



**RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**L'ORÉAL-UNESCO FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS**  
**2021 EDITION**

**PHYSICAL SCIENCES – MATHEMATICS - COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**1. Introduction**

Created in 1998, the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* International Awards recognize and support eminent women in science throughout the world. Each year, five Laureates are recognized for their contributions to the advancement of science, in Life Sciences or Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science in alternating years.

The 2021 edition of the Awards will designate five outstanding scientific researchers in the field of Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science, working in the following regions:

- Africa and the Arab States
- Asia and the Pacific
- Europe
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- North America

One candidate will be selected for each of the five regions, the determining factor being the place of work for at least 5 years, not the nationality of the candidate.

Each of the five Laureates will receive an award of €100,000.

**2. Eligibility Criteria**

The candidate must:

- Be recognized for her scientific excellence by the international scientific community,
- Be actively involved in scientific research,
- Work in any field of the Physical Sciences, Mathematics or Computer Science mentioned in appendix 1,

For your information, there is no age constraint regarding the candidate.

### 3. Selection Criteria

The selection criteria of the candidates are the following:

- The candidate's outstanding contribution to the general advancement of science,
- The impact of the candidate's research on the current state of the relevant scientific field (number, quality and impact of publications, conference presentations, patents),
- The recognition of the candidate by peers within her discipline through publications,
- The recognition of the candidate's commitments to education, teaching activities, mentoring and/or to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals more broadly.

The L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* Awards are non-renewable.

### 4. Nominations

Scientists around the world are invited to nominate candidates for the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* Awards.

To be considered eligible for an award, it is necessary to be nominated in writing by an eminent scientist. Self-nominations are not eligible, nor nominations from immediate family members. Teams are not eligible for nomination.

Qualified nominators may be:

- Heads of University or Scientific Institutions,
- Members of Academies of Science,
- Holders of Research Chairs,
- Full professors
- Past *For Women in Science* Award Laureates,
- Holders of a PhD in Science.

Nominations can only be submitted electronically through the online dedicated platform: <https://www.forwomeninscience.com/en/awards>, and have to be written in English.

If new to the system, the nominator will need to create a user ID and password.

An application is considered complete only if it includes all of the following documents:

- A brief explanation of why the nominator considers the candidate to be eligible for the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* Award (200-400 words).
- A suggested quotation for the general public if the candidate is selected. This should be a concise statement (maximum of 40 words) describing the key technical or professional accomplishment for which the candidate deserves the Award. Note that the Jury will approve the final official Laureates' statements.
- A detailed Curriculum Vitae (maximum 2 to 3 pages). The nominator must include in the CV (or in the publications list) any reference to the candidate's scientific social networks and/or websites (such as ResearchGate, ORCID, personal website).
- A list of all the publications of the nominee.
- A list of the most significant patents starting with the most recent one.
- A list of the 10 most significant publications in order of importance with: a brief summary explaining their significance and why they are so relevant according to the Nominator (less than 150 words by publication); the number of citations for each paper excluding auto-citations, and the impact factor of each journal, if relevant. Please, add a link to access all publications mentioned in the list.

- Three to five letters of recommendation from eminent scientists outside the candidate's home institution.

Nominations that are incomplete or received after Sunday 31 May 2020, as well as applications that do not meet the requirements mentioned above, will not be taken into consideration.

Nominations are valid for two Awards cycles. Unsuccessful nominations submitted for the 2021 Awards in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science will be held on file and nominators will be invited to update their candidates' information when the call for nominations goes out (in April 2022) for the 2023 Awards in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science.

## **5. Laureate Selection**

- **Peer review pre-selection**

Through a peer process, a panel composed of experts from a variety of disciplines in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science will examine all submitted nominations.

The peer review panel evaluates the nominations. After this evaluation, a shortlist of around 10 candidates per each of the 5 regions (no more than 50 candidates in total) will be sent for assessment to the *For Women in Science* Jury in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science.

- **Jury selection**

The *For Women in Science* Jury in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science is chaired by Professor Artur Avila, Fields medal winner in 2014, and composed of distinguished members of the international scientific community.

The jury will evaluate the nominees pre-selected by the peer reviewers, in accordance with the selection criteria mentioned in Paragraph 3.

For the jury deliberation, which will be held in September 2020 in Paris, the jury will review and discuss the best nominations for each region. The jury will choose the five Laureates by a majority vote. Its decision is final and without appeal. It cannot be contested or subject to explanation or justification.

The results will be communicated by phone to the Laureates a few days after the deliberation. They must remain confidential until the official announcement.

## **6. Laureates' commitments**

Each Laureate will receive a €100,000 Award, which is presented personally to the Laureate, in recognition of her commitment and contribution to the advancement of scientific research.

The Fondation L'Oréal will make the payment of the Award directly to the Laureates after the Award Ceremony in March 2021, and after having received the necessary original documents for the wire transfer of funds.

The Awards are not transferable for any other purpose whatsoever.

The Laureates notably commit to:

- Participate in the Awards ceremony and all related events (interviews, training, presentations, dinners, visits) organized in Paris in March 2021 around the "*For Women in Science Week*". The

Fondation L'Oréal will cover travel and accommodation expenses during the Laureates' stay in Paris.

- Keep the announcement confidential until the official announcement and not contact the media before that time.

The Laureates agree to be photographed, filmed and interviewed for non-commercial objectives and *For Women in Science* Program-related purposes. These photos, videos and texts will be used in publications and audiovisual means including but not limited to written press, television, internet, outdoor display, corporate publications, exhibitions, in France and worldwide. The image of the Laureates can be used for promotion of science among the younger generation, particularly young women. Each of the Laureates will sign a separate written audiovisual authorization. The Laureates will not receive any remuneration for such promotional activity.

## **7. Provisional Timetable**

Nominations opening date: **20 April 2020**

Nominations closing date: **31 May 2020**

Pre-selection by peer review: **early June to early July 2020**

Examination by the Jury: **mid-July to early-September 2020**

Jury deliberation meeting: **mid-September 2020**

*For Women in Science* week: **5 to 12 March 2021**

*For Women in Science* Awards Ceremony: **11 March 2021**

## APPENDIX 1

### FORMAL SCIENCES

MATHEMATICS	COMPUTER & INFORMATION SCIENCES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Applied mathematics</li><li>- Pure mathematics</li><li>- Statistics and probability</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Computer sciences, information science and bioinformatics</li></ul>

### PHYSICAL SCIENCES

CHEMISTRY	PHYSICS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Analytical chemistry</li><li>- Colloid chemistry</li><li>- Inorganic and nuclear chemistry</li><li>- Organic chemistry</li><li>- Physical chemistry, Polymer science, Electrochemistry (dry cells, batteries, fuel cells, corrosion metals, electrolysis)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Astronomy (including astrophysics, space science)</li><li>- Atomic, molecular and chemical physics (physics of atoms and molecules including collision, interaction with radiation; magnetic resonances; Moessbauer effect)</li><li>- Condensed matter physics (including formerly solid-state physics, superconductivity)</li><li>- Fluids and plasma physics (including surface physics)</li><li>- Nuclear physics</li><li>- Optics (including laser optics and quantum optics), Acoustics</li><li>- Particles and fields physics</li></ul>