

2026 Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award in Biomedical Research Limited Competition

In honor of Daryl and Marguerite Errett, the Errett Fisher Foundation will fund The Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award. This award will provide support for one Winston-Salem based outstanding post-doctoral fellow or early career faculty member annually so as to enable him/her to conduct leading-edge research in biomedicine and launch promising projects that nurture the careers of gifted young investigators who will have an impact on pioneering developments that advance human health.

The award is intended to supply seed funding to outstanding scientists who seek to conduct risk-taking research that may not yet qualify for traditional sources of funding as an independent investigator from agencies like the National Institutes of Health. Faculty are not eligible if they are located outside of Winston-Salem, or are a principal investigator on an NIH award or other independent faculty awards; however, early career funding mechanisms from foundations and industry are acceptable. This may include funding from NIH such as K-Awards, American Heart Association, etc.

Application Process/Timeline

Department Chairs and Section Heads are invited to nominate their most outstanding postdoctoral-fellows or early career faculty members located in Winston-Salem, who have the potential to conduct leading-edge research in the biomedical research field. More than one nomination is allowed.

The deadline for internal applications is September 12, 2025. Applications will be reviewed by the Intramural Research Support Committee, where one candidate will be selected at its meeting on October 9th and forwarded to the Foundation. This selection is limited to one individual per award year.

A complete application package should include:

- A written proposal of the suggested research, limited to no more than four (4) pages. Objectives and scope of work must be accomplished within the one year project period.
 - The proposal should include paragraphs to address the following questions:
 - How is the work innovative?
 - What is the broad potential impact of the work?
 - Is the work at a point that it can be completed in a one year period (provide details)?
- Budget: Include a budget and budget justification for a one year period. The total budget can be up to \$75,000 in direct costs. Indirect costs are not allowed. The budget may include:
 - Investigator salary and fringe benefits
 - Technician salary and fringe benefits
 - Research supplies
 - Research equipment and instrumentation (well justified)
 - The requested funding is not duplicated by another funding source
- An NIH Biosketch.

- Two letters of recommendation: one from the Department Chair or Section Head and one from another faculty member who is familiar with the candidate's work.

Terms of Funding:

Only postdoctoral-fellows or early career faculty members located in Winston-Salem are eligible to be nominated and receive this award. Projects will be funded for a one year period, January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2026. Projects are expected to be completed and all funds expended by the end of the granting period. No subcontracts are allowed; funds must remain within Wake Forest University Health Sciences.

The recipient of the Daryl and Marguerite Errett Discovery Award will work with the Office of Philanthropy to provide the Errett Fisher Foundation Board with a written stewardship report at the end of the one year funding period reporting on the outcomes of the research. In addition, the Errett Fisher Foundation Board will have the opportunity to meet with the awardee to hear about the research first hand at the beginning and end of the funding period.

Please submit your application through the [electronic submission system](#) no later than September 12, 2025.

Questions about your research project should be directed to Foundations@wakehealth.edu.

Questions about the electronic submission system should be directed to Katelyn Still at Katelyn.Still@Advocatehealth.org.