

5th edition

Fundación Jesús Serra Research Awards

Food, nutrition and health

From 24 January to 5 May 2023

Fundación Jesús Serra announces the 5th edition of the Fundación Jesús Serra Research Awards, which aim to **promote, showcase and disseminate research of excellence in Spain in food and nutrition, with an impact on health.**

Who can apply?

These awards recognise the research careers and contributions to these fields of two young researchers working in Spain. Applications can be submitted in two categories: **basic research** and **clinical research**.

When to apply?

Applications must be completed and submitted **between 24 January and 5 May 2023** inclusive. Additional information on the process: fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research

Fundación Jesús Serra

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 channeling the sponsorship and patronage work that the insurance company had been developing over the last century.



The awards

The Fundació Jesús Serra Research Awards recognise a trajectory of research excellence that includes outstanding contributions to research in food with an impact in health. **In each edition, a prize is awarded in each of the following categories:**

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

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
- And, in general, biomedical research that intersects with nutrition.

* 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.

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 prize winner 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 be invested in research. Any expenditure necessary for the implementation of the project submitted, including personnel, goods and services, subcontracting costs and equipment, may be covered with the prize money. Indirect costs are not covered.

Candidate Profile

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

- Have not turned 46 years old by the closing day of this call, 5 May 2023.*
- Be a Spanish and/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 centres 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.

The jury

The jury responsible for selecting the winners is composed of **five members with recognised prestige in the field of medicine and biology from national and international research centres of excellence**. The jury expands each year with the two winners from the previous edition. There will also be one representative from 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.

Unawarded 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 resolve, together with the Management of 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: fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research and at the Awards Ceremony in October 2023.

For more information about the professional profiles of the jury members, visit the website: fundacionjesusserra.org/eng/awards-research

Submission of applications

Each proposal must consist of:

1. Application form

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

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.

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 a university, hospital, research centre or networks.

4. Research project

All applications must be accompanied by a relevant research project, either in progress or currently 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

Candidates will guarantee, with total indemnity for 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.

Awards ceremony

Awards ceremony

The awards ceremony will take place in Madrid on 18 October 2023. The prize winners 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 the winners have submitted a progress report on their research.

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 activities organised by Fundación Jesús Serra, such as debates, talks and meetings. Fundación Jesús Serra may request the winners to produce a brief annual report on their career progress during the two years following the award. In this case, the report should be sent to Fundación Jesús Serra via the email address: investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com or by regular mail to: Fundación Jesús Serra, Avda. Alcalde Barnils, núm. 63, 08174 Sant Cugat del Vallès.

Use of information

Information included in the form and personal data:

- 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 authorise 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 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.

Data Protection

Information included in the form and personal data:

- 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 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 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 or via post to Fundació Jesús Serra (Avda. Alcalde Barnils, núm. 63, 08174 Sant Cugat del Vallès).

Acceptance and special conditions

- 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 Fundació Jesús Serra.
- Any queries regarding the Awards must be sent to the email investigacionfjs@fundacionjesusserra.com