

The Foulkes Foundation Academy of Medical Sciences Medal 2025

Recognising a rising star in biomedical or health research

Aim

- To recognise a rising star in biomedical or health research for outstanding achievements in research during the early years of their career (i.e. well in advance of being at the stage of nomination for AMS Fellowship).

Eligibility

- Nominees must be a post-doctoral researcher within 10 working years of achieving their PhD. Consideration will be given to those who have taken time out early in their career due to family commitments, illness or for other reasons.
- Candidates and their research must have a connection with the UK, i.e. be currently or previously based in the UK.
- Nominations are welcomed from all fields with a relevance to biomedical and health research.
- Nominations are welcomed from the full diversity of the biomedical research community, particularly with regard to gender, geography and ethnicity.
- Nominators must be a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences and can contact the Academy to discuss their candidates' eligibility if unclear.

Application process

- Nominators must be a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences.
- Nominations must be made on the dedicated application form available for download from the Academy's website [here](https://acmedsci.ac.uk/about/ourwork/promoting-excellence/foulkes-foundation-medal):
<https://acmedsci.ac.uk/about/ourwork/promoting-excellence/foulkes-foundation-medal>
- Nominations should be sent to Russell Crandon, Fellowship Manager at the Academy: russell.crandon@acmedsci.ac.uk
- Nominations must be submitted ahead of the closing date of 11.00(BST) on Wednesday 13 August 2025.

Selection process

- Academy staff will review the nominations and assess eligibility. A list of ineligible applications will be shared with the Panel Chair for information, whilst borderline applications will be discussed with the Chair.
- All eligible applications are scored pre-panel (see scoring candidates section below).
- Up to 10 applications are taken for full review by Panel, based on pre-panel scoring and triage.
- The winner of the Medal will be selected by the Awards Panel comprised of representatives from the Foulkes Foundation and the Academy of Medical Sciences.
- The winner will be notified in October 2025 and will be bestowed the Medal at the Academy's AGM on 3 December 2025.

Assessment criteria

- The candidate's alignment with the eligibility criteria.
- Alignment with the award's aim to recognise a rising star in biomedical or health research:
 - The extent to which the researcher has made outstanding research achievements during the early years of their career.
 - The quality of the additional contributions the candidate has made to their wider research community.

Scoring candidates

- The award panel is asked to score all the eligible nominated candidates, apart from those where they have a conflict of interest (which must be declared in advance).

- The eligibility of the candidates will be determined by the staff of the Academy of Medical Sciences and therefore, unless otherwise highlighted, please consider all shared nominations to be eligible for scoring.
- Nominations are to be considered in line with the assessment criteria and scored out of a maximum of 5 (full scores, no half scores and panel members are asked to use the full range) as follows:
 - 1-2: Candidate has contributed research outputs to their field of study. Whilst acknowledging their contribution to biomedical and health research, they are not strong candidates for the Medal.
 - 3: Candidate has made a notable contribution to biomedical and health research in the UK relative to their career stage. They are reasonable candidates for the Medal.
 - 4: Candidate has made a highly significant contribution to biomedical and health research in the UK relative to their career stage. They will be able to evidence outputs and/or contributions to the broader research community that have been impactful. They are very credible candidates for the Medal.
 - 5: Candidate has made an outstanding contribution to biomedical and health research in the UK relative to their career stage. This could be evidenced by outputs and/or contributions to the broader research community that have been highly impactful. They are highly suitable for the Medal.

Timeline

- Launch of competition- w/c 23 June 2025
- Deadline for nominations – 11.00(BST) Wednesday 13 August 2025
- Nominations sent to Awards Panel for scoring w/c 18 August 2025.
- Awards Panel meeting- September 2025.
- Awardee notified – October 2025.
- Medal presentation at AMS AGM – 3 December 2025.

Nomination form

To include the following:

- Nominee:
 - Name of nominee
 - Current role and location
 - Link to UK if not currently based in UK
 - High level qualifications
 - Date when received PhD and any career breaks
 - Outstanding research achievements:
 - Significant outputs and impact (up to five), which could include resources, tools, data bases, influences on clinical practice, policy reports, IP, technology development or devices and publications (please include an explanation of why impactful and what the nominees role was).
 - Markers of esteem:
 - Roles within institution, learned societies, peers.
 - Awards and prizes, including funding secured.
 - Contribution to broader research community:
 - Training of researchers.
 - Involvement in collaborative activities.
 - Participation in conferences and/or knowledge sharing opportunities.
 - Nominator
 - Who they are (name, current role and location).
 - Why they are nominating the candidate (provide any further information-up to 500 words).
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