

## 2026 POLICIES & GUIDELINES

Fondation Pour l'Audition, hereinafter referred to as "FPA", supports scientific research in Hearing Sciences with the ultimate goal of improving hearing health. FPA is committed to support excellence in hearing research by awarding scientific prizes, such as the FPA Scientific Grand Prize (hereinafter referred to as "*the Prize*").

### ARTICLE 1. OBJECTIVE

The FPA Scientific Grand Prize is awarded annually to an investigator in recognition of the excellence and impact of his/her work in Hearing. The Prize will honor major research discoveries, either clinical or basic, in the field of Hearing. FPA welcomes nominations related to topics in hearing sciences, auditory neurosciences, brain imaging, social and human sciences, disability, speech... Translational research is encouraged.

### ARTICLE 2. ELIGIBILITY

The Prize is open to investigators holding a faculty position as either M.D., Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. and still active in research/practice (Emeritus status not eligible).

Prizes may be shared by different investigators. Previous laureates of the FPA Scientific Grand Prize are not allowed to reapply for the Prize. Current and past members of the FPA Board of Directors are ineligible. Also, current members of the FPA Scientific Committee are ineligible.

### ARTICLE 3. OVERALL PROCESS TIMETABLE



### ARTICLE 4. NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations to the Prize may only be submitted by a peer. Self-nominations are excluded. Members of the FPA Scientific Committee cannot submit nominations.

#### 4.1 Required documents - All the documents must be submitted in English ONLY.

In order to nominate a candidate, a peer will need to:

- fill out the nomination application form,
- provide the CV (documenting the candidate's academic records, professional experience, distinctions and awards, main lectures/presentations) and the full list of publications of the candidate,
- obtain a letter of support.

#### 4.2 Electronic submission

The documents (2 MB max) must be submitted electronically as PDF files through the e-submission portal at <https://www.fondationpourl audition.org/scientific-prizes-786-en> by May 16, 2025 at 5 PM (French time).

No supplementary material other than the documents requested are accepted.

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### 4.3 General considerations

Incomplete applications or applications not complying with the FPA policies will be administratively rejected. Any misleading or false statements will render the application null and void. Late applications will not be accepted. If you nominated a candidate for the prize in previous years, we invite you to resubmit your nomination with an up-to-date resume.

### 4.4 Acknowledgment of receipt

Upon receipt of the electronic application by FPA, the nominator will receive an acknowledgment of receipt to the e-mail address provided in the nomination form.

## ARTICLE 5. PEER-REVIEW PROCESS

The FPA policies are intended to ensure that all nominations are evaluated on a fair and timely process, free of bias.

### 5.1 Admissibility and review process

FPA verifies the admissibility of nominations and compliance with the present FPA policies.

Compliant nominations will be evaluated by the FPA Scientific Committee. The FPA Scientific Committee<sup>1</sup> will select the laureate of the Prize as the one reaching the absolute majority of votes. In the event of a tie, the chair of the FPA Scientific Committee will have the casting vote.

### 5.2 Evaluation criteria

Nominations will be evaluated using the following evaluation criteria:

- The quality of the candidate and their recognition within the research community
- The expertise, past experiences and achievements of the candidate
- The originality, quality and excellence of the candidate's research work
- The impact of the candidate's research on hearing health.

The FPA Scientific Committee is sovereign in its deliberations, which are confidential and not subject to any appeal in any way by the nominator, their institution or the candidate.

If the quality of the nominations does not meet the FPA requirements, the FPA Scientific Committee is free to dismiss all the applications and not award any Prize.

The award recipient proposed by the FPA Scientific Committee is subjected to the approval of the FPA Board of Directors.

### 5.3 Breach of review

Candidates, nominators, as well as their institution's representatives, may not contact any member of the FPA Scientific Committee regarding their application during the review process.

Failure to comply with this policy will create serious breaches of confidentiality and conflicts of interest in the peer review process that will lead to the administrative rejection of the nomination.

Members of the FPA Scientific Committee are required to notify FPA if they are contacted by an applicant.

## ARTICLE 6. AWARD CONSIDERATIONS

### 6.1 Prize amount

The amount of the Prize is set to sixty-five thousand euros (65,000 €) divided in 2 parts:

- Personal prize of 40,000 € (subject to tax regulation), and
- Optional sabbatical prize of 25,000 € to cover for a short scientific sabbatical in France (at least 1 month) to be organized in the 3 years following awarding of the prize<sup>2</sup>.

The wire transfer of the personal prize will be made after the award ceremony to the laureate's bank account.

### 6.2 Prize conditions

The Prize will be awarded to the laureate subjected to:

- the signature of the FPA Charter of Commitments by the laureate for the personal prize,
- the signature of the FPA Charter of Commitments by the laureate for the sabbatical prize,
- the signature of a grant agreement with the laureate's institution for the sabbatical leave,
- the presence of the laureate at the award ceremony in March 2026 in Paris, France<sup>3</sup>, and
- one public lecture in France in March 2026 that will be videotaped and used in FPA media<sup>3</sup>.

1. <https://www.fondationpourlaudition.org/fondation-pour-laudition-778-en>

2. If the laureate is French, they will be offered an optional sabbatical prize of 25,000 € to cover for a short scientific sabbatical abroad.

3. Costs related to the travel and accommodation of the laureate will be covered by FPA.

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FPA may replace both events by e-events and modify their dates if required but the laureate's commitment shall remain the same.

## ARTICLE 7. SUSPENSION, CANCELLATION OR ADJOURNMENT OF THE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

If circumstances require it or for reasons beyond its control, FPA reserves the right to modify the present policies or to suspend, cancel or adjourn the organization of the 2026 call for nominations of the FPA Scientific Grand Prize without affecting its liability. Also, the prize competition will be cancelled in case only one nomination is received. However, the Prize may no longer be cancelled after the plenary meeting of the FPA Scientific Committee held to select the laureate, unless the FPA Scientific Committee is unable to get to the Prize ceremony due to unforeseen circumstances.

## ARTICLE 8. KEY DATES

Launch of the call	March 2026
Nomination deadline	May 16, 2025
Scientific Committee meeting	June 2025
Meeting of the Board of Directors	Late June 2025
Prize notification	July 2025
Prize ceremony	March 2026

## ARTICLE 9. SUPPORT

For assistance, contact the FPA Chief Scientific Officer at:  
FONDATION POUR L'AUDITION - 13, rue Moreau - 75012 Paris, France  
e-mail: [research@pourlaudition.org](mailto:research@pourlaudition.org)

