

2022 Funding Opportunity: Research Relevant to the Search for Life – Within or Beyond the Solar System

Release date: 01 November 2021
Proposal due date: 17 December 2021

Overview

A private donor supporting space science and engineering at Caltech has made it possible to solicit an opportunity through the Keck Institute for Space Studies (KISS) to fund 1 grant totaling \$85k (direct cost) to carry out technical development efforts that meet the following criteria:

1. the topic should be relevant to the search for life, either within or beyond the solar system, including both direct searches for signatures of life, and determination of conditions suitable for the emergence of life,
2. funding is designated for efforts on Campus with Campus personnel that support innovative approaches for space exploration, and
3. the period of performance is one year.

Proposals submitted in response to this solicitation must have a Caltech Campus Principal Investigator (PI) who is a member of the faculty. *Special consideration will be given to proposals which support the work of graduate students and postdocs.*

Proposal Requirements

Proposals can be in any format, but are required to provide the information outlined below and are limited to two pages in length. If references are required, they may be provided outside of the 2-page limit.

Top of Page:

- Proposal Title:
- Proposal Budget Amount: \$85k
- Proposed Period of Performance: one year from funding start date
- Name of the Campus PI:
- Email of Campus PI:
- Phone Number of Campus PI:
- Division Name:

Program Description and Rationale (2-page limit)

- Statement of the proposal goal
- Description of how the proposal will impact the future of space and/or solar system science or engineering
- Expected outcome within period of performance
- List of personnel involved (may include key individuals from JPL and other institutions who are not funded by this proposal).

Proposals must be submitted to ichatila@caltech.edu by 17 December 2021.

Deliverables and Requirements

A brief final report is due at the completion of the period of performance in the award letter.

If requested, a short presentation of the results of the work shall be given to the donor.

This award must be acknowledged appropriately in all publications referencing the work. If selected, an acknowledgement statement will be provided.

Additional Proposal/Budget Information

- You do not need to provide a formal budget with the proposal itself. If selected, you will be asked to provide a budget at that time.
- Tuition remission rate is 66%.
- Benefit rate is 25.3%.
- The funding is in direct cost, i.e. there will be no overhead as this will be deducted prior to your receipt of funds.
- JPL (and other Institutions) can participate as a consultant/advisor or can show linkages at their organization that complement that Campus work proposed – funding should not go to non-Campus organizations through a sub-award.
- There is no need to route this through the Division as the Division Chairs are part of the approval process.
- This does not need to go through the Office of Sponsored Research.