



## The Flinn Foundation

**History:** The Flinn Foundation was established in 1965 as a privately endowed grantmaking organization to enhance the quality of life in Arizona. Robert S. Flinn, a cardiologist and one of Arizona's leading medical practitioners, and Irene Flinn, a woman of considerable wealth and generous philanthropy, created the Foundation as a means to perpetuate their personal goodness and humanity in a way that would benefit the residents of Arizona.

In the mid-1980s, the Foundation expanded its focus to include programs beyond **health care**, including the **Flinn Scholars Program** and **arts and culture** in Arizona. In 2001, after an exhaustive review of Arizona's health care needs, the Foundation board and staff decided to narrow its grantmaking in this field in order to have a greater impact in one key area: the advancement of the **biosciences** in Arizona.

After a comprehensive study by Battelle, commissioned by the Flinn Foundation, Arizona's Bioscience Roadmap was launched in 2002 with the goal of developing Arizona as a global bioscience research and commercial center. The Roadmap plan was updated in April 2014 to extend through 2025. The Foundation supports the Roadmap through its grants and providing administrative support of Arizona's Bioscience Roadmap Steering Committee, which is comprised of more than 100 statewide bioscience champions.

In late 2010, the Foundation launched the **Arizona Center for Civic Leadership**, a collaborative effort to strengthen civic leadership in Arizona. The Center's flagship program, the Flinn-Brown Civic Leadership Academy, develops future state-level leaders for Arizona. The Foundation supports and administers the Center and co-sponsors the Academy with the Thomas R. Brown Foundations.

**Grantmaking:** The Flinn Foundation awards grants by invitation only. In the biosciences, the Foundation's primary area of grantmaking interest, grants are intended to build the core organizational capacity of Arizona's universities, research institutes, and related organizations to collaborate in efforts to strengthen the state's biomedical research and commercialization infrastructure. The Foundation's grants are project-specific, e.g., limited to the scope of a defined activity with explicit benchmarks tied to a specified timeframe. The Foundation does not award grants for ongoing support, for a specific disease or discipline, or for a single investigator's interests.

The Foundation continues to support the Flinn Scholars Program, which, in partnership with Arizona's three public universities, awards approximately 20 major undergraduate scholarships to Arizona's top high school seniors each year. The program aims to strengthen the ability of the universities to compete for such students and to provide the students an outstanding academic experience. The Foundation's current focus in arts and culture is to help organizations improve their capitalization through the integration of creative programming and long-term fiscal planning.

**Conference Center:** The Foundation's building near downtown Phoenix features a conference center that is open at no cost to qualified Arizona nonprofit organizations for strategic planning meetings and training workshops. Qualified nonprofit organizations are those functioning within the areas of health care, education, arts and culture, and civic leadership.

**Leadership:** The Flinn Foundation's board of directors includes leaders from Arizona's medical, law, business, and education communities. The board is chaired by **David J. Gullen, M.D.**, a retired internal medicine practitioner at Mayo Clinic and assistant professor in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. The Foundation's president & CEO is **Jack B. Jewett**, a longtime Arizona leader in health care, education, and public policy.

**For More Information:** Flinn Foundation, 1802 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85004-1506, 602-744-6800, [info@flinn.org](mailto:info@flinn.org), [www.flinn.org](http://www.flinn.org)