



Office of Foundation Relations

Limited Submissions
Sponsor: Karen Toffler Charitable
Trust
Program: Toffler Scholar Program

Estimated Award Amount: \$20,000-\$25,000
JHU Nomination Limit: Up to 2

Deadlines:

Internal Application: May 21, 2025
Nominations to Toffler: June 23, 2025

Opportunity Summary:

The Toffler Scholar Program was established by the Karen Toffler Charitable Trust, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit foundation dedicated to supporting groundbreaking neurological research at its earliest stages. Inspired by the visionary legacy of its founders, best-selling authors and futurists Alvin and Heidi Toffler, the Trust seeks to ignite transformative breakthroughs that have profound and lasting impacts on society.

The Toffler Scholar Program provides **early career university-based researchers** with essential funding and access to a supportive network, particularly targeting innovative projects that often face difficulty obtaining traditional funding. By offering nimble, targeted financial support to investigators working at the forefront of brain science, the program actively fosters novel ways of thinking and innovative problem-solving approaches aimed at solving some of humanity's most pressing and complex health challenges.

Previous JHU grantee: Alina Spiegel (Neuroscience) – 2024, Dongqing Xu (BioChem & Molecular Biology) – 2024, Jackson Mace (Neuroscience) – 2023, Marcelle Zita (Cardiology) – 2023, Yingzhi Ye (Physiology) – 2023, Katie Irwin (Pathology) – 2022, Jeremias Sulam (Biomedical Engineering) – 2022, Dr. Zhe Zhang (Pathology) - 2021

Eligibility & Requirements:

- Graduate and Ph.D. students, Postdocs, and Assistant Professors may apply.
- Applicants must be working in areas related to neuroscience, neurodegenerative or associated human systems that (may) affect brain development and health.
- KTCT's Key Focus Areas are Biomarker Research for Early Detection, Translational Research for New Science, Emerging Technology Tools for Precision Understanding, Disease Mechanism Research for Prevention and Resilient Health, Population and Epidemiology to Understand Future Shocks in Brain Health
- Proposed research projects may be basic or translational in nature.
- Projects that already receive or will receive significant extramural funding (NIH, NSF, DOD, commercial entities, other foundations, etc.) will not be considered.

Internal Nomination Process:

Interested applicants should complete their application at the following link:

<https://jhu.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1977112>. Requirements are listed below.

1. Proposal narrative (maximum of four-pages of text only, single-spaced: 12-pt font and one-inch margins) see InfoReady link for addition narrative requirements
2. Budget summary (maximum of one-page)
3. Biosketch in NIH-format (maximum five-pages). *NOTE: students and postdocs must also include the biosketch of their advisor or mentor*

[Click Here to Apply](#)

Questions? Comments? Email the Office of Foundation Relations at FoundationRelations@jhu.edu.