



RULES AND REGULATIONS

L'OREAL-UNESCO "FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE" EGYPT YOUNG TALENTS 2025 PROGRAM

1. Introduction

L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Egypt Young talents program* aims to promote the participation of young women in science coming from **Egypt**. This program identifies and rewards talented young female scientists in the field of Life Sciences (such as biology, biochemistry, biophysics, genetics, physiology, neurosciences, biotechnologies, ecology, and ethology) as well as Physical Sciences (such as physics, chemistry, petroleum engineering, mathematics, engineering sciences, information sciences, Earth, and Universe sciences).

The program honors **three talented young Egyptian women researchers** for the quality of their research works and encourages them to pursue a brilliant career in science.

- **Two fellowships amounting to ten thousand Euros (€ 10,000 or equivalent in local currency)** each will be granted to Egyptian women pursuing post-doctoral researchers working in a research laboratory, institute, or university in Egypt.
- **One fellowship amounting to six thousand Euros (€ 6,000 or equivalent in local currency)** each will be granted to Egyptian women pursuing a PhD (doctoral degree) in a research laboratory, institute, or university in Egypt. The total amount will be used to cover the research expenses &/or travel and accommodation costs related to scientific visits, training, specialized courses etc. for a minimum of two months abroad. This one should occur within a maximum of one year from the ceremony day.

2. Eligibility Criteria

A- Postdoctoral Researchers:

Applicants must meet the following general criteria:

- Having obtained a PhD in one of the science fields mentioned in paragraph 1.
- Only applicants having obtained their PhD during 2020-2024 are eligible.
- Being of Egyptian nationality.
- Working in a research laboratory, institute, or university in Egypt.
- Candidates must be no more than 45 years old by the end of the application period.

B- PhD Students:

Applicants must meet the following general criteria:

- Having obtained a Bachelor's (B.Sc.) and a Master's (M.Sc.) degree, or equivalent, in one of the science fields mentioned in paragraph 1.
- Should be a full-time student in PhD and have registered in the 2nd year of the PhD program, or one year before the thesis defence.
- Being of Egyptian nationality.
- Working in a research laboratory, institute, or university in Egypt.
- Candidates must be no more than 35 years old by the end of the application period.

3. Selection Criteria

The selection criteria of the candidate by the jury are the following:

- Candidates must have a researcher position in one of the universities or research institutes in Egypt.
- The candidate's outstanding academic record (including the number, quality and impact of the scientific publications, conference presentations, and patents...).
- The scientific quality and usefulness of the research project.
- The innovative approach (rationale, relevance, originality, outputs, applications, etc.) and the expected outcomes of the research.
- The ability of the candidate to communicate and promote sciences to a younger audience and to encourage young Egyptian & Arab female scientists.
- The candidate's career path.

Fellowships are exclusively dedicated to the development of scientific research and can under no circumstance be a substitute for the duties of the laboratory vis-à-vis its researchers.

Fellowships are non-renewable and can be combined with other research grants.

4. Applications

Applications can only be submitted through the online platform: <https://www.forwomeninscience.com/> by the candidates themselves.

An application is considered complete only if it includes all the below documents

A - Postdoctoral Researchers:

- Copies of the degrees or recent diplomas: certificates of PhD, M.Sc., and B.Sc. (or equivalent), etc.
- A detailed project of a maximum of 3 pages, including:
 - o The research project description including the institution and/or country of implementation
 - o The proposed use of the grant and some budget indications
- Letters of recommendation from the research supervisor and/or the director of the scientific institution where the research project is carried out or the Dean of the Faculty or the President of the University under which the candidate is running her research.
- The list of publications, oral communications, and patents pertinent (if available) to the project proposal for the 5 last year's only.

B – PhD Students:

- Copies of the degrees or recent diplomas: certificates of B.Sc. and M.Sc., or equivalent.
- Letter from the University certifying that the candidate is in the second year or the year preceding the submission of the doctoral thesis.
- A proposal of the Thesis research project of a maximum of 3 pages, including the progress achieved and related publications or communications.
- Letters of recommendation from the thesis advisor and/or the director of the scientific institution where the thesis research project is carried out or the Dean of the Faculty or the President of the University under which the candidate is running her thesis research.
- Letter of acceptance from a research Centre or specialized laboratory abroad for scientific visits, training, specialized courses etc. in the thesis domain. If not available, this letter could be replaced by a letter of intent in which the candidate specifies the hosting institution and the targeted course or training. However, if selected, the candidate perceives the fellowship only after delivering the final letter of acceptance/registration.

Files which are incomplete, or which are received after the application deadline, as well as candidatures that do not meet the requirements mentioned above, shall not be taken into consideration.

5. Fellows Selection

Candidates will be selected by the *For Women in Science Egypt Young Talents* jury chaired by the President of the jury, Professor Nagwa Abdelmaguid.

The results will be communicated by phone and email to the three fellows after deliberations of the jury in charge of granting the fellowships. They must remain confidential until the Fellowship Awards Ceremony.

The decision of the jury cannot be contested or subject to explanation or justification.

6. Fellows Commitment

Fellows must commit to:

- Pursue the research work for which the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Egypt* Fellowship was obtained, failing that, the total amount of the fellowship must be immediately refunded to the L'Oréal entity that granted the amount.
- Within one year after receiving their fellowships, fellows are expected to submit a status report on the awarded research project to L'Oréal Egypt.
- Within one year after receiving their fellowships, Fellows are expected to submit to L'Oréal Egypt a final financial expenditure statement on the actual fellowship expenditure incurred on the research project or Thesis project.
- The three awarded fellows will be expected to attend the Fellowship Awards Ceremony that will be held during December 2025. **Attendance is mandatory.**

The payment of the fellowships will be made directly to the fellows after the Fellowship Awards Ceremony, and after having signed the contract and received the original documents for the wire transfer of funds. The fellowships are not transferable for any other purpose whatsoever.

7. Communication

Fellows shall mention the Fellowship “L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Egypt Young Talents Program* Fellowship”, in all publications and other forms of media communication, including media appearances, press releases and conferences that result from or are in any way connected to the research project wherever possible. Fellows must inform L'Oréal Egypt of any publications and other forms of media communication as above.

Fellows agree to be photographed, filmed, and interviewed for noncommercial objectives and *For Women in Science* program-related purposes. These photos, videos and texts will be used in publications and audiovisual means including but not limited to written press, television, internet, photographs, and brochures including distribution to the media in Egypt and worldwide. A separate written authorization shall be signed by each of the fellows. Fellows will not receive any remuneration for such promotional activity.

8. Timetable

- Application opening date: **31st of January 2025**
- Application closing date: **17th of August 2025**
- Attribution of applications and first review by the jury members: **from the 18th of August to the 31st of August 2025**
- Second review of applications by the jury for semi-finalists: **from the 1st of September to the 15th of September 2025**
- Announcement of the winners: **End of November 2025**
- **Fellowship Awards Ceremony**: December 2025 - the exact date will be announced later.

9. Rules and Regulations

By applying to L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Egypt* Fellowships, candidates agree to the rules and regulations posted on the online platform <https://www.forwomeninscience.com/>