

ISSCD–SSCD Young Investigator Prize

Charter

1. PRIZE OVERVIEW

1.1 Purpose

The ISSCD–SSCD Young Investigator Prize recognizes the exceptional achievements of an investigator in the early part of their career in celiac disease research. The Prize is awarded biennially and is announced jointly by the International Society for the Study of Celiac Disease (ISSCD) and the Society for the Study of Celiac Disease (SSCD).

1.2 Prize Amount

The Prize is awarded in the amount of \$7,500 USD as a reimbursement for eligible academic and research expenses. Eligible expenses are those directly related to the Laureate's celiac disease research activities, including the advancement of their academic career in the field. Expenses must be documented with original receipts and submitted within 12 months of the award date.

1.3 Prize Administration

The Prize is jointly administered by ISSCD and SSCD.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Prize, a candidate must:

- Hold an MD, DO, PhD, MD/PhD, or equivalent degree.
- Be within ten years of their first academic or research appointment at the time of nomination.
- Be working in an academic or clinical research setting at the rank of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or equivalent.
- Be conducting original research in basic science, clinical care, or translational science in the field of celiac disease.
- Be living at the time of award and able to accept the Prize at the ICDS Gala Dinner or similar ceremony.

2.2 Career Interruptions

Time away from research for parental leave, serious illness, or other qualifying career interruptions will not be counted against the ten-year eligibility window, provided appropriate documentation is supplied upon request.

2.3 Exclusions

The following individuals are not eligible for nomination:

- Employees of for-profit pharmaceutical or biotechnology companies.

- Prior Prize Laureates.

The Prize is awarded based on actual research contributions, and not for the establishment or development of a research institution or research infrastructure.

2.4 Official Language

English is the official language for Prize administration, including the nomination process, deliberations, and all associated materials.

3. SELECTION JURY

3.1 Purpose

The Selection Jury is responsible for reviewing nominations, deliberating, and selecting the Prize Laureate.

3.2 Composition

The Selection Jury shall be comprised of a minimum of five (5) Jurors appointed by ISSCD and SSCD, with priority given to individuals who have served in national or international capacities in the field of celiac disease research. Jurors may be reappointed in successive award cycles with no limit to the number of reappointments.

3.3 Chairperson

ISSCD and SSCD shall jointly appoint one (1) Chairperson of the Selection Jury. The Chairperson shall be a non-voting member and shall coordinate and moderate the selection process. An alternate Chairperson will also be appointed in the event that the Chairperson must recuse themselves due to a conflict of interest with any of the nominees.

3.4 Conflict of Interest

Jurors who are nominated for the Prize and accept their nomination may not serve on the Selection Jury for that award cycle. Jurors are asked not to discuss or confer regarding potential nominees or actual nominations with other Jurors prior to or outside of official deliberations.

4. NOMINATIONS

4.1 Nomination Process

The Prize is not open to self-application. Nominations may be made by members of the Selection Jury and by the broader celiac disease research community through an open call for nominations. Nominators may include senior researchers, clinicians, and established investigators in the field. ISSCD and SSCD will coordinate directly with all nominees on all aspects of the nomination process.

4.2 Open Call for Nominations

ISSCD and SSCD will make an open call for nominations of no more than 500 words to give the community an opportunity to nominate candidates for the Prize. Only nominations submitted during the specified timeframe will be considered. ISSCD and SSCD will compile all nominations and distribute them to the Selection Jury.

Any person submitting a nomination is prohibited from making unsolicited contact with Jurors regarding nominations. Violating this rule will result in withdrawal of the nomination.

4.3 Nomination Dossier

A Nomination Dossier will be compiled for each nominee and circulated to the Jurors prior to deliberations. The dossier shall consist of:

- A nomination statement of no more than 500 words addressing the selection criteria.
- The nominee's curriculum vitae with career and publication highlights.

5. DELIBERATIONS AND SELECTION

5.1 Quorum

A quorum of five (5) Jurors must be present for the entirety of deliberations.

5.2 Confidentiality

Deliberations shall be confidential and closed. Only Selection Jury members and representatives of ISSCD and SSCD may be present. The names of all unselected nominees shall remain confidential.

5.3 Voting Process

The slate of nominees shall be reduced by successive rounds of elimination by secret ballot. After each round, one or more nominees will be eliminated, with cut points determined by the Chairperson. Voting shall continue until two (2) nominees remain, at which point the final selection shall be made by majority vote. Should the Jurors reach a unanimous decision at any point, they may motion to close deliberations and declare the Prize Laureate.

6. ANNOUNCEMENT AND CONFERRAL

6.1 Announcement

The announcement of the Prize Laureate will be coordinated jointly by ISSCD and SSCD.

6.2 Conferral

The Prize will be officially conferred upon the Prize Laureate at the ICDS Gala Dinner, or by similar ceremony. The Prize Laureate will be invited to share brief remarks at the time of presentation.

6.3 Travel

Travel expenses to the ICDS are not provided as part of this award.

6.4 Posthumous Award

In the event that the Prize Laureate dies prior to the conferral of the Prize, the Prize for that cycle will still bear their name. The monetary award will remain in the Prize endowment and will not be distributed.

Adopted by ISSCD and SSCD, 2026