows, and others in training or non-tenure track positions are eligible to apply, provided they meet the age requirement.

If I change institutions during the award period, can I take the award with me?

Yes. The Michelson Prizes are awarded to individuals, not institutions, and are intended to accompany the awardee if they move to another institution. However, during the period of the award, you must remain associated with a research institution where the goals of the funded project can still be achieved.

I am planning to move to a faculty position in summer 2019, which institution should I put in the pre-application form?

Use your current institution in the pre-application form fields (name and institution address).

Is the award money given to me directly, or to my institution?

Awards of this type are most often given to the research institution for direct distribution to the awardee. While the disbursement mechanism for the Prizes may be negotiated post-award, the Prize money must be used for the conduct of the specific research project for which it was awarded.

Can I use the award money any way I choose?

Mostly. The allocation of award funds is under the control of the awardee and may be used flexibly for items such as salary, equipment, consumable supplies, travel to scientific meetings, and laboratory personnel working with the awardee. However, specific limitations are: no more than 40% of the total award can be used for salaries, travel costs cannot exceed \$1500 and any purchase of equipment over \$15,000 will require prior approval from the Human Vaccines Project.

Can I apply for the award with a co-investigator or a collaborator?

No, not really. Michelson Prizes will be awarded to individual investigators to support the proposed project. The applicant is expected to assemble a research team that will provide the necessary expertise to accomplish the research goals proposed in the pre-application.

Does the \$150,000 include indirect costs?

The Human Vaccines Project does not pay indirect costs on the Michelson Prizes.

If I am selected to submit a full application, will preliminary scientific data be required?

No.

Is the Michelson Prize pre-application deadline firm?

Yes.

Can I submit a paper pre-application?

No. All pre-applications for the Michelson Prizes must be submitted electronically by the application deadline. Paper applications will not be accepted.

Can I submit more than one pre-application?

No.

Can I change my pre-application once it is submitted?

No. Once your application is submitted, it cannot be changed.

When will I find out about the status of my pre-application?

We expect to communicate to all applicants by December 18, 2018 the status of their pre-application.