



# Beckman Scholars @ UVA

## Call for Applications 2021 Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program

The Beckman Scholars program at UVA will provide annually one or more \$21,000 scholarships to highly talented, research-oriented students who will work in select mentors' laboratories for two summers and the intervening academic year. In addition to summer salary and academic year financial support, these scholarships sponsor travel to and participation in national scientific meetings, and promote a professional level of research achievement during the undergraduate years.

Funded by the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, the intent of this program is to advance the education, research training and personal development of select students in chemistry, biochemistry, and the biological and medical sciences.

Applications are due the 19th of February, 2021. Detailed application instructions are provided on the next page.

Beckman Scholars @ UVA – Equal Partners in Discovery!

### UVA Beckman Mentors

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Linda Columbus (Chemistry)	Kevin Janes (BME)
Chris Deppmann (Biology)	Sarah Kucenas (Biology)
Cassandra Fraser (Chemistry)	Jason Papin (BME)
Brent Gunnoe (Chemistry)	Shayn Peirce-Cottler (BME)
Jay Hirsh (Biology)	Rebecca Pompano (Chemistry)
Jeff Holmes (BME)	Richard Price (BME)
Ken Hsu (Chemistry)	Jeff Saucerman (BME)

# How to apply

All applicants must develop a research plan with one of the faculty mentors.

No later than the 19th of February, applicants must electronically submit the following.

1. A letter describing the student's interest in pursuing research as a component of their broader career goals, any relevant research experience or personal background, and how participation in this program will advance their academic and research career.
2. A current *curriculum vita* or resume
3. An unofficial UVA transcript
4. A succinct research plan written by the student with appropriate input from their mentor. The plan should be no more than two pages in length and include (a) background as necessary for a non-expert scientist to understand the research problem, (b) the question to be answered or hypothesis to be tested, (c) the scientific approach to be taken and methods to be used, and (d) how the data will be used to answer the question or test the hypothesis. Successful applications focus more on the research plan than on background. Literature cited is not included in the two page limit.

In addition, applicants should have two letters of support sent directly to the program:

1. A letter of support sent directly to us by the research mentor that includes a statement of the significance of the work, and the promise of the applicant as a scientist
2. A second letter of support sent directly to us by someone familiar with the applicant, but outside their research mentor's lab

Applicants and letter writers should email their materials to [Beckman.Scholars@virginia.edu](mailto:Beckman.Scholars@virginia.edu).

All files should include the applicant's family name in the file name (e.g. jones cv.pdf).

## Important dates

February 19	–	Deadline for applications
March (Day TBD)	–	Finalists are interviewed and Scholars are announced

## Program requirements

Scholars must be a US citizen or permanent resident, must currently be a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year student, must have a GPA >3.5, and must work in the laboratory of one of the 14 faculty listed on the previous page. Once awarded, UVA Beckman Scholars agree to meet the following requirements and expectations:

- Scholars must work in their mentor's laboratory full time for 10 weeks during each of the summers of 2021 and 2022, and 10 hours per week during the 2021-2022 academic year
- If offered, scholars will take a course in technical writing (STS 5500 "Research Documentation as a Creative Process").
- Scholars must submit their work to a major scientific conference.
- Scholars must submit their work to the annual *ACC Meeting of the Minds Conference*.
- Scholars must attend the annual Beckman Scholars Annual Symposia in Irvine, California (all expenses paid).
- Scholars are ideally expected to publish their work in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

## For more information...

Speak with one of the faculty mentors, or contact us at

- [Beckman.Scholars@virginia.edu](mailto:Beckman.Scholars@virginia.edu)
- <https://engineering.virginia.edu/future-undergrads/academics/beckman-scholars>
- Richard Price, Program Director: [rprice@virginia.edu](mailto:rprice@virginia.edu)

