



RULES AND REGULATIONS

L'OREAL-UNESCO FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE LEVANT YOUNG TALENTS PROGRAMME - 2021

1. Introduction

L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Levant Young talents programme* aims to promote the participation of young women in science coming from **Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syrian Arab Republic**. This programme identifies and rewards talented young female researchers in the field of Life Sciences (such as biology, biochemistry, biophysics, genetics, physiology, health sciences – Covid-19, 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 Programme honors **six talented young Arab women researchers** for the quality of their research works and encourages them to pursue a brilliant career in science in the above-mentioned countries.

- **3 endowments amounting to Ten thousand Euros (€ 10,000 or equivalent in local currency)** each will be granted to Arab women researchers working in Research Laboratory, Institute, or University in one of the following countries: Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syrian Arab Republic.
- **3 endowments amounting to Six thousand Euros (€ 6,000 or equivalent in local currency)** each will be granted to Arab women pursuing a PhD (doctoral degree) in Research Laboratory, Institute, or University in one of the following countries: Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Syrian Arab Republic. The total amount will be used to cover the travel and accommodation costs related to scientific visits, trainings, specialized courses etc. of minimum two months abroad. This one should occur within maximum one year from the ceremony day.

The L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Levant Young Talents Programme is funded by the Fondation L'Oréal



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 2015-2020 are eligible.
- Being of Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese, Palestinian, or Syrian nationality.
- Working in a Research Laboratory, Institute, or University in one of the countries mentioned in paragraph 1.
- Candidates must be no more than 40 years old (taking into account the year of birth).

B- PhD Students:

Applicants must meet the following general criteria:

- Having obtained a Bachelor (B.Sc.) and a Master (M.Sc.) degrees, or equivalent, in one of the science fields mentioned in paragraph 1.
- Should be full time student in PhD and having registered in the 2nd year of the PhD programme, or one year before the thesis defense.
- Being of Iraqi, Jordanian, Lebanese, Palestinian, or Syrian nationality.
- Working in a Research Laboratory, Institute, or University in one of the countries mentioned in paragraph 1.
- Candidates must be no more than 30 years old (taking into account the year of birth).

3. Selection Criteria

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

- The candidate's outstanding academic record (including number, quality and impact of the scientific publications, conference presentations, 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 female researchers.
- The candidate's career-path.



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

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

4. Applications

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

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

A - Postdoctoral Researchers:

- CV including:
 - Professional career: awarded fellowships, previous post-doctoral trainings, scientific visits, workshops, previous jobs, and various distinctions, etc.
 - Previous achievements of the candidate in her field of research (short list - not to exceed 50 words)
 - Scientific production: article, books, conferences, etc.
 - Candidate's activities having an impact on the development of scientific research in her country (administrative functions related to research, coordination of national and international projects, lecturing, etc. (not to exceed 100 words)
 - Collaborations and partnerships with foreign institutions (table mentioning the type of collaboration, project title, partner institution, researchers, project funding, achievements, etc.)
- Copies of the degrees or recent diplomas: certificates of PhD, M.Sc. and B.Sc. (or equivalent), etc.
- Letters of recommendation from the research supervisor and/or the director of the scientific institution where the research project is carried or the Dean of the Faculty or the President of the University under which the candidate is running her research.



B – PhD Students:

- CV including:
 - Administrative overview about the PhD: starting date, expected date of graduation, Supervisor, institution, scholarship, etc.
 - Previous achievements of the candidate in her field of research (short list - not to exceed 50 words)
 - Scientific production: article, books, conferences, etc.
 - Candidate's activities having an impact on the development of scientific research in her country (administrative functions related to research, coordination of national and international projects, lecturing, etc. (not to exceed 100 words)
 - Collaborations and partnerships with foreign institutions (table mentioning the type of collaboration, project title, partner institution, researchers, project funding, achievements, etc.)
- 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.
- Letters of recommendation from the thesis advisor and/or the director of the scientific institution where the thesis research project is carried 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 center or specialized laboratory abroad for scientific visits, trainings, specialized courses etc. in the thesis domain. If not available, this letter could be replaced by a letter of intent in which the candidate clearly specifies the hosting institution and the targeted course or training. However, if selected, the candidate perceives the endowment 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. Young Talents Selection

Candidates will be selected by the *For Women in Science* Levant jury chaired by **Professor Mouin Hamzé**.

The results will be communicated by phone and email to the six Young Talents after deliberations of the jury in charge of granting the endowments. They must remain confidential until the Levant Young Talents' ceremony.

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

6. Young Talents Commitment

Young Talents must commit to:

- Pursue the research work for which the L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* Levant endowment was obtained, failing that, the total amount of the endowment must be immediately refunded to the L'Oréal entity that granted the amount.
- Within one year after receiving their endowments, Young Talents are expected to submit a status report on the awarded research project to L'Oréal Liban SAL.
- Within one year after receiving their endowments, Young Talents are expected to submit to L'Oréal Liban SAL a final financial expenditure statement on the actual endowment expenditure incurred on the research project or Thesis project.
- The six Young Talents will be expected to attend the Levant Awards Ceremony that will be held during the month of October 2021 in Lebanon. Exact date will be announced on a later stage
- Attendance is mandatory. The travel and accommodation expenses for Young Talents will be covered by L'Oréal Liban SAL.

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



7. Communication

Young Talents shall mention “L’Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Levant Young talents programme*”, 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. Young Talents must inform L’Oréal Liban SAL of any publications and other forms of media communication as above.

Young Talents agree to be photographed, filmed and interviewed for noncommercial objectives and *For Women in Science* programme 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 the Levant countries, and worldwide. A separate written authorization shall be signed by each of the Young Talents. Young Talents will not receive any remuneration for such promotional activity.

8. Timetable

- Application opening date: **4 February 2021**
- Application closing date: **2 May 2021**
- Attribution of applications and first review by jury members: **from 3 May to 4 June 2021**
- Second review of applications by the jury for semi-finalists: **from 5 to 22 June 2021**
- Selection of Young Talents and announcement: **1st week of July 2021**
- Awards' Ceremony: **October 2021. Exact date will be announced on a later stage**

9. Rules and Regulations

By applying to L’Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science Levant Young talents programme*, candidates agree to the rules and regulations posted on the online platform www.forwomeninscience.com