



# Fundación Jesús Serra Research Awards

4th edition

The Fundación Jesús Serra announces the 4th edition of the Fundación Jesús Serra Research Awards, which aim to promote, showcase and disseminate research of excellence in Spain in food and nutrition, recognizing the dedication of young scientists and the progress made in these fields.

As has been noted for many years, the main external factor that contributes to the normal development of health at all ages is food. This direct link has been consolidated to the point of confirming that lifestyles and eating habits are able to prevent and improve the clinical situation of some illnesses.

## 1. Fundación Jesús Serra

The Fundación Jesús Serra is a private non-profit entity created in the name of Jesús Serra Santamans, a renowned businessman and patron, founder of Grupo Catalana Occidente, which aims to support initiatives in culture, business, teaching, music, sports, social action and research.

*“The Foundation works to help achieve a better society for all, always guided by values such as solidarity, hard work and team work, inspired by the humanitarian awareness that characterized Jesús Serra Santamans, founder of Grupo Catalana Occidente.”*

*Federico Halpern, President, Fundación Jesús Serra.*

### Origins

Fundación Jesús Serra was born in the heart of Grupo Catalana Occidente in 1998, with the aim of channelling the sponsorship and patronage work that the insurance company had been developing over the last century.



## 2. Call for submissions

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The Fundación Jesús Serra is announcing the 4th edition of the Fundación Jesús Serra Research Awards in order to recognize the excellence and the level of young Spanish and international researchers in the fields of food and nutrition, awarding the research career and project.

**Two categories award researchers' careers and their current projects:**

1. Basic research
2. Clinical research

### When to submit applications

Completion and submission of applications must take place between 17 January and 1 April 2021, inclusive.

Additional information about the process:  
[www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research](http://www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research)

## 3. Candidate Profile

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Candidates must meet each and every one of the following requirements:

- Have not turned 46 years old by the closing day of this call, 1 April 2022.\*
- Be a Spanish or foreign researcher with a minimum of 3 years of research in Spain.
- Be a researcher\*\* in the field of food and nutrition and be seconded, or belong to a research centre or Spanish university of recognised prestige.
- Have been nominated by their project managers or relevant persons linked to universities, hospitals or research centers and networks in Spain.

\* The researcher's age may exceed 46 if the candidate has temporarily interrupted his or her career as a result of the birth or adoption of children and their care during the first months of life. Proof of these extended months must be provided with the relevant official documentation.

\*\* Researcher is taken to mean a person who carries out research and analysis in order to increase the knowledge of a specific subject.

## 4. The awards

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The FJS Research Awards recognize a trajectory of research excellence that includes outstanding contributions research in food with an impact in health. The two award categories are:

**Basic research:** that which seeks to generate new knowledge or improve existing knowledge with respect to molecular mechanisms, cellular or genetic, possibly involved in the health-disease process.\*\*\*

**Clinical research:** in which people, data or human tissue samples are studied in order to understand health and disease.

**The research under consideration may be carried out in any of the following fields of activity:**

- Clinical Nutrition
- Metabolism
- Epidemiology
- Genetics and Molecular Biology
- Food Science and Technology

\*\*\* Elaboration based on various definitions found in academic articles.

If the research project accompanying the application is in the **pre-clinical** phase, the category should reflect the long-term objectives of this line of research.

## 4. The awards (Cont.)

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### Evaluation criteria

In order to ensure the winners are chosen under the most objective and impartial terms, the following attributes will be assessed in the selection:

1

#### Education of the researcher

The prizewinner should have an excellent academic background and/ or professional experience. Researchers who have received academic recognition, or those who have previously spent time abroad, will be highly valued.

2

#### Innovative characteristics

One of the features to look for in candidates and their research career will be any distinctive elements in the subject matter of their research or the technology and methods applied.

3

#### Impact of research

The candidate's number of publications and their scope will be taken into account. Research-invited talks as well as leadership or important contributions to research projects will also be considered research merits.

4

#### Social benefits

The jury will assess the contribution of their research to the creation of a high added-value to society. That is, the field of research should address a relevant societal problem with a direct link between food and health.

5

#### Scope of research

Key elements of the project and the scientific trajectory will also be valued, such as international projection or the potential to transfer the knowledge generated to other disciplines.

6

#### Use of the financial endowment

It is a prerequisite that the prize money will be invested in research. Indirect costs are not financed.

## 5. The jury

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The jury responsible for selecting the winners is comprised of five members with recognised prestige in the field of medicine and biology from national and international research centers of excellence. The jury expands each year with the two winners from the previous edition. There will also be one representative of the Fundación Jesús Serra acting as secretary, without the right to vote. As such, the jury is made up of a total of eight members.

### The jury's decision:

**Simple majority:** The final decision on the candidates to be awarded in each category will be made once a simple majority has been reached. The decision is final and must be sufficiently reasoned.

**Conflict of interest:** Members of the jury cannot endorse candidates. In the event of any conflict of interest, the jury member must abstain from the vote.

**In-person and non-delegable vote:** Jury members' votes must be made in person at the time of the vote, and are non-delegable.

**Un-awarded prizes:** In the event that none of the candidates under consideration meet the requirements or objectives of the awards, the jury reserves the right not to award any prizes.

**Interpretation of the rules of submission:** The jury has the authority to solve, together with the Management of the Fundación Jesús Serra, any other question regarding the interpretation of the rules of submission which may arise.

**The jury's decision will be announced on the website:** [www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research](http://www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research) in June 2022.

For more information about the professional profiles of the jury members, visit the website: [www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research/jury](http://www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research/jury)

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## 6. Submission of applications

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### Each proposal must consist of:

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#### Application form

Completion and presentation of applications must be done in Spanish or English, and must be submitted through the website: [www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research](http://www.fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research)

2

#### Supporting letter

All applications must be endorsed by at least one letter of support from the head of research or a relevant person linked to universities, hospitals or research centers and networks.

3

#### Candidate's CV

All applications must be accompanied by the candidate's abbreviated CV in PDF format including the impact factor and the position of the candidate in each role, as well as their role and contribution to the projects in which they have participated.

4

#### Research project

All applications must be accompanied by a relevant research project, either in progress or in the process of being financed, with relevant participation of the candidate.

Candidates who have not won in previous editions may re-submit their application. If they wish to retrieve information previously submitted in electronic forms for this edition, they may contact the Awards secretary via the email: [investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com](mailto:investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com)

Candidates will guarantee, with total indemnity for the Fundación Jesús Serra, the veracity of information provided, as well as the authorship, ownership and exploitation rights vis-a-vis third parties of all graphic materials, trade names and other information included in the documents on which the application is based. The application must not have been submitted in parallel to any other competition for which the result is yet to be announced.

The Awards organisation undertakes to maintain the confidentiality of all data and not to disclose the identity of the candidates until the jury makes its decision.

## 7. Awards ceremony

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### Awards ceremony

The awards ceremony will take place in Madrid on 15 June 2022. The prizewinners are required to attend this event.

### Prize

The prize for the Jesús Serra Research Awards will be €35,000 for each category: basic and clinical. The amount should be invested in research.

Payments will be split and delivered in month 1, after the award is delivered, and 12 after receiving from the winners a progress report on the investigation.

### Specific conditions

Attendance of the awards ceremony is mandatory. In case of overwhelming force, the winner will have to appoint a delegate to attend the ceremony.

The winners agree to participate in the activities of the Fundación Jesús Serra, such as debates, talks and/ or meetings. The Fundación Jesús Serra may request the winners to make a brief annual report on their career progress during the two years following

the award. In this case, the report will be sent to the Fundación Jesús Serra through the email address: [investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com](mailto:investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com) or by regular mail to: Fundación Jesús Serra, Avda. Alcalde Barnils, núm. 63, 08174 Sant Cugat del Vallès.

## 8. Use of information

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### Information included in the form:

- Fundació Jesús Serra will be able to publicise the winning projects in the way it considers most appropriate for its dissemination.
- As such, participants expressly accept and authorize that the data of the resolution (name of the winner, institution and summary of the candidacy) as well as any images and/or sound recorded during the awards ceremony may be disseminated via any medium, publicity or media, including the website of the Fundació Jesús Serra and Grupo Catalana Occidente as well as their profiles on social media, in order to inform and publicise the Awards.
- Participants expressly disclaim any type of compensation, either financial or of any other nature, for the recording and use of their image and/or voice in the context of the current Jesús Serra Research Awards.

## 9. Data Protection

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### Personal data included in the form:

- The personal data provided in order to participate in the Awards will be stored in a file owned by the organisation, under the responsibility of the Fundació Jesús Serra, whose purpose is to manage the awards and provide publicity. In addition, this data may be transferred, for identical purposes, to the entities that make up Grupo Catalana Occidente (identified on the website [www.grupocatalanaoccidente.com](http://www.grupocatalanaoccidente.com)).
- The exercise of rights to access, rectification, removal, objection to processing, restriction of processing and data portability and cancellation, in accordance with the provisions of the General Rules of Data Protection, must be carried out by sending an email to [lopd@catalanaoccidente.com](mailto:lopd@catalanaoccidente.com) or via post to Fundació Jesús Serra (Avda. Alcalde Barnils, núm. 63, 08174 Sant Cugat del Vallès).

## 10. Acceptance and special conditions

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- The application of a candidate does not exempt the possibility of their participation in future editions.
- Submission of an application implies fully accepting these terms and conditions.
- Fundació Jesús Serra reserves the right to cancel all or part of this competition if, for reasons beyond its control, it becomes necessary, and such cancellation implies no responsibility for the Fundació Jesús Serra.
- Any queries regarding the Awards must be sent to the email [investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com](mailto:investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com)