



## Guidelines for applicants 2019

### Nature Research Award for Inspiring Science

#### 1. Introduction

The Inspiring Science Award is an annual award for early-career female researchers or academics. The successful applicant will have made an exceptional contribution to scientific discovery and the literature, sometimes despite challenges relating to resources, location or language skills, and will exhibit the potential for developing and leading an independent research group. We are particularly interested in applicants who have made a considerable effort to inspire the next generation through outreach, and especially those who have encouraged girls and young women to engage with science.

#### 2. Eligibility

Eligibility criteria are:

- Applicants must be female or self-identify as female. We use an inclusive definition of 'woman' and 'female' and we welcome trans women, genderqueer individuals, and non-binary people who are significantly female-identified.
- Applicants must hold an MD and/or PhD degree, or other types of doctorate by dissertation. A PhD or doctorate by dissertation is a globally recognized postgraduate academic degree awarded by a university or higher education institution to a applicant who has submitted a thesis or dissertation, based on extensive and original research in their chosen field.
- Applicants must be within 10 years of completing their MD or PhD
  - Completion of their PhD (or MD) is defined as the date the PhD (or MD) or doctorate by dissertation was approved by the university panel following submission of your dissertation and/or oral examination is considered the date your MD/PhD was received, whether or not this coincides with your graduation.
  - The abovementioned 10 years will be extended by any maternity leave(s) or other relevant leaves of absence. Therefore the 10 years does not need to be continuous. Details of these leaves will need to be specified during the application process.
  - If applicants hold both a PhD and an MD degree, the graduation date of the latest received will be used.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

ESTÉE  
LAUDER  
COMPANIES

- Applicants must hold a non-tenured position. This includes those who have non-permanent postdoctoral and/or non-permanent tenure-track positions (or equivalents such as proleptic lecturer positions). Those in a tenured position (or equivalents, such as permanent lecturer position) are not eligible to apply.
- We accept applications from those working in natural sciences, social sciences, mathematics, engineering and medicine.

### 3. How to apply

Applications **must** be submitted through the [online application form](#). The questions you will need to answer are listed below for reference. Entries must be complete (that is, all fields are required unless indicated otherwise) and submitted by 6th May 2019 23:59 BST to be eligible.

#### *Applicant details*

- Full name
- Job title
- Main affiliation
- Country
- Second affiliation
- Country
- Email address
- Phone number (including country code)
- MD and/or PhD degree (discipline + university + graduation year)
- Postgraduate experience
- ORCID ID

#### *Eligibility*

- Date PhD\* and/or MD\*\* degree was received
  - \*PhD degree or other type of doctorate by dissertation
  - \*\* If you hold both a PhD and MD degree, please list the graduation date of the latest received
- Extended leave of absences, if any: exact dates + duration
  - After receipt of PhD or MD degree
- Eligibility (personal declaration by applicant)
 

I'm female or self-identify as female (please note that we use an inclusive definition of 'woman' and 'female' and we welcome trans women, genderqueer individuals, and non-binary people who are significantly female-identified).

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

**ESTÉE  
LAUDER  
COMPANIES**

I have obtained my PhD or MD within the past 10 years (at the end of the year the award will be granted, at 31st December 2019) or 10 years extended by the duration of any maternity leave(s) or other absences during this period.

At the time of application, I am in a non-tenured research position.

- Please provide a letter from your HR department or department head confirming that you are in a non-tenured position.
- Please provide a copy of your PhD/MD certificate that attests the date your degree was awarded.

### ***Scientific achievements***

- What is your main research area:
  - Life sciences
  - Physical sciences (including mathematics and engineering)
  - Social sciences
  - Medicine
- Provide a brief summary of your main research interests or projects (maximum 1200 characters).
- Provide a brief summary of how your research has advanced your research field (maximum 1500 characters).
- Provide a brief summary of how your research has had an impact beyond your research field, for example, societal impact, impact on other research fields etc. (maximum 1500 characters).
- Provide up to 5 of your most notable and impactful publications (articles, books and book chapters) and provide a short explanation (maximum 600 characters each) of why you selected them.
- Provide up to 5 key highlights of your research career excluding publications (for example, posters or talks at conferences, successful grant applications, scientific prizes, contribution to policy documents, patents or other technological innovations etc.) and provide a short explanation (maximum 600 characters each) of why you selected them.
- Provide a brief summary of your research plans for the near future (maximum 1500 characters).
- Describe any particular challenges, professional or personal, that you have faced during the course of your studies and scientific career (maximum 1500 characters).

### ***How have you inspired the next generation?***

- Please describe how you have been involved in any outreach activities beyond your core duties, specifically targeted at girls and young women (<20 years) . Please complete the following information for your most impactful outreach activity.
  - Provide a brief description of your most impactful outreach activity targeted at girls and young women and provide a short explanation why this was selected (maximum 900 characters).
  - Which channel did you use?
    - Social media

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

**ESTÉE  
LAUDER  
COMPANIES**

- Personal mentoring
  - Tutoring
  - Others
- How many girls/young women did you reach?
  - <10
  - 10–50
  - 50–100
  - 100–1,000
  - >1,000
- Describe your exact involvement (maximum 600 characters).
- Please list up to 5 other outreach activities targeted at girls and young women you have been involved in (maximum 300 characters per activity).
- Please describe how you have been involved in any other general outreach activities (i.e. not specifically targeted at girls and young women) beyond your core duties? Please complete the following information about your most impactful outreach activity.
  - Provide a brief description of your most impactful outreach activity and a short explanation why you selected this activity (maximum 900 characters).
  - Who was the target audience of this activity (maximum 60 characters)?
  - Describe your exact involvement (maximum 600 characters).
- Please provide a personal statement about why it is important to encourage more girls to be interested in/engage with STEM subjects? STEM includes natural sciences, social sciences, mathematics, engineering and medicine (maximum 1500 characters).

### ***Shortlist profile***

If your application is shortlisted, the responses to the following points will constitute your shortlist profile:

- Please introduce yourself and your job role and field (480 characters).
- What challenges did you face on your journey to where you are now and how did you overcome them (480 characters)?
- What is one piece of advice or encouragement you would give other girls or women starting out on their science career? What was the best advice given to you (480 characters)?
- Please provide a black-and-white headshot photograph in high-resolution 150 x 150 pixel JPEG format.

Parts of the above will be used on the website and across promotional materials.

### ***Contact information of referees***

Please provide contact details of at least 2 referees who can confirm the details of the information provided by the applicant.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

**ESTÉE  
LAUDER  
COMPANIES**

## Referees

Name of referee:

Organization:

Email address:

Phone number (including country code):

Relationship to applicant:

## 4. Terms and conditions for applicants

By applying, applicants agree to the [terms and conditions](#) of the award programme.

## 5. Evaluation process and criteria

Applications will be assessed by our expert [judging panel](#) consisting of staff from Nature Research, independent experts and experts from our corporate partner, The Estée Lauder Companies. Each award will have a separate judging panel. Panel members will review applications to create a shortlist of applicants for each award. The full panel will then meet to discuss the merits of shortlisted applicants and select the winner. The judging panel will make up 100% of the votes. The chief judge will make the final decision in the event of a tie.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Scientific achievements
- Outreach

## 6. Prize

The winner of the Nature Research Award for Inspiring Science will receive:

- A grant of US\$20,000 to spend on initiatives linked to the award
- A grant of up to US\$5,200 APC funding: to spend on article processing charges over the next 2 years at Springer Nature journals, should papers submitted be suitable for publication
- An invitation to the award ceremony in London or China - location to be confirmed by the Promoter
- Coverage in *Nature*.
- Access to online Nature Masterclasses courses for one year
- An invitation to present their work or initiative to the scientists at The Estée Lauder Companies
- Mentoring through The Estée Lauder Companies

The shortlisted applicants will:

- Be profiled on the Nature Research Award website

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

**ESTÉE**  
**LAUDER**  
COMPANIES

- Have access to an exclusive mentoring and networking community site
- Have access to online Nature Masterclasses online courses for the duration of 1 month

## **7. Key dates**

Applications: applications are invited between 5th March 2019 and 23:59 BST on 6th May 2019.

Shortlist: the shortlist will be announced in September 2019.

Winner: the winner will be invited to the award ceremony, which will take place in October 2019.

## **8. Contact**

Please contact us at [inspiring@nature.com](mailto:inspiring@nature.com) if you require any further information.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE

**ESTÉE  
LAUDER**  
COMPANIES