



FUNDING SCHEME

«RESTART 2016-2020» Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation of the Research Promotion Foundation

PROGRAMME

«NURTURING AN RTDI CULTURE»

COMPETITION

«Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher 2019»

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

CULTURE / AWARD-YR / 0119





INTRODUCTION

The Research Promotion Foundation launches the Call for Nominations for the “Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher” of the Programme “Nurturing an RTDI Culture” within the framework of the “RESTART 2016-2020” Programmes for Research, Technological Development and Innovation (RTDI) and invites all interested parties to submit nominations for the award.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Pillar	III. Transformation of RTDI System
Programme	Nurturing an RTDI Culture
Competition	Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher 2019
Call Identifier	CULTURE/AWARD-YR/0119
Call Budget	180,000 Euros <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 60,000 Euros for “Life Sciences” ○ 60,000 Euros for “Physical Sciences and Engineering” ○ 60,000 Euros for “Social Sciences and Humanities”
Publication Date	25th January 2019
Deadline	15th March 2019, 13:00
Eligible Candidates	PhD awarded between the 25th of January 2012 and the 25th of January 2019 inclusive.¹

The English version of the Call, though an official translation endorsed by the Research Promotion Foundation, is provided for information purposes only. Only the Greek version of the Call is legally binding and shall prevail in case of any divergence in interpretation.

OBJECTIVES

The Research Promotion Foundation (RPF), in the frame of its activities for recognizing and rewarding research excellence, established an annual Research Award for Cyprus in 2007. In 2013, the Award was modified in order to separately reward young and more experienced researchers, in a parallel attempt to support early-career researchers and promote distinguished scientists active in Cyprus.

¹ Extensions are possible under certain circumstances for career breaks for maternity or paternity leave, military service or documented sick leave¹.



The “**Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher**” is awarded to young researchers that have demonstrated the ability to perform high quality research. The Award aims to highlight the research activity, achievements and personality of young scientists undertaking research in Cyprus, who have shown an ability to produce significant and internationally recognized results from the early stages of their career. The Award thus aims to actively support to young researchers, facilitating the continuation of their work and research career.

The “Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher” is awarded annually in each of the following thematic areas²:

- ***Life Sciences.***
- ***Physical Sciences & Engineering.***
- ***Social Sciences & Humanities.***

The nominated researchers will have to be nominated by another person and their candidacy will be evaluated based on their research activity, the impact of their research results and the potential of their future research activity.

There is no restriction on the number of young researchers a person may nominate for the Award.

RESTART 2016-2020 WORK PROGRAMME

All general rules and procedures for the participation of organisations and individuals, the eligible activities and costs, as well as the specific information regarding the RESTART 2016-2020 Programmes, are included in the **RESTART 2016-2020 Work Programme**, which is the main reference document and an important information source for interested parties. The document is available on the Research Promotion Foundation’s **IRIS (Innovation Research Information System) Portal** (<https://iris.research.org.cy/#/documentlibrary>).

SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

Within the framework of the “Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher 2019” the following specific conditions, which are not otherwise defined in the RESTART 2016-2020 Work Programme, apply:

Nominees

The nominated researchers for the “Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher 2019” may be of any nationality with a maximum of 7 years of experience since the completion of their PhD and up to the announcement date of the Call. Extensions are possible under certain

² The thematic areas and sub-areas are in line with those of the European Research Council (ERC)
<http://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/erc%20peer%20review%20evaluation%20panels.pdf>



circumstances for career breaks for maternity or paternity leave, military service or documented sick leave³.

Nominees must have been working in Cyprus on a permanent basis for the last three (3) years in any Research Organisation, Enterprise or other public or private entity located in the areas under the control of the Republic of Cyprus.

SUBMISSION OF NOMINATIONS

The researchers should be nominated by another person and be aware of the nomination at the time of submission. There is no restriction on the number of young researchers a person may nominate for the Award.

Nominations should be submitted to the Research Promotion Foundation by email at brabeia@research.org.cy by the 15th of March 2019, 13:00 at the latest.

The nominations should be submitted in **English** using the relevant submission form, which is available in RPF's website (<http://www.research.org.cy>) and on the **Electronic Services Portal IRIS** (Innovation and Research Information System) of the Research Promotion Foundation (<https://iris.research.org.cy/#/documentlibrary>).

Following the completion of the closure of the Call and submission of nominations, the RPF will contact each nominee to confirm their interest in participating in the procedure and request the submission of a form including a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) and description of their research activity.

SELECTION PROCEDURE

Preliminary Check

A preliminary check for each nomination is carried out to ensure that all relevant criteria and special conditions as outlined in the relevant Call are respected. In case of a positive outcome, the nomination is forwarded for evaluation.

Following completion of the preliminary check, results are communicated to the nominees. In case of a negative outcome, nominees have the right to submit a redress within 15 calendar days from the receipt of the preliminary check results.

³ For maternity leave, eighteen months for each child born after the phd. For military service, the duration of service as certified by the respective authority, and for sick leave, the respective certified time.



Evaluation Procedure

The scientific evaluation is carried out by independent evaluators (based abroad) that are selected by the RPF based on the research activity of each nominee. The evaluators form the Scientific Committee (First Level and Second Level).

The evaluation is performed in two phases. In the **first phase**, each proposal is evaluated remotely by two evaluators who assess the nominations according to the relevant criteria, ranking them in each of the following three categories:

- ⬡ Category A : Excellent (9 – 10)
- ⬡ Category B : Good-Very Good (6 – 8,9)
- ⬡ Category C : Average-Unsatisfactory (< 5,9)

Nominations ranked in Category A, will proceed to the second phase of the evaluation procedure.

Upon completion of the first phase of the evaluation procedure, the results are communicated to the nominees. In case of a disagreement with the outcome, nominees have the right to submit a redress within 15 calendar days from the receipt of the first phase results.

In the **second phase** of the evaluation procedure, three committees consisting of evaluators who participated in the first phase of evaluation convene for the discussion of the candidacies and selection of the winner for each thematic area.

The winner for each thematic area is announced during the Cyprus Research and Innovation Awards Ceremony, where the rationale for the decision for each area is also announced. No evaluation reports are available for the rest of the nominees and the launch of a redress procedure is not available at this stage.

Evaluation Criteria

For the evaluation, the following criteria are applicable:

⬡ **Research Activity 40%**

Quality of the results of the Young Researcher's research activity and their importance at an international level. Publications of the Young Researcher's research results in distinguished scientific journals and presentations in high impact international conferences. Evidence of the use and exploitation of the results of the research activity for the improvement of the quality of life in Cyprus and the wider European area or/and the possibility of commercial exploitation, introduction in the international market and patent registration.

⬡ **Curriculum Vitae 40%**

Qualifications and achievements of the Young Researcher.



◊ **Future Research 20%**

Suggested framework of activity for the continuation of the Young Researcher's work in the next 2-3 years.

In case the level of nominated researchers is seen as unsatisfactory, the RPF maintains the right not to grant the Award.

Award - Funding

The winner of the "Cyprus Research Award – Young Researcher 2019" for each thematic area will receive a work of art, specially made for the Awards.

Moreover, the Young Researcher's Host Organisation (HO) will be granted an amount of 60,000 Euros for the continuation of his/her research work, which should be used in the framework of a project of duration between twelve (12) and thirty six (36) months. The researcher may in certain cases, following approval by the RPF, transfer the funding to a different organisation than the initial Host Organisation. In any case, the HO should be a Research Organisation, Enterprise or Other Organisation located permanently in the areas under the control of the Republic of Cyprus.

It is expected that the winners of the Award will participate in events for the promotion of research and of the "Cyprus Research Awards".

INFORMATION – CONTACT DETAILS

RPF Help Desk

E-mail

help_desk@research.org.cy

Telephone

+35722205000

The Research Promotion Foundation may at its discretion, proceed to the extension or revocation of the present Call by applying the same publication procedure.