



RULES AND REGULATIONS  
L'ORÉAL-UNESCO FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS  
2027 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 2027 edition of the International Awards will honour five outstanding scientific researchers in the field of Physics, Mathematics, Computer and Information Sciences, Chemistry, Earth & Related Environmental Sciences, 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 from each of the five regions, eligibility being determined by the place where she has worked for at least 10 years, rather than by her nationality.

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 of the scientific fields listed in Appendix 1.

No age limit applies to candidates

### 3. Selection Criteria

The candidates' selection criteria are the following:

- The candidate's outstanding contribution to the 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* International Awards cannot be awarded to the same person more than once.

### 4. Nominations

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

For a nomination to be eligible, it must be submitted by an eminent scientist (see below). Self-nominations, nominations by immediate family members, and nominations from a team are not eligible.

Qualified nominators must hold, at a minimum, a PhD in a science subject and may be:

- Heads of University or Scientific Institutions,
- Members of Academies of Science,
- Holders of Research Chairs,
- Full professors,
- Former Laureates of the *For Women in Science* International Awards.

Nominations can only be submitted electronically through the online dedicated platform and must be written in English: [INTERNATIONAL AWARDS | For Women in Science](#)

Since a new application platform was implemented in 2021, previous nominators logging on to this website for the first time will be asked to reset their password for data security reasons (in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation). 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 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* Awards (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 accomplishments for which the candidate deserves the Award, its impact on society, as well as her standing as a role model for future generations. Note that the Jury will review and approve the official Laureates' statements.
- A detailed Curriculum Vitae (maximum 3 pages). The nominator is requested to 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 candidate's publications.
- A list of the most significant patents starting with the most recent one.

- A list of the ten 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. If for some of the publications the related links are not available, please upload them in pdf, if possible, or at least provide fully detailed article references including all the authors.
- Three to five letters of recommendation from eminent scientists outside the candidate's home institution.

Nominations that are incomplete or received after June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026, as well as applications that do not meet the requirements mentioned above, will not be taken into consideration.

Nominations are valid for two editions of the International Awards in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science. Unsuccessful nominations submitted for the 2027 edition will be held on file and nominators will be invited to update the candidates' information when the next call for nominations opens in April 2028 for the 2029 edition.

## 5. Laureates' Selection

- **Peer review pre-selection**

Through a peer review process, an expert panel from a variety of disciplines including Mathematics, Computer & Information Sciences, Chemistry, Physics, and Earth and Related Environmental Sciences will examine all submitted nominations.

After the experts' evaluation, a shortlist of around ten candidates per each of the five regions (no more than 50 candidates in total) will be sent for assessment to the *For Women in Science* International Jury in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science.

- **Jury selection**

The *For Women in Science* International Jury in Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Science is composed of distinguished members of the international scientific community and chaired by Professor Artur Avila, Professor at Institute of Mathematics University of Zurich (Switzerland), Extraordinary Researcher at IMPA (Instituto de Mathematica Pura e Aplicada) Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and Fields medal winner in 2014.

The Jury will evaluate the candidates pre-selected by the expert panel in accordance with the selection criteria detailed in Paragraph 3.

Before the Jury's deliberation meeting, which will be held in December 2026, the Jury will review and discuss the best nominations for each region. The Jury will decide the final selection of 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, with a follow-up email. However, they must remain confidential until the official announcement.

## 6. Laureates' commitments

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

The Awards are granted solely to the selected Laureates and may not be transferred for any purpose.

The Laureates specifically commit to:

- Participate in the International Awards ceremony and all related events (interviews, training, presentations, dinners, visits) that will be organized around the “*For Women in Science Week*”. The Fondation L'Oréal will cover travel and accommodation expenses related to the Laureates' trip.
- Keep the announcement confidential until the official announcement to the media, in principle two or three weeks before the Award Ceremony and not contact the media before that date.

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 materials, including but not limited to written press, television, social media, internet, outdoor display, exhibitions, and corporate publications, in France and worldwide. The image of the Laureates can be used to promote science among the younger generations, particularly young women. Each of the Laureates will sign a separate written audiovisual authorization. The Laureates will not receive any further remuneration for such promotional activities.

## 7. Provisional Timetable

Nominations opening date: **April 6<sup>th</sup> 2026**

Nominations closing date: **June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026**

Pre-selection by peer review expert panel: **early September to early October 2026**

Examination by the Jury: **mid-October to mid-November 2026**

Jury deliberation meeting: **December 2026**

*For Women in Science week*: **June 2027 (to be confirmed)**

*For Women in Science Awards Ceremony*: **June 2027 (to be confirmed)**

## APPENDIX 1 – PHYSICAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE<sup>1</sup>

### 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	EARTH & RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
<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; Mossbauer 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Climatic research</li> <li>- Environmental sciences</li> <li>- Geochemistry and geophysics</li> <li>- Geology</li> <li>- Geosciences, multidisciplinary</li> <li>- Meteorology and atmospheric sciences</li> <li>- Mineralogy</li> <li>- Oceanography, Hydrology, Water resources</li> <li>- Paleontology</li> <li>- Physical geography</li> <li>- Volcanology</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> This classification of disciplines is based on the Revised field of Science and Technology (FoS) Classification in OECD Frascati Manual and adapted to the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* Program