

YALE UNIVERSITY ▾ SCHOLAR AWARD COMPETITION  
**THE JOHN MERCK FUND**  
**The John Merck Scholars Program**

#### DEADLINES

**Tuesday, November 20, 2007 - Internal deadline**

January 17, 2008\* - Anticipated deadline for proposals to be submitted to The John Merck Fund

#### PROGRAM WEBSITE

Limited information on this program and a list of past recipients and their projects are available on The John Merck Fund website. [http://jmfund.org/jm\\_scholars\\_program.html](http://jmfund.org/jm_scholars_program.html). Information on past recipients and their funded projects is available at: <http://jmfund.org/development.html>

#### BACKGROUND

The John Merck Fund has a longstanding interest in the problem of mentally disabled children with emotional disturbances. It funds investigations into the underlying neurobiology of developmental disabilities and associated cognitive impairments. By supporting the most promising basic research into the processes that impair the lives of the developmentally disabled, the Fund hopes to foster a better scientific understanding of the origins of these disabilities and thereby provide the foundation for more effective approaches to their prevention and treatment. Its goal is to gain insights that eventually might lead to breakthroughs in prevention and treatment.

#### ELIGIBILITY

- **Candidates should be working or plan to work in the neurobiological or cognitive sciences** relating to the biology of mental disability and developmental disabilities, including developmental studies of cognition, perception, language, reading, learning, and motor performance. Note that successful cognitive science applications tend to propose research involving babies, "live people."
- Applicants must have an academic rank as assistant professor in a university or medical school, having served for not more than four (4) years in an independent faculty position, and having not yet achieved a tenured rank.
- Applicants must have a record of research in areas relating to the Fund's interest in the underlying causes of developmental disabilities.
- Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to a career in neuroscience or cognitive science.

#### FUNDING

- \$75,000 per year for four (4) years, totaling \$300,000.
- Up to 25% of the award can be used for summer salary support, including fringe benefits.
- The balance of funds may be used for research assistants, equipment, or other purposes that promote the Scholar's scientific activities.
- Other fellowships can be held concurrently with the John Merck Scholar Award; however, prior approval of The John Merck Fund is required. Funding of overlapping fellowships is discouraged.

#### NOMINATION LIMITATION

- **Yale may nominate one neuroscientist and one cognitive scientist for this award.**

#### INTERNAL COMPETITION PROCEDURES

Complete instructions for submitting an application for the Internal Competition are available on the YSM Grant & Contract Administration website at:

[http://grants.med.yale.edu/funding\\_opportunities/internal-competition.html](http://grants.med.yale.edu/funding_opportunities/internal-competition.html)

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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For additional information on Scholar Awards: [http://grants.med.yale.edu/funding\\_opportunities/deadlines.html](http://grants.med.yale.edu/funding_opportunities/deadlines.html)