

**Donald E. and Delia B. Baxter Foundation
2023 Baxter Foundation Faculty Fellows
Request for Proposals**

The Keck School of Medicine of USC is seeking **research proposals from junior faculty members** to submit to the Donald E. and Delia B. Baxter Foundation. The Foundation has supported many worthy research projects at the Keck School of Medicine for five decades.

This year, the Keck School can put forward four candidates for consideration as Baxter Foundation Faculty Fellows. Traditionally, the Trustees of the Foundation have selected two individuals as Fellows, with each receiving research support in the range of \$50,000 to \$100,000. Funding generally starts at the beginning of the USC academic year, which corresponds to July 2023 for the current offering.

Purpose

The purpose of the Donald E. and Delia Baxter Foundation Fellows Program is to provide seed funding to help prepare and support young investigators as they embark on their careers and start up their independent research programs. This early stage of career development is a critical period for a new researcher. During this time, the new scientist requires some form of monetary support to develop preliminary data and build a research program to effectively compete for extramural research funding. The Foundation is interested in supporting researchers at this early stage so that they can conduct innovative and impactful research that has strong future potential for translation to new therapies, diagnostic tools, and/or approaches to disease prevention. **The Foundation is particularly interested in supporting basic laboratory and mechanism-based research programs.**

Principal Investigator (PI) Eligibility

- Faculty members with their primary appointment at the Keck School, including CHLA, holding the rank of Instructor or Assistant Professor (all tracks)
- Applicants should be in the building phase of their research programs; those who have already attracted substantial external funding other than training or career development grants are not eligible.

Format of Application

Please create **one single PDF file** including all of the following components:

1. Letter of Support

Please provide a cover letter of support from the PI's department chair or other unit head. Department chairs/unit heads should comment on the independence of the applicant and the availability of research space and other resources that will complement Baxter funding in support of the proposed research.

2. Project Title:

3. Principal Investigator

Name:

Title:

Primary Department Affiliation:

Primary School Affiliation:

Email Address:

Box No. (or address):

Phone:

4. Grants Administrator

Name:

Title:

Primary Department Affiliation:

Primary School Affiliation:

Email Address:

Box No. (or address):

Phone:

5. Lay Abstract (max. 300 words)

6. **Timeline/plan for the PI to become independent** (suggest 3 to 5 years; document where applicant currently is on the timeline)

7. **Budget** use PHS 398 Detailed Budget for Initial Budget Period form, available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

8. **Budget justification** Justify the individual budget requests – need and cost

9. **Regulatory Approvals** Indicate any regulatory approvals that will be required to conduct your research (e.g., from the IRB for human subjects, IACUC for animal subjects, Stem Cell Research Oversight Committee for stem cell research). NOTE: applications will be accepted and reviewed before regulatory approvals have been sought, but documentation of regulatory approvals is necessary before funds can be released for work requiring such approvals.

10. **NIH-style Biosketch** for PIs; format available at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

11. **NIH-style “Other Funding” Page** (for PIs)

12. Research Plan

1. Specific Aims (1-page maximum)
2. Research Strategy (4 pages maximum)
 - a. Significance

- b. Innovation
- c. Approach

3. Plans to secure future funding for the project (be as specific as possible about the role of the data you will generate in enabling the design and submission of future grant applications)

Internal Submission Process

By **Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 5 PM**, please send the PDF of the application by email to MariaElena "M.E." Hege, Office of Corporate & Foundation Relations, mhege@med.usc.edu. Please follow up if you do not receive a confirmation that your application was received.

Selection Process

The scientific review and selection process will be conducted under the auspices of the Office of Research Advancement of the Keck School. **Four (4) semi-finalists will be selected** and notified in early April. They will be expected to work with the vice dean for research of the Keck School and associate dean for basic and translational science in April to prepare oral presentations to the Baxter Foundation Board during a virtual or in-person site visit in April or May 2023 (Date TBD). Baxter Foundation Faculty Fellows will be notified of awards shortly thereafter.

Award Process

It is expected that two proposals will be approved and funded beginning July 2023. Research projects will be supported for a total of one year, but support may be extended at no cost for a second year with the submission of a progress report and approval from the vice dean for research at the Keck School.

Background

The Donald E. and Delia B. Baxter Foundation has supported USC since 1959. The Foundation's first gift was to the Keck School. The Foundation awards grants for research at leading postgraduate institutions on the West Coast such as Stanford University, Caltech, the University of Washington and Scripps Institute. Their main focus is junior faculty research. The Baxter Foundation supports cutting-edge junior faculty research with a one-time gift to get their research program started until they can qualify for federal support. Additionally, the Foundation also funds a medical student summer research mentorship program at the Keck School. This program has been supported through the Baxter Fellowship Fund for more than 25 years.

History

Delia Baxter established the Donald E. and Delia B. Baxter Foundation in 1959 in honor of her husband, Donald, who died in 1935. Donald Baxter, a physician and engineer, pioneered the commercial preparation of intravenous solutions, paving the way for widespread use of intravenous therapy. A small family foundation has been formed with direct descendants of Donald and Delia Baxter. The directors include: Jane Haake Russell, Jim Russell, William Haake, Marla Elliott, Martha E. Haake, Terry Morrison, Sarah Russell & Katie Russell.

Questions?

Contact M.E. Hege at mhege@med.usc.edu