

2025 Beckman Scholars Program Phase I Essay Rubric

Overall Quality

5	3	1
Addresses prompts. Provides concrete examples and/or reasoning. Writing is clear with structural and grammatical correctness.	Overlooks some aspects of the prompts. Insufficient examples or reasoning. Structural and grammatical errors are present, but do not interfere with understanding.	Does not adequately address prompts. Insufficient examples or reasoning. Structural and grammatical errors are present and interfere with understanding.

Submitted essay cannot exceed 4 pages (1.5 inch margins, single spaced, 12 point font) and should include the following information.

Your educational and career goals and the role participating in in the Beckman Scholars Program would play in your educational journey including intention to pursue an advanced science degree or other scientific pursuits.

5	3	1
Intention and goals for attaining an advanced degree or scientific pursuit are clearly presented and the student has made an exceptionally compelling case indicating what aspects of the program will be valuable and why the Beckman Scholars Program is essential to accomplish those goals.	Intention and goals for attaining an advanced degree or scientific pursuit are present and the student has made a reasonable case for why the Beckman Scholars Program is essential to accomplish those goals.	Intention and goals for attaining an advanced degree or scientific pursuit are weakly presented and/or the student has made a weak case for why the Beckman Scholars Program is essential to accomplish those goals.

Your research experience (research experience could be through either classroom or faculty laboratories) and how it motivates this application.

5	3	1
Research experience is described clearly and displays an obvious understanding of the science related to that experience. Motivation for pursuing a mentored research experience through the Beckman Scholars Program is clear.	Research experience is described and displays an understanding of the science related to that experience. Motivation for pursuing a mentored research experience through the Beckman Scholars Program is moderately clear.	Research experience is absent or poorly described and has little/no understanding of the science related to that experience. Motivation for pursuing a mentored research experience through the Beckman Scholars Program is not clear.

Any activities/groups in which you have taken on a leadership or mentor role and the skills developed from these roles.

5	3	1
Activities/groups are well described. Leadership/mentorship roles related to those activities are clearly indicated and the skills or competencies that were developed are well correlated and described.	Activities/groups are well described. Leadership/mentorship roles related to those activities are moderately clear. Skills or competencies that were developed are not well correlated and/or described.	Activities/groups, Leadership/mentorship, or skills and competencies are not present or weakly described.

How you plan to promote the principles of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) in your work as a Beckman Scholar and your career.

5	3	1
A clear and compelling description and evidence of how one or more of the principles of JEDI will be incorporated into the proposed project as an undergraduate researcher and future scientist. Description avoids assuming deficits in other students and avoids objectifying other students as resources for personal gain.	A description of how one or more of the principles of JEDI will be incorporated into the proposed project as an undergraduate researcher and future scientist.	A weak description of how one or more of the principles of JEDI will be incorporated into the proposed project as an undergraduate researcher and future scientist. For example, description assumes deficits in other students or objectifies other students as resources for personal gain.

Proposed research project with timeline that you will pursue in your Beckman Scholar Mentor's lab.

5	3	1
A well-described research plan indicating what knowledge will be gained and any caveats that exist is presented with a reasonable timeline for completion.	A research plan is presented with little or no mention of knowledge gained or caveats and/or a weak or unattainable timeline.	Research plan and/or timeline are not present or weakly described.