



Guidelines for applicants 2019

Nature Research Award for Innovating Science

1. Introduction

The Innovating Science Award is an annual award for an individual or a group from across academia, education, organizations and corporate entities who have set up or run grassroots initiatives that support girls and young women to study, engage with and enjoy science.

2. Eligibility

We accept applications from individuals and groups. If applying as a group, please select a spokesperson who will be listed as the named winner and receive an invitation to the award ceremony. Additionally, a contact person can be selected to manage any administration-related queries for the application.

We are looking for an individual or a group who has made an exceptional contribution to the promotion and engagement of girls and young women in natural sciences, social sciences, mathematics, engineering or medicine, and exhibits the potential for developing and encouraging more girls and young women to study these subjects. The focus is on engaging more primary- and high-school girls, rather than on career progression for those already engaged in science. The applicants will have demonstrated the ability to go beyond the 'norm' and worked hard to encourage, support or promote the interest of girls and/or young women in science.

Please note the grassroots initiative can be a day-job or an additional project (if it is an additional project, the amount that can be achieved alongside a full-time job will be taken into consideration).

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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/organization details

- Full name of the organization (if applying as a group)
- Name of applicant (if applying as an individual)
- Job title of applicant (if applying as an individual)
- Email of applicant (if applying as an individual)
- Phone number of applicant (if applying as an individual)
- Name of the spokesperson of the organization (if applying as a group)
This person will be listed as the named winner and will receive an invite to the award ceremony.
- Job title of the spokesperson of the organization (if applying as a group)
- Email of the spokesperson of the organization (if applying as a group)
- Phone number (including country code) of the spokesperson of the organization (if applying as a group)
- Name of contact person for this application
The person who will be managing any admin related queries for this application. Please complete this information if different from the spokesperson/applicant.
- Email of contact person for this application
- Phone number (including country code) of contact person for this application

Description of initiative

- Please provide a brief summary (maximum 1200 characters) of your or your organization's initiative aimed at encouraging girls and young women to engage with STEM subjects. STEM includes natural sciences, social sciences, mathematics, engineering and medicine.
- Please provide links to your website and/or social media accounts.
- Please specify the exact countries your initiative has an impact in.
 - The country information specified here will be used to allocate country-specific points.
 - In case of blog posts or social media, global reach should be specified and no country-specific points will be allocated.
- What proportion of your target group consists of girls or young women (<20 years)?
- How many girls/young women have you reached since you started your initiative?
 - <10
 - 10–50
 - 50–100
 - 100–1,000
 - >1,000

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- What is the main method used to deliver your initiative's activities?
 - Social media
 - Blog posts
 - Website
 - One-on-one contacts (in person, email or phone)
 - Lecture
 - Workshop, science fair
 - Networking event
 - Other [provide details]
- For how many years has your initiative been running?
- How often do you organize activities?
 - Daily
 - Once a week
 - Once a month
 - Once a year
 - Other
- How do you measure the success of your initiative (maximum 600 characters)?
- Please provide up to 3 examples of successful outcomes of your initiative (maximum 600 characters each). These can include anecdotal evidence, quotes, comments or testimonials, social media measures, press comments, etc.
- Please define the exact involvement of the spokesperson in the described initiative
 - Organizer
 - Participant
 - Started the initiative
 - Other
- Please describe any future plans, events and measures to increase reach or improve impact (maximum 1500 characters).
- Please provide a short personal statement by the spokesperson or individual applicant about why it is important to them to encourage more girls to be interested in/engage with STEM subjects. STEM includes natural sciences, social sciences, mathematics, engineering and medicine (maximum 600 characters).
- How would you use additional resources to further increase the engagement of girls and young women in STEM? STEM includes natural sciences, social sciences, mathematics, engineering and medicine (maximum 600 characters).

Shortlist Profile

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

- Introduce yourself and/or your organization and tell us a little about what you do (maximum 480 characters).
- What are the struggles you have faced whilst working on engaging girls and young women with STEM and what lessons have you learnt (maximum 480 characters)?

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- What advice would you give to someone wanting to do STEM outreach (maximum 480 characters)?
- Please provide an organization logo or black-and-white headshot photograph of the spokesperson or individual applicant (as preferred), 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 impact of the initiative and the involvement of the spokesperson or individual applicant.

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:

- Description of your initiative
- Success of your initiative
- Future plans

6. Prize

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The winner of the Nature Research Award for Innovating 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 for event funding: to spend on an event over the next 2 years that showcases the initiative
- 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
- 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 innovating@nature.com if you require any further information.

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