



Frequently Asked Questions

Michelson Prizes: Next Generation Grants

If I am older than 35, can I still apply for a Michelson Prize: Next Generation Grant?

No. Applicants born before June 9, 1988, 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. Scientists in the early stages of their careers often switch institutions. We will work with you and your institution to facilitate changes should that be necessary.

I am planning to move to a faculty position in 2024; which institution should I put in the pre-application form?

Use your current institution in the application form fields.

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

Awards are made to scientists via a standard legal agreement to their institution of affiliation, similar to most grant awards. The Prize money must be used for the conduct of the specific research project for which it was awarded.

Can I use some of the award money for my salary or to pay others who will help me with my project?

Yes.

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

Michelson Prizes will be awarded to individual investigators to support the proposed project. However, the applicant is expected to assemble a research team that will provide the necessary expertise to accomplish the research goals proposed in the application.

Does the \$150,000 include indirect costs?

\$150,000 is the full amount of the award. Per our standard grant policy, we do not pay indirect costs.

If I am short-listed and asked to provide supplemental information, will preliminary scientific data be required?

No.

Is the Michelson Prize application deadline firm?

Yes.

Can I submit a paper application?

No. All 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 application?

No.

Can I change my application once it is submitted?

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

What happened to the Human Vaccines Project?

In 2022, the Human Vaccines Project rebranded to become the **Human Immunome Project**. This rebranding highlights our mission to generate diverse immunological datasets at scale and build the first-ever AI model of the human immune system to accelerate medical research and drug discovery, decrease healthcare costs, and improve health for all. Our work at the intersection of human immunology and advanced technologies is designed to spur the development of novel vaccines, diagnostics, and therapeutics for current and future disease challenges and ultimately advance human health and longevity for all.

How do the Michelson Prize: Next Generation Grants relate to the Michelson Prizes and Grants for Human Immunology? How do they relate to the Michelson Philanthropies & Science Prize for Immunology?

The Michelson Prizes & Grants in Human Immunology are supported by the Michelson Philanthropies and include two distinct funding opportunities.

- The Michelson Prizes Next Generation Grants: \$150K research grants to support disruptive concepts and inventive processes with the potential to significantly advance the development of vaccines and immunotherapies for major global diseases.
- The Michelson Philanthropies & Science Prize for Immunology: A \$25K award for recent research that will have a significant impact on vaccine and immunotherapy development.

Note: the Michelson Found Animals Foundation (www.foundanimals.org) supports the Michelson Prize & Grants in Reproductive Biology, which incentivizes research to rapidly develop a permanent, single-dose, nonsurgical sterilant for male and female cats and dogs.

Can I apply for both the Michelson Prizes: Next Generation Grants and the Michelson Philanthropies & Science Prize for Immunology in the same year?

Yes. However, please note that the Michelson Philanthropies & Science Prize for Immunology is awarded for completed research, and the Michelson Prizes: Next Generation Grants are for proposed research.