

## The Royal Society Medals and Awards

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### Overview

The Royal Society has a broad range of awards that celebrate and recognise excellence in science. This document provides guidance on the timeline, eligibility criteria and nomination process for the awards, including step by step guidance on using the nomination system.

### Timeline

30 November 2022	Call for Nominations opens
24 February 2023	Call for Nominations closes
27 February – mid May	Royal Society contacts suggested referees where required. Premier Awards, Physical and Biological Committees shortlist nominations and seek independent referees.
By end June	All committees score the nominations
By end July	Council reviews and approves winners recommended by award committees
By end August	Winners announced

## Eligibility

Specific eligibility criteria for each award can be found in the table below but the following general points should be noted by nominators:

Nominees cannot be members of the [Premier Awards Committee](#), or selection Committees overseeing the medal in question. More information about the selection committees for individual medals can be found in the table below. If the award is externally funded, nominees cannot be employed by the organisation funding the medal. **Self-nominations are not accepted unless otherwise stated.**

- Nominations are valid for three cycles of the award unless otherwise stated. Nominators are given the opportunity to update previously submitted nominations in December each year.
- No person should be awarded a subject-specific medal if they have already received a Royal Society Premier Award (Copley Medal, Royal Medals, Bakerian or Croonian Medal and Lecture).
- Winners of Royal Society subject-specific awards remain eligible for all other awards in future years
- Winners of Royal Society Premier Awards remain eligible for another Premier Award, excluding winning additional Royal Medals in future years.

Please check the award criteria below before nominating someone for an award. A link to any further guidance and criteria is included if applicable. The full list of medals open for nomination this year can be found on pages 3-7.

**Eligibility Table: The below awards will be open this year**

	<b>Stated purpose</b>	<b>Eligibility</b>	<b>Gift</b>	<b>Career stage (if stated)</b>	<b>Nomination validity</b>	<b>Group eligibility</b>	<b>Selection Committee</b>
<b>Premier awards</b>							
Copley Medal	For sustained, outstanding achievements in any field of science (alternates physical and biological science each year)	International	£25,000	Senior	3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Premier Awards Committee</a>
Croonian Medal and Lecture	Premier lecture in biological sciences - for sustained, outstanding achievements in biological sciences	International	£10,000	Senior	3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Premier Awards Committee</a>
Bakerian Medal and Lecture	Premier lecture in physical sciences - for sustained, outstanding achievements in physical sciences	International	£10,000	Senior	3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Premier Awards Committee</a>
Royal Medal – physical sciences	For outstanding achievements in physical sciences	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£10,000	Senior	3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Premier Awards Committee</a>
Royal Medal – biological sciences	For outstanding achievements in biological sciences	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£10,000	Senior	3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Premier Awards Committee</a>
Royal Medal – applied sciences	For outstanding achievements in applied sciences	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£10,000	Senior	3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Premier Awards Committee</a>
<b>Physical sciences medals</b>							
Clifford Paterson Medal and Lecture	For outstanding contributions in the field of engineering.	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Physical Sciences Awards Committee</a>

Davy Medal	For outstanding contributions in the field of chemistry	UK/Commonwealth/Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Physical Sciences Awards Committee</a>
Hughes Medal	For outstanding contributions in the field of energy	UK/Commonwealth/Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Physical Sciences Awards Committee</a>
Royal Society Milner Award	To recognise an outstanding European computer scientist, someone who has made a substantial contribution and who is likely go on to further top-level achievement	European <sup>1</sup> citizen or resident for at least 12 months. Nominees cannot be employed by Microsoft and its affiliates.	£5,000		3 award cycles		<a href="#">Milner Award Committee</a>
Rumford Medal	For outstanding contributions in the field of physics	UK/Commonwealth/Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Physical Sciences Awards Committee</a>
Sylvester Medal	For outstanding contributions in the field of mathematics	UK/Commonwealth/Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Physical Sciences Awards Committee</a>
<b><i>Biological sciences medals</i></b>							
Buchanan Medal	For distinguished contributions to the biomedical sciences	UK/Commonwealth/Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological Sciences Awards Committee</a>
Darwin Medal	For work of distinction in evolution, biological diversity and developmental, population and organismal biology	UK/Commonwealth/Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological Sciences Awards Committee</a>

<sup>1</sup> “European” to include Council of Europe members and other countries within the landmass of Europe.’

Francis Crick Medal and Lecture	On any field in the biological sciences. Preference is given to genetics, molecular biology and neurobiology, the general areas in which Francis Crick worked, and to fundamental theoretical work, which was the hallmark of Crick's science	UK/Commonwealth/Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000	Early career, <15 years post PhD	3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological Sciences Awards Committee</a>
Leeuwenhoek Medal and Lecture	To recognise excellence in the field of microbiology, bacteriology, virology, mycology and parasitology, and microscopy.	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological Sciences Awards Committee</a>
<b><i>Interdisciplinary medals and those celebrating the communication and promotion of science</i></b>							
Royal Society Africa Prize <a href="#">Additional guidance</a>	To recognise research scientists based in Africa who are making an innovative contribution to the sciences, which contributes significantly to capacity building the Africa.	African citizen, based in Africa	£17,000 (£15,000 research grant and personal gift of £2,000)		3 award cycles		<a href="#">Biological</a> and <a href="#">Physical Science Awards Committee</a>
Royal Society Rising Star Africa Prize <a href="#">Additional guidance</a>	To recognise early-career research scientists based in Africa who are making an innovative contribution to the physical, mathematical and engineering sciences.	African citizen, based in Africa	£15,000 (£14,000 research grant and personal gift of £1,000)	Early career, <15 years post PhD	3 award cycles		<a href="#">Physical Science Awards Committee</a>
Royal Society David Attenborough Prize and Lecture	Awarded to an individual for outstanding and sustained public engagement with science	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,500		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Public Engagement Committee</a>

<a href="#">Additional guidance</a>							
Gabor Medal	For distinction of interdisciplinary work between the life sciences with other disciplines	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological</a> and Physical Science Awards Committee
Michael Faraday Prize and Lecture  <a href="#">Additional guidance</a>	To the scientist or engineer whose expertise in communicating scientific ideas in lay terms is exemplary	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,500		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Public Engagement Committee</a>
Rosalind Franklin Award and Lecture  <a href="#">Additional guidance</a>	To support the promotion of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics	UK citizens or residents for 3 or more years.	£40,000 project grant and £1,000 personal prize.	Early career, <20 years post PhD	3 award cycles		<a href="#">Rosalind Franklin Award Committee</a>
Royal Society Mullard Award	To individuals or teams whose work has the potential to make a contribution to national prosperity	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000 gift and £1,500 travel grant		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological</a> and <a href="#">Physical</a> Science Awards Committee
Wilkins-Bernal-Medawar Medal and Lecture  <a href="#">Additional guidance</a>	Given on a subject relating to the history of science, philosophy of science or the social function of science	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Library Committee</a>

Royal Society Hauksbee Medal	For outstanding achievements in science by those whose work is mostly 'behind the scenes' or in support, including technicians, research office staff or other contributors who might not normally be recognised	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological</a> and <a href="#">Physical</a> Science Awards Committee
Royal Society Research Culture Award	For outstanding contributions to the wider research community	UK/Commonwealth/ Republic of Ireland citizens or residents for 3 or more years	£2,000		3 award cycles	YES	<a href="#">Biological</a> and <a href="#">Physical</a> Science Awards Committee

## **Nomination process**

### **Call for nominations**

- The call for nominations opens on the Royal Society's Anniversary Day – 30 November 2022.
- Nominations can be submitted until 15:00 GMT on 24 February 2023.
- As well as information from the nominee, some nominations also require the input of a referee invited by the nominator.

### **Review process**

- Once the call for nominations has closed, referees will be asked to assess each nomination.
- Following the collection of references, all nominations are scored by the relevant awards committee. These scores are confidential and will be discussed by the relevant awards committee at a selection meeting held in the spring.

### **Approval of awards**

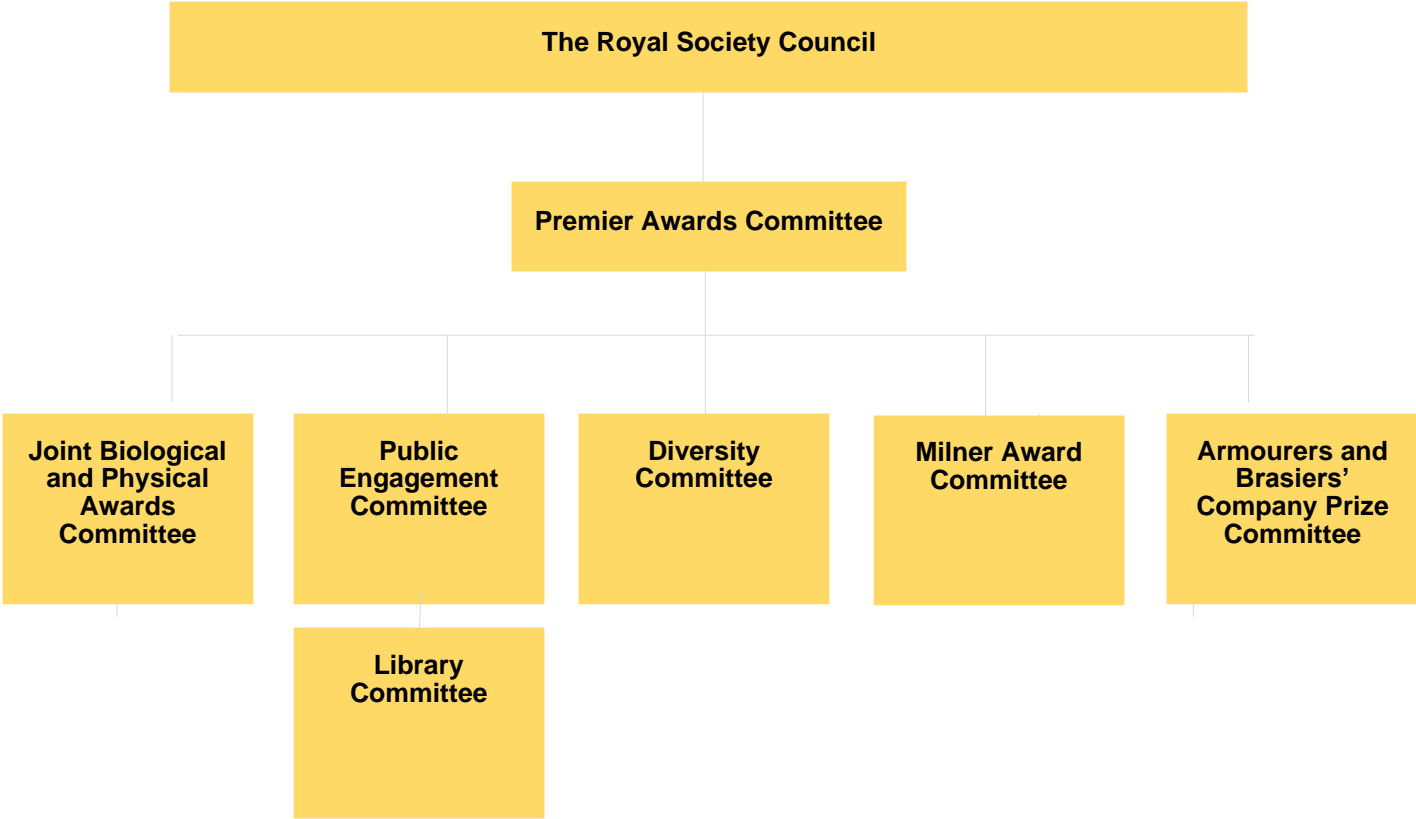
- Following the selection meetings, recommendations for the winners of the majority of medals are made to the Premier Awards Committee for approval. More information about the awards committees for individual medals can be found in the table above. The flowchart below shows the committee decision-making process.
- Final approval is given by the [Royal Society Council](#) at their July meeting.
- The Royal Medal winners are subject to His Majesty's approval which is normally received by July.

### **Notification of outcome**

- Successful winners and nominators will be informed by email in July.
- The Royal Medal winners and nominators will be informed in July following His Majesty's approval.
- Unsuccessful nominations will be notified and reminded that the award will remain valid for 3 cycles
- We aim to inform nominators in advance of the public announcement of winners.
- The Royal Society will announce all winners publicly in late August.



**The Royal Society award committees reporting line\*\***



\*\* This chart represents the decision-making process for awards only

## **Guidance notes for submitting nominations**

### **Background information**

All nominations must be submitted using the Royal Society Awards system. Below you will find images of the application screens as you will see them. This is to assist you with gathering and ordering your nomination in the format it will be required. You can save the progress of your nomination and return to it at any time up until the deadline for submission.

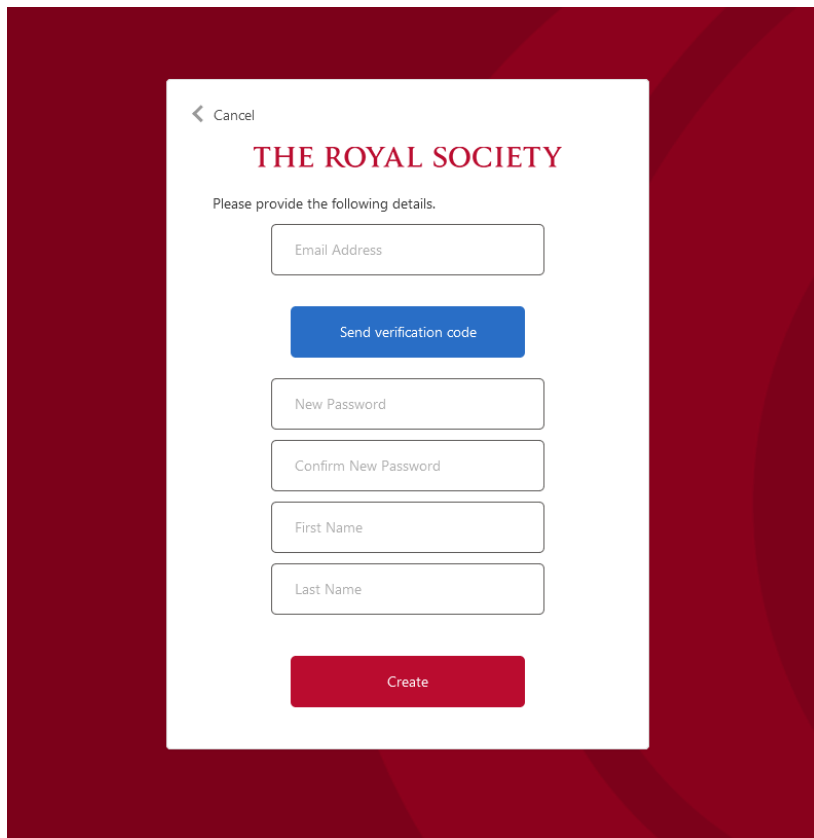
### **Please note:**

- 1. the Africa Prize, Milner Lecture and Rosalind Franklin Medal and Lecture have subject specific questions not outlined in the screenshots below, the questions can be found in the individual guidance documents linked above in the eligibility section.**
- 2. the Africa Prize, Rising Star Africa Prize, and Rosalind Franklin Medal and Lecture, each require input from the nominee.**

## Starting a nomination

Visit: [Medals and Awards: Your nomination dashboard · The Royal Society](#)

1. Register for an account. Please input email, click send verification code, wait a few minutes for the code to arrive and then continue with the rest of the registration details.



The screenshot shows a mobile registration form for The Royal Society. The form is centered on a dark red background. At the top left, there is a back arrow and the text 'Cancel'. Below this is the Royal Society logo in red. The instruction 'Please provide the following details.' is followed by several input fields: 'Email Address', 'New Password', 'Confirm New Password', 'First Name', and 'Last Name'. A blue button labeled 'Send verification code' is positioned between the 'Email Address' and 'New Password' fields. At the bottom of the form is a red button labeled 'Create'.

2. Click 'create nomination' and then select the award you wish to submit a nomination for from the dropdown list.

**Make a nomination**

Please select the award you are nominating for from the dropdown list below. Please also note the following information:

- For the purposes of this process, the person making the nomination is known as the 'nominator'
- Before you begin, we recommend that you consult the nomination guide for details on how to complete the nomination form and to ensure that the relevant eligibility criteria for your chosen award has been met

The nomination guide can be found on the Royal Society [website](#). If you have any questions or queries, please contact [awards@royalsociety.org](mailto:awards@royalsociety.org)

1. **Award selection/eligibility** 2. Nominator details 3. Nominee details 4. Nomination details 5. Referees

Medal/Award

Africa Prize  
Bakerian Medal and Lecture  
Buchanan Medal  
Clifford Paterson Medal and Lecture  
Copley Medal (physical sciences)  
**Copley Medal and Lecture**  
Darwin Medal  
David Attenborough Prize and Lecture  
Davy Medal  
Francis Crick Medal and Lecture  
Gabor Medal  
Hauksbee Award  
Hughes Medal  
Leeuwenhoek Medal and Lecture  
Michael Faraday Prize and Lecture  
Milner Award and Lecture  
Mullard Award  
Rosalind Franklin Award and Lecture  
Royal Medal (applied sciences)  
Royal Medal (biological sciences)  
Royal Medal (physical sciences)

+ 44 207 451 2500

3. Check the eligibility of the nominee. This varies by award, and full details can be found in this guidance document in the tables on pages 3-7.

## Step 1 – Eligibility

[Read more about Gabor Medal](#)

Nomination: Gabor Medal

1. Award selection/eligibility

2. Nominator details

3. Nominee details

4. Nomination details

Has the Nominee been a UK/Commonwealth/Irish Republic resident for 3 or more years? \*

Yes  No

Save & continue

If you are experiencing any problems or have questions, please contact [awards@royalsociety.org](mailto:awards@royalsociety.org) or refer to the guidance notes on our [website](#).

4. Input your details as nominator (person making the nomination)

- 1. Award selection/eligibility
- 2. Nominator details**
- 3. Nominee details
- 4. Nomination details

What is your relationship to the nominee? \*

Title

Honours

Preferred telephone number

Please include country code if outside the UK

Current organisation

Current position

---

Save & continue

5. Nominee contact details:

If you are nominating a team of 3 or less people please enter the details of each individual in the form.

If nominating a larger team, then enter the details of the lead person into the 'Nominee 1' section, completing the 'First name' field as per this example: Addnan (team lead)

**Nominee 1**

First name \*

Last name \*

Email address \*

Job title \*

Institution \*

**Nominee 2**

First name

Last name

6. Please answer the questions in this section.

1. Award selection/eligibility

2. Nominator details

3. Nominee details

4. Nomination details

Why should the candidate be considered for this medal? \*

List the Nominee's key achievements \*

Word Count (0 of 500)

Provide a brief summary of the Nominee's career history \*

Word Count (0 of 500)

Please provide information on any other relevant achievements or awards held by the Nominee \*

Word Count (0 of 500)

Statement of support \*

Word Count (0 of 500)



- Once the 'Nomination details' section is complete, click 'save and continue'. You will then see the message below. Ensure that you click on 'Return to nomination list'. You can now go back in and edit your nomination if you wish. If you have no further edits, you can submit your nomination by clicking 'submit' under the 'Actions' heading. Once you press submit on the nomination list dashboard, you will receive a confirmation email shortly after.

**Please note, you cannot edit your nomination once it has been submitted.**

The screenshot shows a confirmation message for a completed nomination form. It includes a heading 'Nomination form complete', a sub-heading 'Medals and Awards: Your nomination dashboard', and a table listing the nomination details.

Nomination form complete

You have reached the last step of the nomination process. You can edit this nomination until you are ready to submit it.

Return to [Nomination List](#)

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### Medals and Awards: Your nomination dashboard

[Create nomination](#)

Award/Medal	Nominee	Status	Actions
Gabor Medal	peir	Draft	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Submit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>

### Enquiries

For any further enquiries about the submission of nominations or any other matters related to the Royal Society's awards, please contact the Scientific Programmes Team, The Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London, SW1Y 5AG, by email to [awards@royalsociety.org](mailto:awards@royalsociety.org)