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## **RULES and REGULATIONS L'OREAL– UNESCO FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE Czech Republic - talent programme 2026 EDITION**

Please carefully read the eligibility criteria. Some restrictions apply.

### **1. Introduction**

Created in 2006, the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in the Science, Czech Republic - talent program aim to promote young women's participation in science. The program identifies and rewards talented young female researchers in the **life and environmental sciences, formal sciences, physical sciences or engineering and technological sciences** (see list in the attachment).

The 20<sup>th</sup> year of the unique project "For Women in Science" sponsored by The L'Oréal Czech Republic and supported by UNESCO has just started. Applications can be submitted by female Czech scientists (or foreign nationality but demonstrably working in Czech science respectively doing research in an institution in the Czech Republic for at least one year). The jury will select three winners awarded 200 000 CZK each. All the required information, including the entry form, is available on [www.forwomeninscience.com](http://www.forwomeninscience.com).

Do not hesitate and apply because

**The world needs science and science needs women!**



## 2. Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility criteria for the scientists participating in the project:

- **Doctoral degree** in a doctoral study programme in physical sciences and engineering and technological sciences, formal sciences, life and environmental sciences (see scientific disciplines list [attached](#)).
- **Relevant research project** to be implemented in the Czech Republic
- The award of 200 000 CZK to be used to support research in the Czech Republic
- **The age of the applicant is set at a maximum of 40 years (including).**
- Czech nationality or a foreign nationality but demonstrably working in Czech science or doing research in an institution in the Czech Republic for at least one year.
- The award is intended for research conducted in the Czech Republic for the length of the following one year.

The path to the award is then completely open.

The entry forms of 19<sup>th</sup> year of the talent programme L'Oréal - UNESCO For Women in Science, Czech Republic can be submitted

**from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026.**



### 3. For animal welfare

Every applicant needs to honestly declare that if the scientific project they apply with includes tests on animals, they are carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Animal Protection Act and the requirements of the relevant professional commissions.

If animal experiments are carried out as part of the submitted research project, these experiments must be described in detail. The necessity of animal experiments or **the lack of alternatives must be justified**.

### 4. Application Form and Supporting Documents

Eligible applicants must provide, **in English**:

- a) a duly completed application form (applications can only be submitted electronically through the online platform: [www.forwomeninscience.com](http://www.forwomeninscience.com),
- b) a copy of Ph.D. degree,
- d) Professional curriculum vitae (CV),
- c) recommendation of a superior researcher or head of the research institution where the project will be implemented (in the English language)
- d) list of published work and citations in accordance with the Web of Science
- e) list of best published work and a short comment by the applicant in the English language as to the importance of the results published



- f) description of the proposed research in the following 12 months after receiving the award, in the English language, with the maximum scope of 2 pages
- g) motivation letter – with the maximum scope of 1 page
- h) **For scientists with foreign nationality only:** Prove of employment - confirmation of the length of employment in a Czech institution.
- i) If the scientific project includes animal tests, the document of the ethics committee's approval.

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

- An application will be considered complete if it contains a detailed description of the research project and its methodology.
- No paper applications are accepted. All applications must be registered online before April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

#### **Evaluation and selection of winners:**

- a) Selection of successful applicants is made by a panel of regional scientists elected by the Academic Council of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. The names of jurors are published on the website [here](#)
- b) All applications will be examined by a panel comprised of experts from a variety of disciplines in **life and environmental sciences, formal sciences, physical sciences or engineering and technological sciences,**



who will select the best candidates in accordance with the evaluation criteria mentioned below.

- c) Once the last entry form is submitted, the expert jury will start evaluation the projects. In the first round, approx. 12 finalists will be shortlisted, and they will present their projects to the jury in person – the form of the oral presentation and its date will be announced later.
- d) Deliberations will take place in the Czech Academy of Science (form and date will be announced later) at which time the panel will review and discuss the best applicants for each category. The panel of scientists chooses the 3 winners. Its decision is final and without appeal. It cannot be contested or subject to explanation or justification.
- e) The results will be communicated by email to the winners at the end of the deliberation process. The announcement must remain confidential until the official announcement. These three winners will be publicly announced or awarded at special event in the 2026.
- f) With the three winners, a video medallion about their work will be filmed and media training provided with “For women in science” team before their names are announced to the media. The winners will be interviewed in the media in the following months. Laureates will be asked to promote the objectives of the program.



## 5. Commitments of laureates

- a) Pursue the research in Czech Republic at least next 12 months.
- b) Winner agrees to be photographed, and a video shoot a medallion about themselves and their work.
- c) Participate to the media training.
- d) Participate in the official events and the various interviews organized in 2026/2027 around the topic "For Women in Science" including panel discussions, seminars etc.
- e) Keep the announcement about results/winning confidential until the official announcement and not to contact the media.

## 6. Photography and videos

The recipient of the Award agrees to be photographed and filmed by L'ORÉAL Czech Republic or the Czech Commission for UNESCO and undertakes to give them interviews for purposes related to the communication of the "For Women in Science" program. The Award recipient is aware of and expressly agrees that these photographs, video recordings and texts will be used in publications and audio-visual media, including print, television, internet, photographs and brochures worldwide, for an unlimited period of time and will also be used for internal the needs of L'ORÉAL.

The materials are taken for promotion of equality in science among the younger generation, particularly young women. A separate written authorization will be signed by each of the winners.



## 7. Payment

The payment of the Awards (CZK 200,000 each) will be made by agency (a tripartite contract) directly to the winners after the official announcement, and after having received the necessary original documents for the wire transfer of funds. Latest March 2027.

The recipient of the Award undertakes to settle all tax obligations connected with the payment of the Award.

## 9. Rules

By responding to the call for applications for the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science in Czech Republic, the candidate is deemed to have accepted these rules.

## 10. Provisional Timetable

- Opening of online platform: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026
- Applications closing date: 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026
- Selection by juries: by May 31<sup>st</sup> 2026
- Oral presentation: June 2026
- Official Announcement/Ceremony: September/October 2026 (TBC)

## 10. Contact us

For questions on the rules, contact us at [Bronislava.Rihova@loreal.com](mailto:Bronislava.Rihova@loreal.com)



The organizer reserves the right to modify the Rules and regulation document during the application process.

Created: 18<sup>th</sup> of February