

To: School of Medicine Faculty  
From: Katherine L. Nathanson, MD and Matthew D. Weitzman, PhD  
Co-Chairs, PSOM Limited Applications Selection Committee  
Re: Searle Scholars Program  
<https://searlescholars.org/>

The University has been invited to nominate two candidates for the Searle Scholars Program. The Office of the Vice Provost for Research (OVPR) is managing the final candidate review and selection process; each school within the University may submit the names of up to two candidates.

**Program summary:** The Searle Scholars program makes grants to selected universities and research centers to support the independent research of exceptional young faculty in the biomedical sciences and chemistry who have recently begun their appointment at the assistant professor level and whose appointment is their first tenure- or CE-track position at a participating academic or research institution. The Searle Scholars program does not ordinarily support purely clinical research but has supported research programs that include both clinical and basic components.

**Eligibility:**

- Applicants must be pursuing independent research careers in biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology, neuroscience, pharmacology, and related areas in chemistry, medicine, and the biological sciences.
- Applicants should have begun their appointment as an independent investigator at the assistant professor level **on or after May 1, 2023**. The appointment must be their first tenure- or CE-track position (or its nearest equivalent) at an invited institution. (Appointments such as Research Assistant Professor, Academic Clinician Assistant Professor, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Assistant Professor Research Track, Visiting Professor or Instructor are not eligible.)
- The Searle Scholars Program does not ordinarily support purely clinical research but has supported research programs that include both clinical and basic components. Potential applicants who are unsure if their research is appropriate for the Program are encouraged to examine the research interests of present and former Searle Scholars on their website: <https://searlescholars.org/current-scholars/>.
- Applicants who were nominated for awards in the previous competition year but were not awarded may still meet the eligibility criteria for the current competition.
- For any sponsored research projects, the applicant must be eligible to serve as Principal Investigator for the project, unless otherwise noted in the LSO. Please see [Penn's PI Eligibility requirements](#) to ensure you are eligible.

**Award information:**

- Grants are currently set at \$300,000 for a three-year period, with \$100,000 payable in the first year and equal sums payable in the second and third years

**PSOM Review Process**

Each candidate must submit the following in the order below:

- Cover Page: Proposal title; candidate name, academic rank, school, department, email address, phone number, and month and year of appointment to the PSOM faculty.
- Research proposal (must include proposal title) no longer than two pages (references not included in the two-page limit).
- CV or biosketch including current, expired and pending funding **with award amounts** (direct dollars per year).

Please submit all materials in a single pdf file in the order above to Kaitlyn Hagarty at [kaitlyn.hagarty@pennmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:kaitlyn.hagarty@pennmedicine.upenn.edu) by **9:00am on Monday, July 8, 2024**. Subject line should read Searle\_\_Applicant's surname\_Applicant's first name. For Examples: Searle\_Doe\_John.pdf.

Please contact Kaitlyn Hagarty at [Kaitlyn.hagarty@pennmedicine.upenn.edu](mailto:kaitlyn.hagarty@pennmedicine.upenn.edu) with any questions.