

Subject: Star-Friedman Challenge for Promising Scientific Research
Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2024
From: Dean Hopi Hoekstra



Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to announce the 2024 call for applications to the Star-Friedman Challenge for Promising Scientific Research. The Challenge invites eligible faculty members to apply for seed funding for work within the life, physical and social sciences in their research programs. As in 2023, projects that take the investigators in directions that are new for them are encouraged this year. Together with Dean Andrea Baccarelli, Dean George Daley, Dean William Giannobile, and Dean David Parkes, I invite ladder faculty members from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS), The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (The Harvard Chan School), Harvard Medical School (HMS), Harvard School of Dental Medicine (HSDM), and Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) to submit single- or multiinvestigator proposals for consideration.

The Star-Friedman Challenge for Promising Scientific Research aims to fund cutting-edge scientific projects that may not receive support through traditional funding channels. With a focus on novel work and new directions, Challenge grants will ordinarily range from \$80,000-\$150,000. In truly exceptional circumstances, larger awards can be considered.

A review committee of tenured faculty members from the participating Schools will select award recipients, who are then invited to refine their projects and discuss their ideas with the Harvard community at a Challenge event in Spring 2024. The committee will be looking to fund projects that can attain demonstrable results within one year. Longer-term projects should provide milestones of success for assessment upon a one-year review.

To submit an application or learn more about this opportunity, please visit the [Star-Friedman Challenge for Promising Scientific Research](#) website. Applications will be accepted through 5 pm EST on February 15, 2024.

The deans and the founders hope that the Star-Friedman Challenge for Promising Scientific Research will expand opportunities for Harvard researchers to pursue ever more novel areas of inquiry, unburdened by the constraints of traditional funding. All faculty, especially those who are early in their careers, are encouraged to apply.

Sincerely,

Hopi

Hopi Hoekstra

Edgerley Family Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

C. Y. Chan Professor of Arts and Sciences

Xiaomeng Tong and Yu Chen Professor of Life Sciences