

nature research AWARDS

Terms and Conditions for Applicants

This information is subject to change due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and any resulting restrictions.

**Nature Research Awards for Driving Global Impact: 2021
In partnership with Tencent Holdings Limited**

Please read these terms and conditions carefully. By entering into the Nature Research Awards for Driving Global Impact (the “**Award**”), you (an “**Applicant**”) agree that you have read and agree to these terms and the application rules set out on the Award’s website (together the “**Terms**”). Failure to comply with the Terms may result in disqualification from participation in the Award. The Terms include all necessary instructions on how to participate or take part in the Award.

1. The Award is run by Springer Nature Limited a company registered in England with registered number 00785998 and registered office at The Campus, 4 Crinan Street, London N1 9XW (“**Nature Research**”) together with Tencent Holdings Limited, a public company listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (“**Tencent**”) (cumulatively, the “**Promoter**”).
2. To be eligible for the Award the Applicant must:
 - a. Be an individual, not a corporate body;
 - b. Hold a PhD or clinical doctorate, one of which awarded no earlier than 1st January 2006, and lead an independent research group established within the past 5 years as of 1st January 2021. They should be able to demonstrate the application, or potential application, of their research to make a positive impact on a global challenge. Dates may be adjusted in the case of maternity leaves or other formal leaves of absence taken before the application deadline to adjust for the duration of the leave taken;
 - c. Lead a research programme contributing to scientific discovery in one of these areas:
 - i. Food security, water security and/or energy security – ensuring a long term, sustainable supply of either food, water or energy
 - ii. Healthcare interventions – the assessment, improvement or promotion of human health

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- iii. Environmental protection – protection of the natural environment on land and water including the repair of damage
 - iv. Climate change – slowing climate change and adapting to what’s unavoidable
 - v. Sustainable cities – building green, liveable cities that last An application will only be deemed ineligible on grounds of scope in clear-cut cases. The Promoter’s decision will be final and binding; and
- d. Be resident in a country where it is lawful for them to apply.
3. Please note that the Award is not open to:
- a. persons resident in Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Sudan, Syria, Burma/Myanmar, and the Crimea region of the Ukraine or other sanction-sensitive countries or regions as updated from time to time;
 - b. any individual named on Specially Designated Nationals lists as updated from time to time;
 - c. directors or employees (or members of their immediate families) of the Promoter or any holding company or subsidiary of Promoter; or
 - d. any members of the judging panel (or members of their immediate families).

The Promoter reserves the right to verify the eligibility of Applicants.

Criteria for application

4. You must apply via the application form which can be accessed from the Award’s website. Entries must be completed and submitted online as notified on the application form with all relevant supporting material between 00.01AM GMT on 11th January 2021 and 11.59PM BST on 30th April 2021. Applications received after this time will not be accepted. A complete application needs to be written in English and include all parts or sections below. Incomplete applications may be declared ineligible and Applicants may not be given the opportunity to re-submit or alter their application.

As part of their application, Applicants will be required to provide:

- a. applicant details;
- b. eligibility details;
- c. scientific achievements;
- d. research programme and its potential for scientific impact;
- e. research programme and its potential for impact on the global challenges.

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Full details are available in the Guidelines for Applicants available on the Award's website.

Judging Criteria and Process

5. Judges will select a shortlist, and subsequently one winner and two runners up based on how well the applicant's activity and research programme fulfil the following criteria:
 - a. scientific achievements;
 - b. research programme and its potential for scientific impact;
 - c. research programme and its potential for impact on the global challenges.
6. The judging panel will consist of a Chief Judge and individuals including staff from Nature Research, and external experts. Full names of the judging panel will be available online on the Award's website. The judging panel will decide the shortlist, and subsequently the 1 winner and 2 runners up. The judging panel will make up 100% of the votes. In the event of a tie, the Chief Judge will make the final decision. Any decision will be final and binding and no further communication will be entered into in relation to it.
7. The shortlisted candidates will be announced in Summer 2021*. The winner and runners up will be announced in November 2021. The number of shortlisted candidates shall be decided at the discretion of the Promoter. In the event the Promoter considers that there are insufficient applications worthy of an Award, then it shall roll over the prize funds for the subsequent year (e.g. for additional runners up in the following year).
8. The prizes ("**Prize**") for the Award consists of the following:
 - a. To the Award winner a grant of US\$30,000 (thirty thousand US dollars), and to the Award's two runners up a grant of US\$10,000 (ten thousand US dollars) each. Such prizes will be subject to the roll-over specified above.

The grant is intended for use on activities related to the research programme. This includes: the costs of consumables, materials, supplies, software and small, non-capital equipment associated with your research activities; costs associated with communications and outreach around your research programme to support impact; travel and subsistence of the winner associated with executing or disseminating research, publication costs.

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If you are an employee of any government entity, NGO or customer of Springer Nature, it is your responsibility to check with your employer that you can accept the prize if it is offered. The winner and runners up will be required to provide their bank details and the grant will be paid into the winner's account by 31st December 2021. If based on applicable law any personal income tax is due on the prize, the winners are fully responsible for payment.

- b. Any invitation, if applicable, to attend the WE Summit organised by Tencent which is due to be held in Beijing in November 2021. Reasonable costs to support travel to the event will be covered by Tencent ("**Travel Costs**"). Travel Costs covered include:
 - (i) flight from the winner's nearest international airport to Beijing;
 - (ii) three nights' accommodation at a suitable hotel with three star rating or above, breakfast included;
 - (iii) reasonable catering expenses up to £50 GBP per diem; and

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- (iv) where applicable, the cost of obtaining a visa.
 - c. The winner is solely responsible for obtaining their own visa and travel insurance. The Promoter shall not be responsible for the payment or reimbursement of any Travel Costs. Please note that if the Award winner cannot attend the Award event for any reason then there is no cash equivalent.
 - d. Feature and profile of the Award winner and two runners up on nature.com and on the Award website.
- 9. The winning applicant and the runners up will be notified by email on or before 1st September* 2021 and will be required to confirm acceptance of the Award and the Prize within 14 calendar days of notification by the Promoter and may be required to complete and return an eligibility form. If a winner does not accept the Award within 14 calendar days of being notified, they will forfeit the Award and the Prize and Promoter reserves the right to choose another winner. The judges' decision is final and the Promoter reserves the right not to correspond on any matter.
- 10. The Award and the prizes are non-transferable and non-negotiable.
- 11. The shortlisted candidates, including the winner and two runners up will be required to provide a 100 word biography and headshot photograph (JPEG, 150x150 pixels) to the Promoter within 14 days of notification. The profile and biography will be used by the Promoter on the Award's website. The name, region of residence and likeness of the winner, two runners up and shortlisted candidates may be used by the Promoter for reasonable Award and event publicity in any form including on the Promoter's website(s) and social media pages at no cost.
- 12. The shortlist, runners up and winner may be required to participate in webcasts, interviews and contribute content after the award results have been announced.
- 13. Each shortlisted candidate promises to keep the status and the listing for the Award completely confidential until after the public announcement by the Promoter of the shortlist. The winner and 2 runners up agree to keep the results of the Award completely confidential until after the public announcement by the Promoter.

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14. All personal data regarding applicants is subject to and will be treated in a manner consistent with Promoter's Privacy Policy accessible at www.nature.com/info/privacy.html. By participating in the Award, your personal data will be used as part of the Award and as described in these Terms. Entrants agree that Promoter may collect and use their personal information, which shall be shared with the Judging Panel which includes members outside of the Promoter's staff, and stored until 31st December 2023, or for a further period of 2 years for the winner, runners up and shortlisted candidates. By participating in the Award, entrants acknowledge that they have read and accepted the Promoter's Privacy Policy which shall be deemed to be applicable to the Award application.
15. The application form used for the Award is hosted by Submittable Holdings, Inc. ("**Submittable**"), an independent third party. By participating in the Award, participants give their consent to, such use, processing, and transfer as required by all applicable data protection laws and have sole responsibility for the accuracy, quality and legality of personal data processed by Submittable in the provision of the services they provide to the Promoter for the application process. The Submittable Privacy Policy is available at: <https://www.submittable.com/privacy/>
16. Nature Research may in its sole discretion disqualify any Applicant or winner found to be in breach of these Terms, tampering or interfering with the entry process or operation of the Award's website, or to be acting in any manner deemed to be disruptive of or prejudicial to the operation or administration of the Award or otherwise in a manner not in keeping with the Nature Research standards around ethics and research integrity.
17. The Promoter reserves the right to publically withdraw the Award from any shortlist, winner or runner up in the event that, *inter alia*, there is found to be any error in the Applicant's application form, there is found to be a problem with the research programme to which the application relates or the Applicant is found (in Nature Research's reasonable view) to have acted in a manner inconsistent with the Nature Research standards around ethics and research integrity.
18. Other than for death or personal injury arising from negligence of the Promoter (or any other loss than cannot be excluded at law), so far as is permitted by law, the Promoter hereby excludes all liability for any loss, damage, cost and expense, whether direct or indirect, howsoever caused

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in connection with the Award or any aspect of the Prize. All activities are undertaken at the Applicants' own risk.

19. Promoter reserves the right to cancel or amend these Terms or change the Prize (to one of equal or greater value) as required by the circumstances. No cash equivalent to the Prize is available.
20. These terms and conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law. Disputes arising in connection with this Agreement shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

*Extended due to an unforeseen delay

Last updated: 16th July 2021