

LEO Foundation Awards



APPLICATION GUIDE

2025

Let's pave the way for curing skin diseases



LEO FOUNDATION

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2025 call and deadlines

LEO Foundation Awards

The LEO Foundation Awards recognize outstanding young researchers and scientists from around the world whose work represents an extraordinary contribution to skin research and has the potential to pave the way for new and improved treatments for skin diseases.

A LEO Foundation Award is worth USD 100,000.

Three awards are given each year, one in each of the regions: Americas, EMEA (Europe, Middle East, Africa) and Asia-Pacific.

DEADLINES for self-nomination:

- **Region Americas: 9 January 2025 (16:00 CET)**
- **Region EMEA: 3 April 2025 (16:00 CEST)**
- **Region Asia-Pacific: 26 June 2025 (16:00 CEST)**

The 2025 LEO Foundation Awards are presented during regional conferences:

- Region Americas: 2025 SID Annual Meeting, 7-10 May 2025, San Diego, US
- Region EMEA: 54th Annual ESDR Meeting, 10-13 September 2025, Antwerp, BE
- Region Asia-Pacific: The 50th Annual Meeting of JSID, 5-7 December 2025, Kofu, JPN

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Further information:

www.leo-foundation.org/en/grants-and-awards/leo-foundation-awards/

Eligibility information

The LEO Foundation Awards constitute global recognition of individual scientists who represent excellence and advance our understanding of skin and skin diseases. Our regional awards - of USD 100,000 each - are given annually to outstanding young scientists within regions Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific, whose work represent extraordinary contributions to dermatology research.

An applicant must

- Have their primary workplace within the relevant region at the time of being selected as awardee
- Be between 30 and 40 years of age at the time of being selected as awardee. Natural and reasonable career breaks such as paternity/maternity leave, military service or the like may be deducted if the periods of leave are clearly stated with start and end dates and total number of weeks in the Applicant Details section of the application. Specifically for parental leave, applicants who have taken maternity or paternity leave can deduct the actual number of weeks of leave multiplied by 2.0. For other types of leave, the actual number of weeks of leave can be deducted.
- Be able to demonstrate scientific merit in the form of at least 5 peer-reviewed first author, co-first author, or last author publications within skin-related research
- Be an active scientist within skin-related research
- Agree to become a 'LEO Foundation Alumni' with accompanying obligations, if selected as awardee.

An applicant cannot

- Have commercial or cosmetic/aesthetic research as their primary focus
- Have personal or financial ties to LEO Pharma, including involvement in, e.g., sponsored studies or clinical trials at PI level
- Be an earlier recipient of a LEO Foundation Award
- Be an earlier recipient of another prize or award (personal or for research) exceeding a value of USD 50,000. Regular research grants are exempt from this condition.

Self-nomination content

1. Applicant details

This tab is partly auto populated from the user account profile. If you wish to add your job (business or academic) title to the application, you need to update this under your Personal Profile found under the single letter icon at the top right corner of the screen and it will then be added upon next save.

Mandatory fields to complete are your Date of Birth and Career Breaks (if any). Periods of leave must be listed if you wish them to be deducted, including start and end dates and total number of weeks (for parental leave, the actual number of weeks of leave multiplied by 2.0, cf. the Eligibility Criteria).

2. Application Form:

This tab is for the actual application and contain sections for:

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV):** Please upload a comprehensive CV including all relevant information needed for a proper evaluation – e.g. career positions, educational background, teaching and/or reviewing experience, patents, independent funding, and publications. Your CV should not exceed five pages.
- **Letter of Recommendation:** Please upload a supportive letter from a current or previous head of unit, mentor, collaborator or colleague at a more senior academic level – at least Associate Professor.

Applicant Research Profile:

- **Research experience to date (max 250 words):** Here you should describe your previous scientific work on which the application is based.
- **Peer-reviewed work published to date (max 10 publications, no abstracts):** Please list up to 10 of your strongest published, peer-reviewed publications (e-pub is accepted). Please include DOIs or direct links to either publisher or bibliometric database.

- **Current and previous independent grant funding and fellowships** (last three years, max five grants/awards): Please list up to five grants/fellowships or awards you have received as PI or co-PI during the last three years.
- **Vision of your future research** (max 500 words): Please describe here your vision for your future work and how this aligns with your previous achievements. Also, remember to describe how you envision your research will eventually create impact – both in the scientific community, the general public and for decision makers and patients alike.

Evaluation process

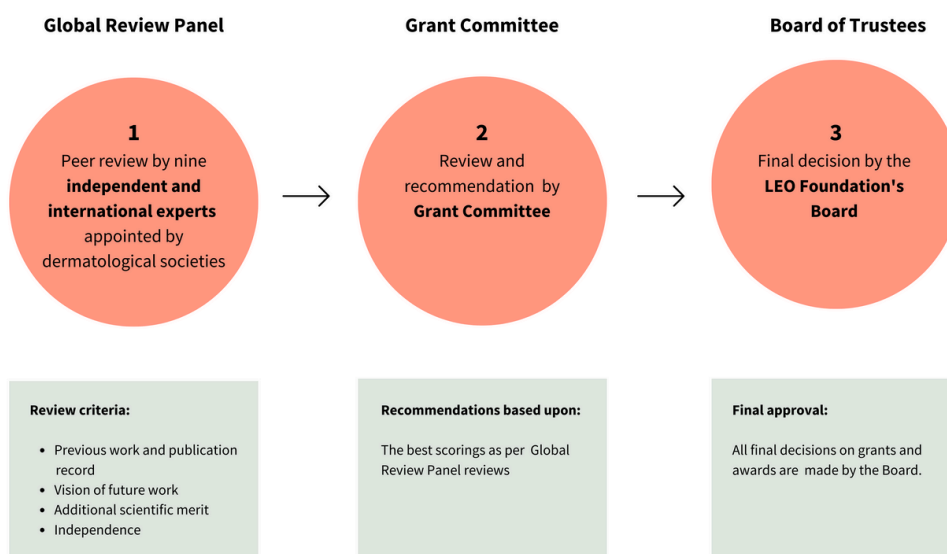
Once the call deadline has expired, the LEO Foundation screens your application for formal requirements. If approved, it is sent to an independent expert committee – the Global Review Panel – for evaluation. The Global Review Panel consists of recognized scientists appointed by the International Societies for Investigative Dermatology (ISID). The current composition of the panel can be found on our [website](#).

The LEO Foundation will ensure an independent and unbiased evaluation process in which all applications will be evaluated based on the same criteria and towards the same scientific level. It will normally take approximately three months from application deadline to award decision.

The evaluation will focus on four main areas: 1) Previous work and publication record 2) Vision of future work 3) Additional scientific merit (e.g., reviewing experience, undergraduate and graduate student supervision, societal appointments, and organizer of scientific meetings etc.) and 4) Independence (incl. ability to obtain independent funding)

Once you have completed your application you can submit it. Please note that if any mandatory elements are missing you will not be able to submit. You will be notified by email if there are changes requested and when a decision regarding your application has been made.

Application process:



Application system

As a first step, please consult the eligibility criteria and requirements for the content of your self-nomination, as described in this Application Guide. We also recommend that you read the [award terms and conditions](#) carefully to ensure that you and your host organization can comply with its conditions.

Next, please log in to the application system here: https://leo-foundation.smartsimple.ie/s_Login.jsp



If you are accessing the system for the first time you will need to create a user account and fill in all mandatory information before you can apply. Otherwise, just log in with your existing credentials. Remember that your password will need renewal every 90 days.

Once you have completed your user account profile you can create applications for any open award calls if you are eligible. Once you have created a draft application you can edit it at any time until the submission deadline for the related call.

The application form will initially present you with an acceptance screen where you will need to accept both the award terms and conditions (available through a link) and the eligibility criteria in order to proceed. Upon acceptance you will get access to the actual application form. If you experience any problems, feel free to contact the LEO Foundation at awards@leo-foundation.org.

The content of this application guide may be subject to change. Changes relevant for a given call will be implemented prior to opening of that call.

The LEO Foundation is one of the largest private funders globally of independent skin research. The Foundation provides philanthropic grants with the aim to support the best international research in skin diseases and make Denmark a global beacon for skin research.

Over the past decade, the LEO Foundation has supported independent skin research with more than EUR 195 million.

www.leo-foundation.org



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