



L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Young Talents program – Baltic in partnership between

the SIA L'Oréal Baltic

the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO (hereinafter “LVNC”),

the Estonian National Commission for UNESCO (hereinafter “ENC”),

the Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO (hereinafter “LTNC”)

the Latvian Academy of Sciences (hereinafter “LAS”), the Estonian Academy of Sciences
(hereinafter “EAS”), the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (hereinafter “LTAS”)

RULES AND REGULATIONS 2022

1. Introduction

Founded globally in 1998, the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* partnership was created to recognize and promote women in science. Its programs reward established women scientists whose outstanding achievements have contributed to the advancement of scientific knowledge and of its benefits to society and provide support to promising young women who are already making significant contributions in their scientific disciplines.

The L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Young Talents program – Baltic (hereinafter “Program”) is organized in partnership involving SIA L'Oreal Baltic, LVNC, ENC, LTNC, LAS, EAS and LTAS to promote, enhance and encourage the contribution of women pursuing research careers in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia in fields:

- **life and environmental sciences** (*biological sciences, basic medicine, clinical medicine, health sciences, health biotechnology, earth & related, environmental and agriculture sciences*);
- **physical sciences** (*physics and chemistry*);
- **formal sciences** (*mathematics, computer, information sciences*);
- **engineering sciences and technology** (*civil engineering, electrical engineering, electronic engineering, information engineering, chemical engineering, material engineering, medical engineering, environmental engineering; environmental biotechnology; industrial biotechnology, nanotechnologies*).

2. Program awards

- 2.1. The L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Young Talents program – Baltic honours seven young talents in the Baltic States. Three awards are given out in Latvia, two in Lithuania and two in Estonia.
- **1 award of €6,000** (six thousand euros) will be granted in Latvia to a Doctor of Sciences.
 - **1 award of €6,000** (six thousand euros) will be granted in Lithuania to a Doctor of Sciences.
 - **1 award of €6,000** (six thousand euros) will be granted in Estonia to a Doctor of Sciences.
 - **2 awards of €6,000** (six thousand euros) each will be granted to two Latvian Doctoral Candidates.
 - **1 award of €6,000** (six thousand euros) each will be granted to one Lithuanian Doctoral Candidate.
 - **1 award of €6,000** (six thousand euros) each will be granted to one Estonian Doctoral Candidate.
- 2.2. Applicants must not reach age of 40 on May 31st, 2022, unless the applicant at age 40 and above has been on one or more maternity leaves during her career. If the applicant has been on a maternity leave during her career, the age limit shall be extended by 18 months per each maternity leave.
- 2.3. Applicant is eligible if she hasn't already obtained an endowment from a L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science program.
- 2.4. For Doctoral Candidate: being enrolled in a University or Academy in the respective Baltic country in a research laboratory.
For Doctor of Sciences: being enrolled in a research laboratory or an institution in the respective Baltic country and having started their long-term work as scientist before the opening date of the call for application (or having a welcome letter from the laboratory).
- 2.5. For doctoral candidates the PhD defence must not take place before June 15th, 2022 and PhD student must be at minimum in the 2nd year of doctoral studies.
- 2.6. The value of each award is €6,000 (six thousand euros), which must be used for the pursuit of scientific research **in the relevant Baltic country**.
- 2.7. The recipients of the awards will be publicly announced till 15th of June (date determined separately).
- 2.8. Each award is subject to national legislation on income taxation. Taxes at a rate of 15% in Lithuania and 20% in Estonia will be covered by SIA L'Oreal Baltic.

3. Submission of Program Applications

3.1. Applications may only be submitted by the candidates themselves through the online platform at www.forwomeninscience.com from **3rd of February 2022 till 17th of March 2022**. Applications must be written in English and must contain the following items in the following order:

- A duly completed application form;
- A detailed CV in English;
- Copies of documents confirming the candidate's education and any scientific degrees obtained (can be in the candidate's national language);
- A description of the candidate's planned research project for a period of one year

- (summary of the problem, aim, purpose of the research, research questions and possibilities to solve them in the given time);
- A recommendation from the candidate's academic advisor or the scientific institution where the project is being carried out (can be in the candidate's national language);
 - A list of the candidate's scientific publications and patents;
 - Copies of not more than two or three of the candidate's most significant publications or web links to the full text thereof.
- 3.2. Incomplete files, applications received after the deadline and candidates who do not meet the above-mentioned requirements will not be taken into consideration. An application will be considered complete if it contains a detailed description of the research project and its methodology.
- 3.2. If animal experiments are carried out as part of the submitted research project, these experiments must be described in detail. The necessity of the animal experiments or the lack of alternatives must be justified.

4. Procedure for the Review of Program Applications

- 4.1. Each of the Baltic countries will have its own separate Program Jury that will assess applications from candidates from that country by **22nd of April, 2022** and one candidate from each country to send an application for the International Rising Talents Program (applicants have to be determined **only from the award recipients of 2022, 2021 of the respective country**)
- 4.2. For the assessment of each submitted application, the Program jury will assign two (2) competent reviewers (either members of the jury or, if necessary, external consultants), who will be granted access to the relevant application.
- 4.3. On the basis of the opinions of the reviewers, the Program jury in each country will assess the applications and will determine the Program award recipients by **22nd of April, 2022**.

5. Selection Criteria

- 5.1. The Program juries will use the following selection criteria for applicant:
1. Quality of application file:
 - Demonstrates how the training or the practical and theoretical knowledge acquired within the host organization contribute to the work of the current research;
 - Excellence of the academic record (number, quality and impact of publications, conference presentations, patents, etc.);
 - Research summary formulated in clear terms;
 - Recent, exemplary and explicit letters of recommendation.
 2. Scientific excellence in research area (methodology, scope, novelty, contribution to knowledge in the research area of the candidate, innovative and creative spirit)
 3. The candidate's ability to communicate and promote science to young people,
- 5.2. Program awards are non-renewable and may be combined with other research grants.

6. Announcement of Program Awards

The decision of each Program jury regarding applications will be communicated to the applicants in writing within a period of two weeks after the adoption of said decision by program coordinator in Baltics. The list of Program award recipients will remain confidential until an official notification from the SIA L'OREAL BALTIC representatives and will be announced to mass media following this.

7. Conditions for granting a Program Award

- 7.1.** Program award shall be granted on the basis of the relevance, quality and expected impact of the recipient's scientific research, with the purpose of providing financial support for the recipient in pursuing her career in the field of scientific research and/or development in the concerned country. Each award recipient must undertake to pursue this research for a period of one year in accordance with her submitted application, and, upon the expiry of this term, to submit a brief progress report to the award founders and partners (SIA L'OREAL BALTIC, LVNC, ENC, LTNC, LAS, EAS and LTAS).
- 7.2.** The Program award recipients must mention that they were granted the Program award in all publications that will be produced as a result of the above-mentioned research.
- 7.3.** The Program award recipients must take part in the official Program awards ceremony in Latvia (with the venue and date thereof to be determined separately).
- 7.4.** The Program Awards will be disbursed as a lump-sum payment after announcement by SIA L'OREAL BALTIC and after the recipients sign an agreement with SIA L'OREAL BALTIC, following the agreement terms
- 7.5.** The Program award recipients must agree to be photographed, filmed and interviewed in the media within the scope of communication of the award program and must give their consent to the free-of-charge use of these photos, recorded material and interviews in communications pertaining to the above-mentioned program in the Baltic countries and abroad.
- 7.6.** The Program award recipients must immediately inform the Program award coordinator in the event of a change in their place of work or research and/or if they give up pursuing the relevant scientific project within a period of one year after the award has been awarded. After the receipt of the relevant notification, the jury will resolve upon retention of the granted program award.