Endowment Opportunities

Faculty-focused

Endowed funds sustain intellectual freedom and quicken the pace of discovery by providing a stable flow of resources to support faculty and students, programs, and infrastructure. Building the Institute’s endowment is a lasting and powerful way for a donor to make a difference at Caltech.

**Leadership Chair: Variable funding level**
Provide discretionary funding that allows executive officers, department chairs, and center and institute directors to spur extraordinary science and technology and cultivate great ideas.

**Professorial Chair: $4 million minimum funding level**
Recognize and sustain the work of world-leading scholars. Named chairs aid in recruitment and are the highest honor Caltech bestows on its faculty.

**Early-Career Professorships: $2.5 million minimum funding level**
Provide crucial financial support that will put assistant professors on the fast track to impact throughout their untenured years.

**Visiting Professorship: $1.5 million minimum funding level**
Help bring distinguished scientists, engineers, and educators from around the world to Caltech for meaningful collaboration and teaching.

**Visiting Instructorship: $1 million minimum funding level**
Help bring recent PhD recipients to Caltech, creating opportunities for diverse research collaborations and teaching experiences.

**Visiting Lectureship: $600,000 minimum funding level**
Allow Caltech to invite outside scholars to campus to augment teaching staff for specific programs and create opportunities for collaboration with faculty.

**Faculty Recruitment/Retention Fund: $500,000 minimum funding level**
Give Caltech a distinguishing advantage in attracting the most promising faculty and fostering the careers of talented teachers and researchers.
Endowment Opportunities

Student-focused

Postdoctoral Fellowship: $1 million minimum funding level
Give outstanding early-career PhDs incomparable opportunities and help Caltech recruit a diverse cohort of postdoctoral scholars.

Graduate Fellowship: $750,000 minimum funding level
Provide Caltech graduate students the freedom to pursue their passions and to focus on their research, teaching, and futures instead of their funding.

Study-Abroad/Travel Fund: $150,000 minimum funding level
Empower undergraduates who want to explore the world in order to enrich their Caltech education.

Internship Fund: $150,000 minimum funding level
Support the Summer Undergraduate Internship Program, which allows students to gain real-world experience in practical settings—from labs to boardrooms.

SURF Fund: $125,000 minimum funding level
Give students the chance to participate in unparalleled hands-on research experiences and mentoring through the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program.

Undergraduate Scholarship: $100,000 minimum funding level
Allow Caltech to continue its need-blind admissions policy and ensure that students can focus on their studies and extracurriculars rather than their finances.

Program-focused

Division and Department Naming*: Variable funding level
Provide discretionary resources that allow division chairs and department leaders to invest in strategic initiatives, strengthen academic and research programs, and respond to urgent needs and time-sensitive opportunities.

Institute/Research Center Naming*: Variable funding level
Create or bolster a multidisciplinary institute or research center, enabling Caltech to accelerate the pace of groundbreaking discovery. These hubs for innovation give scholars the flexibility they need to pursue their best ideas through workshops, lectures, seed funds, student support, and new collaborative projects.

Rothenberg Innovation Initiative (RI²) Fund: $1 million minimum funding level
Help move transformative technology to market by creating a lasting source of funding for RI², which offers small, early-stage grants to Caltech scientists and engineers who propose novel ideas that could benefit humankind.

Discovery Fund: $250,000 minimum funding level
Help to advance time-sensitive, promising research that—simply for lack of discretionary funds—otherwise might not be pursued.

Capital-focused

New Building/Renovation*: Variable funding level
Support the construction or renovation of buildings and spaces that are essential to Caltech’s unique teaching and research environment.

Campus Sustainability Fund: $100,000 minimum funding level
Help Caltech pursue innovative ways to reduce its environmental impact and model and promote ecological stewardship.

*Gifts for these opportunities could be structured as either endowment or current-use funds, depending on need and scope.

To learn more about how you can make a lasting impact at Caltech, please contact: give@caltech.edu (626) 395-4863