

Arnold & Mabel

BECKMAN FOUNDATION

Member, Board of Directors

POSITION SPECIFICATION



THE ORGANIZATION AND ITS FOUNDER

Arnold O. Beckman was an educator, an accomplished scientist, a bold entrepreneur, a civic leader, and a world-renowned philanthropist and humanitarian. Throughout his life, Dr. Beckman paved the way for myriad scientific breakthroughs and the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation continues this legacy today.

Founded in 1977, the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation is a not-for-profit foundation that makes grants to promote research in chemistry and the life sciences.



Dr. Beckman and his wife, Mabel, were partners in every sense of the word and, when he retired, they became increasingly active as philanthropists.

Throughout his long life, Arnold Beckman was as respected as he was admired. Recognized as a brilliant scientist and inventor, he was also known as a devoted family man and friend. Considered one of the top five inventors of scientific instruments in the 20th century, Dr. Beckman created devices that revolutionized the study and understanding of chemistry and human biology. The hallmark of his highly decorated career, though, was always his personal integrity and his love for science. Dr. Beckman received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and a master's degree in physical chemistry from the University of Illinois, and a doctorate in photochemistry from the California Institute of Technology, where he also served as an assistant professor, and later as Chairman of their Board of Trustees.

While he was still teaching, Dr. Beckman founded National Technical Laboratories (which later became Beckman Instruments and ultimately Beckman Coulter) in 1935 with the invention of the acidimeter, a forerunner of the modern pH meter. It quickly became an indispensable tool in analytical chemistry and earned him a place in the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1987. Dr. Beckman continued to develop and manufacture scientific instruments, leading to the release of the Beckman DU Spectrophotometer in 1941, which revolutionized chemical analysis. These extraordinary contributions led President George Herbert Walker Bush to award Dr. Beckman the National Medal of Science in 1989 for his leadership in analytical instrumentation development and for his deep concern for the vitality of the nation's scientific enterprises. He was also nationally recognized during the Reagan administration with the 1989 Presidential Citizens Medal for his exemplary deeds of service and the 1988 National Medal of Technology for outstanding technological contributions to the United States.



Arnold O. Beckman's innovations revolutionized science; his philanthropy continues to do so. The Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation invests millions of dollars each year in institutions and people that are performing cutting-edge research. The Beckman Foundation currently has in excess of \$600 million in assets under management and grants approximately \$30 million annually. About 60% of this annual funding is directed to individual scientists/programs and the remaining 40% supports the five named Beckman Institutes.

The Beckman Foundation supports scientific achievement through various programs, including the Beckman Young Investigators Program, the Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellowship Program, the Beckman Scholars Program, and the OC Beckman Legacy Award. A complete list of programs may be found [here](#).



The [Beckman Young Investigators \(BYI\) Program](#) provides research support to the most promising young faculty members in the first three years of their academic careers in the chemical and life sciences, particularly to foster the invention of methods, instruments, and materials that will open up new avenues of research in science.

The [Arnold O. Beckman Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) in Chemical Sciences or Chemical Instrumentation Award Program supports advanced research by postdoctoral scholars within the core areas of fundamental chemistry or the development and build of chemical instrumentation. This program supports first and second year postdoctoral fellows at research institutions who are judged to have the highest potential for success in a career in chemistry and who will become the next generation of leaders and innovators in science, engineering, and technology.



The [Beckman Scholars Program](#) is an annual invited program for accredited universities and four-year colleges in the United States that provides mentored research grants that contribute significantly in advancing the education, research training, and personal development of select students in chemistry, biochemistry, and the biological and medical sciences.

The [OC Beckman Legacy Award](#) was started in 2019 within several high schools in Orange County, California. Students sign up with teacher mentors to build an instrument based on Dr. Beckman's inventions and then complete an independent research project using their instrument. Winning students are awarded a scholarship to attend a four-year college or university.

The Foundation also funds five major research centers: the Beckman Research Institute at the City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, California; the Beckman Laser Institute and Medical Clinic, University of California, Irvine; the Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; the Beckman Center for Molecular and Genetic Medicine at Stanford University; and the Beckman Institute, California Institute of Technology.

The Beckman Foundation is proud to support additional innovative STEM and STEAM activities in their local community such as Kids@Science, which provides STEM teacher training in Orange County; CubeSat, a high school program in Irvine Public Schools to launch satellites into space; support and awards for the Orange County Science and Engineering Fair; Beckman Arts & Science Family Day; and support for the Chapman University Keck Center for Science and Technology.



For more information about the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, please visit their website: www.beckman-foundation.org.

MISSION

To promote research in chemistry and life sciences, broadly interpreted, and particularly to foster the invention of methods, instruments, and materials that will open up new avenues of research in science through grants to program-related, nonprofit research institutions.





LOCATION

The Foundation's offices are located in Irvine, California. The Board of Directors meets four times annually, in January, in May as part of a day and a half long board retreat, in August during the annual Beckman Symposium, and in October. These meetings are primarily in southern California, though the board occasionally uses their meetings to visit the Stanford Beckman Center or the Beckman Institute at University of Illinois. While in-person attendance is preferred, board members are able to participate virtually if necessary. In light of social distancing and the current pandemic, the board has been meeting either exclusively via videoconference or in a hybrid setting since April 2020.

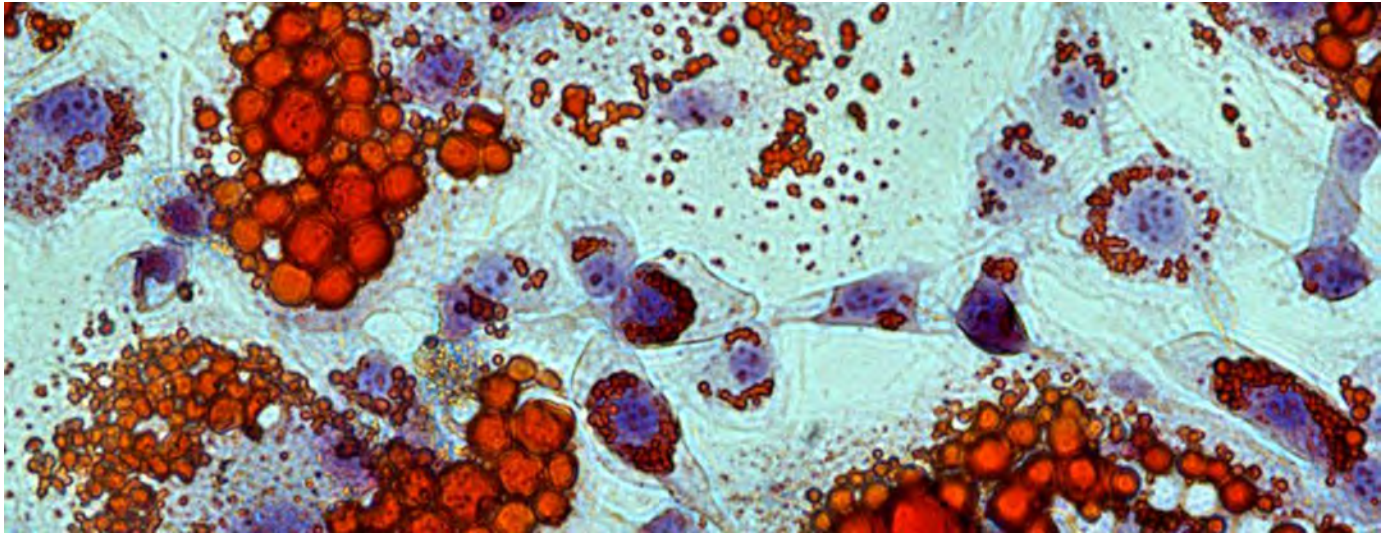
THE ROLE

The Board of Directors of the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation provides leadership and strategic guidance for all of the Foundation's activities and grant programs. The board works in partnership with the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation Executive Director and the Science Advisory Council to implement these programs. Members of the board may serve a maximum of ten years, with the first year being a probationary year, and with board member assessments performed in years four and seven. The mandatory age limit for all board members is 80 years old.

The incoming board member will be an individual defined by a big picture outlook and expertise in business operations to the extent that they can eventually take on additional board responsibilities and leadership roles. As a member of the Board of Directors, this vital volunteer leader's activities are fundamental to executing the organization's mission. Ideally, the next board member will join the board at the beginning of 2022.

Board members are not compensated for their service. The Foundation will reimburse members for reasonable travel costs to attend board events. After a full year of service on the board, each board member is eligible to participate in two gift programs administered by the Foundation:

- Trustee gifts: up to \$50,000/fiscal year to donate to 501(c)(3) organization(s) of their choice;
- Matching gifts: up to \$50,000/fiscal year in matching funds for any board member donations to 501(c)(3) organization(s).



RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

Primary responsibilities include:

- Provides strategic direction and vision such that the Foundation remains consistent with the mission statement as articulated by Dr. Beckman and that the Foundation's activities continue to innovate programmatically and remain on the leading edge of work in the scientific community.
- Approves annual operating budget and reviews annual independent audit reports.
- Reviews performance and provides direction to the Executive Director of the Foundation.

Additional activities include:

- Ensures the organization is well managed and its mission and stewardship are carried out through appropriate checks, balances, and oversight.
- Ensures that all operations and activities of the Foundation are conducted in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, governance policies, and sound business practices, including bringing forth any legal or ethical concerns to the Chairman of the Board or the full board, as appropriate.
- Recruits and orients new board members.
- Each board member serves on at least one standing committee and volunteers for special assignments. Current committees include: Executive, Investment Management, Science Programs, Audit, and Nominating.
- Reviews and sets policy, as needed, for the consideration of funding requests and program initiatives.
- Stays well informed about the Foundation by carefully reading minutes of the board meetings, financial statements, and other relevant materials. Through personal expertise and awareness, provides insights into community activities and legal/political/business events that may impact the work of the Foundation.
- Fully prepares for and participates in all board activities. This includes reviewing all materials prior to arriving at meetings and being ready to engage in thoughtful dialogue.
 - Four board meetings per year.
 - Committee meetings as needed.
 - Occasional social events to support Foundation programs.
- Promotes the Foundation's mission within the community.
- Reviews annual reports from the Beckman Institutes/Center to monitor their activities in relation to the goals of the Foundation.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

As key members of the Foundation's volunteer leadership, the members of the Board of Directors must possess and project the utmost integrity and highest standards of professional conduct, and must be individuals qualified by accomplishment and experience to exercise the leadership of a capable, collegial, and motivated community.

Expected qualifications for all members of the Board of Directors include:

- Commitment to supporting the mission and philosophy statement of the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, as articulated by Dr. Arnold O. Beckman. Possesses an inherent appreciation and depth of respect for the importance of scientific research and its impact on the global community.
- Preferred expertise would include C-Suite industry experience, ideally in a life sciences company or other connection to scientific research and commercialization of technology. Will have a high level of business acumen, including experience in developing strategy and consensus building, as well as experience as a key decision maker.
- Highest level of integrity and firm commitment to the Duty of Loyalty, Duty of Obedience, and Duty of Diligence (provided in the Board Member Handbook).
- Ability to productively work in teams and committees, and willingness to strive for consensus decisions. Diplomatic in approach to discussions with various groups and stakeholders in a genuine and earnest way. Willingness to engage in a shared leadership approach and willingness to bring forward an individual opinion, as appropriate, during discussions.
- Understands the contributions that a diversity of life experiences and expertise bring to group discussions and decisions.
- Appreciates, supports, and fully acknowledges the vital roles that diversity, equity, and inclusion play in the Foundation's support of scientific progress and innovation, and brings those perspectives to group discussions and decisions.
- Low-ego professional with a track record of success in a dynamic, mission driven organization.
- Has a high expectations for oneself and all others involved in the work of the Foundation. As a leader, this individual will have a bias toward action.
- Prior experience on a nonprofit/public board of directors as well as professional experience in strategic planning, evaluating mission delivery, budget management, and setting organizational goals and performance metrics are strongly preferred.
- Maintains a healthy sense of humor, even during debate and deliberations.
- A person local to Orange County, California, and willing to represent the Foundation at local community events would be a plus.





PROCESS

Interested individuals are encouraged to submit their credentials as soon as possible for full consideration. Complete applications should be submitted electronically and should include: a cover letter articulating interest, a current resume reflecting work experience from college forward, and a list of names, telephone numbers, addresses, and email addresses for five professional references. References will not be contacted without approval/consent.

CONTACT

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