**Internal Process for The Sloan Research Fellowship**

Please review the following details and internal process for the 2023 nomination to the [Sloan Research Fellowship](https://sloan.org/fellowships/). We understand that you may already have your own internal process for the Sloan Research Fellowship. If the dates below do not agree with your process, but you would still like to take advantage of OVPR support, please email stefanie.bernaudo@utoronto.ca.

This information should be circulated to your faculty members and awards leadership. All nominations can access OVPR for application review and editorial support. Please reach out to stefanie.bernaudo@utoronto.ca with any questions.

The internal MRA and final sponsor deadlines will be made on the applicable [UofT funding opportunities webpage](https://research.utoronto.ca/honours-awards/db/sloan-research-fellowships).

**OVERVIEW:**

These two-year, $75,000 fellowships are awarded yearly to early career researchers in recognition of distinguished performance and a unique potential to make substantial contributions to their field.

**ELIGIBILITY & REVIEW CRITERIA:**

The Sloan Research Fellowship Program recognizes and rewards outstanding early-career faculty who have the potential to revolutionize their fields of study.

* Candidates must hold a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in **chemistry, computer science, Earth system science, economics, mathematics, neuroscience, physics, or a related field.**
* Candidates must be members of the faculty of a college, university, or other degree-granting institution in the U.S. or Canada.
* Candidates must be tenure-track, though untenured, as of September 15 of the nomination year.
* Candidate’s faculty position must carry a regular teaching obligation.

The Sloan Research Fellowship Program recognizes and rewards outstanding early-career faculty who have the potential to revolutionize their fields of study. Successful candidates for a Fellowship generally have a strong record of significant independent research accomplishments that demonstrate creativity and the potential to become future leaders in the scientific community. Nominated candidates are normally several years past the completion of their Ph.D. in order to accumulate a competitive record of independent, significant research.

In keeping with the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation's longstanding support of underrepresented scholars in the sciences, the Foundation strongly encourages the nomination of qualified Black, Latinx, Native American, Alaska Native and women candidates.

Fellows are selected on the basis of their independent research accomplishments, creativity, and potential to become leaders in the scientific community through their contributions to their field.

**NOMINATION PROCESS:**

See website for the [detailed nomination guidelines](https://sloan.org/fellowships/#tab-materials-required). No more than three candidates may be nominated per department. Please check with your department Chair prior to submitting a nomination.

**A completed nomination is comprised of:**

1. A letter from a department head or other senior researcher officially nominating the candidate and describing his or her qualifications, initiative, and research;
2. The candidate's curriculum vitae (including a list of the candidates scientific publications);
3. Two representative articles by the candidate that highlight his or her independent research;
4. A brief (one-page) statement by the candidate describing his or her significant scientific work and immediate research plans;
5. Three letters from other researchers (preferably not all from the same institution) written in support of the candidate’s nomination.

All materials must be uploaded and submitted through the Foundation’s online application portal.  Nominations for the 2024 Sloan Research Fellowship open on July 15, 2023. See the [Apply page](https://sloan.org/fellowships/apply-2) for more information. Nominations for the 2024 Sloan Research Fellowships are due in **September 15, 2023.**

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| **(OPTIONAL) DIVISONAL REVIEW PROCESS:**The divisional review process is designed to support and provide feedback for individuals being nominated for the Sloan Research Fellowship. The process is designed and managed by OVPR and includes an optional review of nomination material by OVPR staff.The divisional nomination process is as follows: 1. Nominees notify OVPR of their intent to put forward a nomination. Please email stefanie.bernaudo@utoronto.ca with the name(s) of the candidate(s) no later than **April 24, 2023**
2. Draft nomination packages are due on **May 29, 2023**. This should include a draft candidate’s statement, and CV. Nominators are welcome to include the nomination letter. We recommend giving letter writers at least 6 weeks to prepare a letter.
3. OVPR will review the internal nomination packages and provide feedback to nominees.
4. Nominees will continue to work with OVPR’s Strategic Research Development Officers (as appropriate) to prepare the full application package for submission.

**RELEVANT DEADLINES:**

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| **Date** | **Milestone** |
| **April 24, 2023**  | Notify OVPR of intent to submit  |
| **May 29, 2023** | Internal nomination files due for OVPR review |
| **June** | Work with OVPR to finalize nomination package |
| **Mid July** | Request reference letters |
| **September 1, 2023** | Final deadline for administrative review |
| **September 15, 2023** | Submission to the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation |

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 **Sloan Research Fellowship- Tips**

**Will be updated yearly as more information becomes available.**

**CANDIDATE**

* Check norms in your discipline to see when others are winning the award.
* Most success is when you apply closer to tenure.
* May want to apply 1 or 2 rounds early, as it may take a few tries.

**LETTERS OF REFERENCE/NOMINATION LETTER**

* Most letters should come from those at arm’s length. While letters from previous supervisors are accepted, limit this to only one.
* Nomination letters do not need to come from a Chair. Any well known, senior researcher who can speak to your research and impact may nominate.
* Having a previous Sloan fellow as a letter writer is a bonus.
* Choose the letter writers wisely- ex. one that is in a closely related area and can speak to the research (SME), one that is very well known and can speak to your reputation, one that is slightly outside your area and can speak to your reach.
* Letters could complement each other rather than repeat information.
* Ask people in your network to reach out to ask for referee letters if you do not personally know them.
* It is important to provide letter writers with your draft material, and possible a few notes that you would like them to highlight or expand on (especially if you do not personally know the referee)
* Letters may include information such as, direct comparisons to other recent fellow in your field and/or the publications you chose to include in the nomination package and their impact.

**RESEARCH STATEMENT AND OTHER MATERIALS**

* Choose articles to include that have already been published or are at least accepted for publication
* One page research statement should highlight the overall goals and large themes as well as their impact or future trajectory. Make sure you show your vision. Don’t repeat the CV.
* Example breakdown of one page should be 2/3 on problem, approach and expertise (draw on previous work), 1/3 on future and impact
* Don’t get too lost in the details of the work and speak to the broader impact on the field and beyond.
* Make sure to look at the [selection committee (published online](https://sloan.org/fellowships#tab-selection-committees)) and make sure your research statement resonates with them.

**STATISTICS**

* Approximately 126 fellowships will be awarded each year.

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| **Year** | **No. of UTM winners** | **h-index** | **Publications** | **Years since PhD** | **Years since first appointment** |
| **2021** | 2 | 6-8 | 7-8 | 6 | 1.5 (1-2) |
| **2022** | 1 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 4 |
| **2023** | 2 | 9.5 (5-14) | 14.5 (11-18) | 7 (4-10) | 4 (2-6) |