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BOETTCHER FOUNDATION WEBB-WARING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS

2021 Boettcher Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards

# Pre-Submission Webinar

Monday, December 14, 2020  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

## Presenters:

Ronald Sokol, MD, Anschutz Medical Campus (Selection Committee Chair)  
Andrew Thorburn, PhD, Anschutz Medical Campus (Selection Committee Vice-Chair)

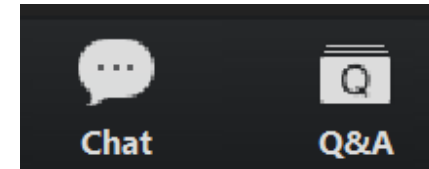
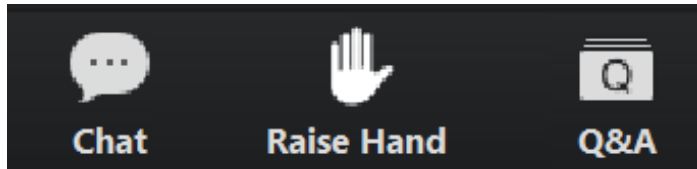
# The Webinar will include:

- Information about:
  - the program
  - the application process
- Tips and Resources
- Q&A

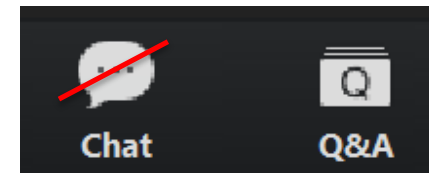
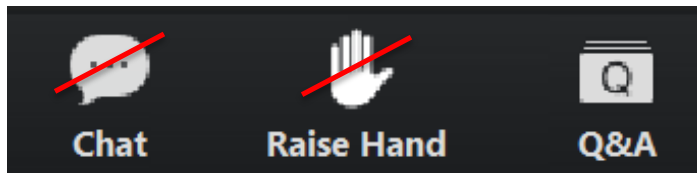
# About the Zoom Webinar

- You should see:
  - Webinar slides
  - Video of the Speaker
  - Some feature icons
    - The only live feature is “Q&A”
- One-Way Audio
- To submit Questions:
  - Use the Q&A feature

When you are in the Zoom webinar, one of the icon groups below will appear at the bottom of your screen.



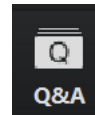
During the webinar, “Chat” and “Raise Hand” will be disabled.



Questions:

- You may submit a question at anytime.
- Questions will be monitored and answered at the end of the presentation.

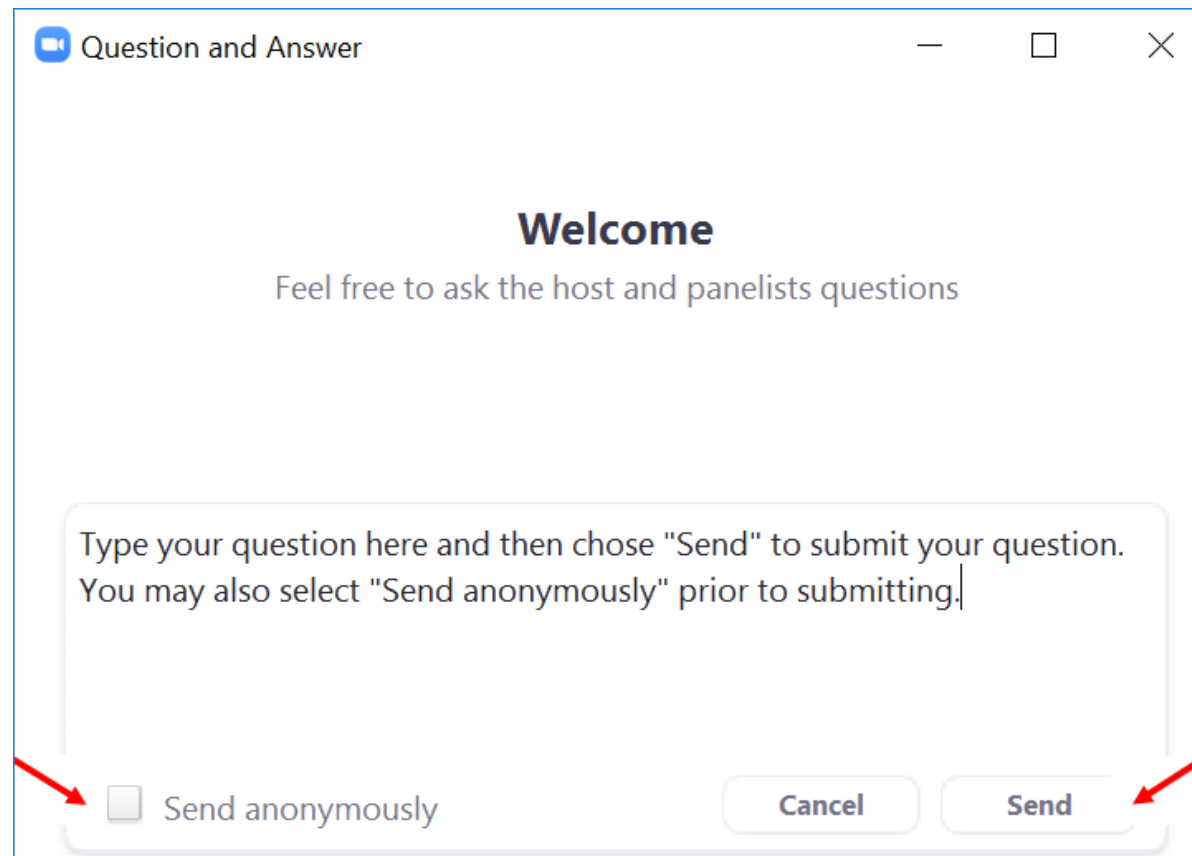
After selecting the Q&A icon,



the screen below appears.

Enter your question and select send.

Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation.

A screenshot of a 'Question and Answer' dialog box. The title bar shows 'Question and Answer' with standard window controls. The main content area has a 'Welcome' heading and a sub-heading 'Feel free to ask the host and panelists questions'. Below this is a text input field with the placeholder text: 'Type your question here and then chose "Send" to submit your question. You may also select "Send anonymously" prior to submitting,'. At the bottom left, there is a checkbox labeled 'Send anonymously' with a red arrow pointing to it. At the bottom right, there are two buttons: 'Cancel' and 'Send', with a red arrow pointing to the 'Send' button.

Question and Answer

**Welcome**

Feel free to ask the host and panelists questions

Type your question here and then chose "Send" to submit your question.  
You may also select "Send anonymously" prior to submitting,

Send anonymously

Cancel Send



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# About the program

# About the Grants

- Up to 5 grants of \$235,000 (*for up to 3 years of research activity*) for promising and talented early-career investigators at CU.
- Awardees will receive the prestigious title of “Boettcher Investigator”.
- Eligible faculty researchers from all four CU campuses are encouraged to apply.

# Items to Stress in 2021:

1. Career plan is an important criteria.
2. Departmental commitment is important.
3. Find ways to stress how the grant will help you progress to independence:
  - Mentor letter
  - Departmental commitment letter/statement.



# To be eligible, you must:

## 1. Be within four years of your appointment to a career-track academic position.

- Career-track appointment began on or after January 1, 2016.
- In general, these are faculty appointments that have a significant expectation regarding research, teaching, and/or clinical activities.
- Position may be tenure- or non-tenure-track.

# To be eligible, you must:

## 2. Have not previously received a major independent research award.

- At the time of application...and time of selection.
  - We must re-confirm this prior to submitting awardee names to the Boettcher Foundation on May 1.
- “A major independent award” includes:
  - NIH R01 or similar grant (including K99/R00) which provides independent research support of at least \$125,000
    - Direct costs only
    - Either single-year or multiple-year award
- You may apply if you have received:
  - Multiple independent awards that are each less than \$125,000 (direct costs) but that total more than \$125,000
  - Training grants, mentored grants, career development grants

# To be eligible, you must:

**3. Have received a terminal degree or completed your medical residency within the ten years preceding the application.**

- This means you must have received a terminal degree or completed your medical residency on or after January 1, 2010.

**4. Be either a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident.**

- At the time of submitting application.

# Remember:

1. You must meet all four criteria to be eligible.
2. You should determine eligibility before proceeding with application.
3. You must complete and sign the 2021 Eligibility Certification and Verification Form
  - Department chair must sign to verify your eligibility.
4. For clarifications/questions:
  - See <http://www.cu.edu/bfww/FAQs>
  - Contact campus grants and contracts offices
  - Email us at [webb-waring@cu.edu](mailto:webb-waring@cu.edu)



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# Application Process & Tips

# Application (General Suggestions):

- Follow the instructions.
- Treat this like a grant application to an agency like NIH.
- Use Arial 11 font and one inch margins.
- Don't use fancy formatting to make two columns or anything else that may make it difficult for a reviewer to read either on paper or on a screen.

# Application Components:

Cover Letter: Explain the goals of the research in a way that is suitable for a lay audience.

Section 1. Relevance to human health: Use lay terms. Explain clearly the health relevance of the research.

Section 2. Scientific Abstract: A good idea to include your specific aims.

Section 3. Investigator Information: Follow the biosketch template. Remember that the personal statement section is an opportunity to explain why you're the best person to do this research and how this project fits into your field. Please explain how this award will help you become an independent investigator.

- Career plan is important criteria

# Application Components (cont.):

## Section 4. Research Plan (6 pages max)

- Reviewers expect to see a grant that looks like a NIH-type grant.
- Have clearly defined Specific Aims.
- Background and Significance. Explain the health relevance, as well as, the likely scientific impact of the work. This is also your opportunity to establish that the scientific rationale and premise underlying your proposal is sound. Discuss the innovative aspects of your work.
- Approach. Specific plan should describe research design and methods with sufficient detail for the reader to understand what you're doing. Preliminary data (e.g., establishing feasibility) can be included. If the project will develop pilot data for future studies, explain why that is valuable and what will be done with those data. Include statistical justification (e.g., power analyses) and explain how data will be analyzed. Justify feasibility and numbers for any animal or human studies.



# Application Components (cont.):

## Section 4. Research Plan (cont.)

- To establish feasibility - ask yourself:
  - Have I shown that it is possible to do this?
  - Can I actually do it with the expertise and facilities that I have?
- Include expected results section.
- Include discussion of potential pitfalls/alternative approaches.
- Timeline (optional)
- References (50 max) are not included in the 6 pages.
  - References should demonstrate knowledge of the literature, scientific capability of investigator and feasibility.
  - Therefore cite your own relevant papers and make it clear to the reader that this is YOUR previous work.
  - Do not ignore important relevant studies, especially if they raise doubts about your work.

# Application Components (cont.):

Section 5. Budget: (2 page max) Break up into components as in instructions. Explain how the budget supports your research plan in the budget justification.

Section 6. Assurances: Sign your form as stated in instructions. Campus assurance form needs to be included.

Letters of recommendation - Including:

1. 1 letter from your chair or division chief, and should include a description of your department's commitment to your research program (such as equipment, space, protected time and/or startup funds).
2. 1 letter from your mentor or advisor who can attest to your promise and abilities.
3. 1-2 letters from researchers OUTSIDE your institution who can address the merits of your science. It is better if these people can write letters that make it clear that they really know you and are familiar with your research.

**A MAXIMUM OF 4 LETTERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

# Application Hints

- Have your faculty mentor or someone else who is experienced at getting and reviewing grants to read your proposal.
- Do not assume that the reviewers will be experts in YOUR field. But do realize that all reviewers are accomplished and successful researchers and are experienced at reading and reviewing research proposals.
  - Explain why your work is important so that a reviewer who is not in your field but is an experienced investigator will understand the potential impact.
- If your proposal is hypothesis-driven, make it clear how the work you propose will test the hypotheses.
- If your work is “discovery” research or non-hypothesis driven research, explain how generating these data will move the field forward.



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# Key Resources

# BFWW Homepage

<https://www.cu.edu/bfww>

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## Boettcher Foundation Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards

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### BOETTCHER FOUNDATION WEBB-WARING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS NEWS

[CU faculty researchers invited to apply for Boettcher Investigator status](#)

[2020 Class of Boettcher Investigators includes five University of Colorado researchers](#)

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### BOETTCHER FOUNDATION WEBB-WARING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS

The Boettcher Foundation Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards Program supports early career investigators whose research has a direct impact on human health. The biomedical research supported pursuant to this grant program will be designed to find ways to prevent disease and improve human health through basic and applied biomedical research. The intent of the program is to fund meritorious research that has the potential for new discoveries or advances a discovery to the proof of its potential value as an application to improve human health. This research will improve the understanding, treatment and prevention of human disease. Awardees will carry the prestigious title of Boettcher Investigator.

[CU's forty-nine Boettcher Investigators](#) have been awarded a total of [\\$11,370,000](#) since the program was initiated in 2010. See all [CU Boettcher Investigators](#).

### CAMPUS-SPECIFIC DEADLINES

Applications must be submitted to your campus Grants office by the campus-specific deadlines included in the campus-specific instructions:

- [CU Boulder](#)
- [CU Colorado Springs](#)
- [CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus](#)

Campus Grant Offices must submit final completed applications to the President's Office by February 26, 2021.

# Campus-Specific Process/Deadlines

<https://www.cu.edu/bfww/how-apply>



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## Boettcher Foundation Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards

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## How To Apply

[VIEW](#) [EDIT](#) [MANAGE DISPLAY](#) [WEBFORM](#) [OUTLINE](#) [RESULTS](#) [REVISIONS](#) [CLONE CONTENT](#) [NODE EXPORT](#) [DEVEL](#)

To apply, please review the Boettcher Foundation Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards [application document](#) in conjunction with the campus-specific instructions below for additional guidance.

- [CU Boulder](#)
- [CU Colorado Springs](#)
- [CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus](#)


### BOETTCHER FOUNDATION WEBB-WARING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS NEWS


[CU faculty researchers invited to apply for 2020 Boettcher Investigator status](#)

[Dr. Robert Doebele, Boettcher Investigator in the News](#)

# Location of Application Components

<https://www.cu.edu/bfww/application-components>

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### Application Components

- [Boettcher Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Application](#) (pdf)
- [Eligibility Certification and Verification Form](#) (docx)
- [Biosketch Template](#) (docx)
- [CU-Specific Budget Template](#)(xls)

### Applicant Assurances

- [CU Boulder](#)
- [CU Colorado Springs](#)
- [CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus](#)

**BOETTCHER FOUNDATION WEBB-WARING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS NEWS**

[Dr. Robert Doebele, Boettcher Investigator in the News](#)

[Five University of Colorado researchers named 2019 Boettcher Investigators](#)

[Cepon Robins named first UCCS Boettcher Investigator](#)

[View All](#)

# Campus Contacts

- University of Colorado Boulder:
  - Joan Eaton [joan.eaton@colorado.edu](mailto:joan.eaton@colorado.edu)
  - Allison Fischer [allison.fischer@colorado.edu](mailto:allison.fischer@colorado.edu)
- University of Colorado Colorado Springs
  - Gwen Gennaro [ggennaro@uccs.edu](mailto:ggennaro@uccs.edu)
  - Trish Rea [prea@uccs.edu](mailto:prea@uccs.edu)
- CU Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus
  - Ryan Holland [bfww-ucd@cu.edu](mailto:bfww-ucd@cu.edu) (Out until January 4)
  - Garrett Steed [garrett.steed@cuanschutz.edu](mailto:garrett.steed@cuanschutz.edu) (Primary contact until January 4)



# Q&A

- Some Common Questions
  - More FAQs on the Website
  - <http://www.cu.edu/bfww/FAQs>

## Question

- Are the number of CU awards limited to a specific campus or can they all go to the same campus?

## Answer

- We do not assign awards to campuses. We take into consideration what campus the individual is on more so in regard to the facility, the collaboration, and expertise of the campus but there is no restriction to how many awards go to any of the CU campuses.

## Question

- Is there any preference regarding “basic science vs. clinical studies”?

## Answer

- There is no specific preference; but if it's basic science - you need to clearly link it to human health. Most investigators that are involved in basic science nowadays have translational components to their research but you have to make it clear that it does link to human disease or human health. Most of the investigators who have been funded are actually doing laboratory research that is closely linked to human health in some way. We wouldn't discourage any investigator from basic to clinical research from applying.

## Question

- What is the length maximum on reference letters?

## Answer

- There is no limit. However, any letter over two pages starts getting to be a bit long. It's recommended keeping letters at two pages although there is no max.

## Question

- Should these letters focus on the science or the applicant?

## Answer

- If they are familiar with your science and they don't know you personally and you're asking them to write a letter that supports the science, that's probably just fine but they have to be familiar with the science and/or you, hopefully both.

## Question

- Is it important to list my career goals?

## Answer

- Yes. The award is designed to improve the ECI's ability to obtain independent awards. An explanation of your career goals and how your current research and potential award are advancing those aims would be beneficial.

## Question

- Is eligibility related to independent grants at the time of submission?

## Answer

- A major independent award greater than \$125,000 received after application submission but has a May 1, 2021, or earlier award funding date would impact eligibility. If the award funding date is after May 1, 2021, then eligibility is not impacted.

# Q&A

## Today's Submitted Questions



# Wrap-Up

- A recording of the Webinar and Slides will be posted to BFWW website.
  - <https://www.cu.edu/bfww>
- Please provide feedback – via a short online survey.
  - You will be directed to the online survey at the end of the webinar.
  - Your feedback is important.

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### BOETTCHER FOUNDATION WEBB-WARING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS NEWS

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# BFWW Pre-Submission Webinar Survey

Your feedback and comments about the December 2020 Boettcher Foundation Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards webinar would be greatly appreciated. Please take a few minutes to complete survey.

On a scale of 1-5, with 1=Poor and 5=Excellent, please rate the following items and provide (optional) feedback:

### 1) December 2020 Pre-Submission Webinar:

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A
Registration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Connection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Webinar Materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Webinar Content	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Q&A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 2) Other comments or recommendations about the webinar:

3) Would you recommend this webinar to others?  Yes  No



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# Thank you!

# Q&A

## Additional Common Questions

## Question

- How many applications are typically submitted for the awards?

## Answer

- We average about 30 submissions per year.
  - All-time avg = 32
  - 10-Yr avg = 29.4
  - 5-yr avg = 31.8

## Question

- Is it possible to submit, in advance, information to CU internal reviewers about a previously received research grant award to see if it qualifies as "independent" level for purposes of eligibility for this Webb-Waring opportunity?

## Answer

- If the campus can't decide on independence, we can review with Boettcher.

## Question

- Where are the application forms and templates located?

## Answer

- Here is the link to the application components page which includes the biographical sketch template:  
<https://www.cu.edu/bfww/application-components> .