

## Trailblazer Prize Frequently Asked Questions

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### PROCESS

#### Where can I find a description of the Trailblazer Prize?

On the FNIH website: <http://www.fnih.org/TrailblazerPrize>.

#### Where can I find the online nomination form?

Go to the Trailblazer Prize page on the FNIH website (<http://www.fnih.org/TrailblazerPrize>) and look for “Submit a Nomination” at the top of the page. Click the button labeled “1 Candidate” if you are nominating one person for the prize. Click the button labeled “Team of 2 Candidates” if you are nominating a team of two people for the prize.

#### May I submit a nomination via email or post?

No, all nominations must be submitted via the online form, which can be accessed from the Trailblazer Prize page on the FNIH website (<http://www.fnih.org/TrailblazerPrize>).

#### May I nominate myself?

No.

#### Is a Word document version of the nomination form available?

Yes, from within the online nomination form. Click the link labeled “Nomination Form in Word” toward the top right-hand corner of the screen. This document is provided as a convenience to you as you draft the nomination and may not be submitted in place of the online form. If you prefer to write your nomination offline, you may then cut and paste text into the online form.

#### May I discuss my nomination with a juror?

No. It is unacceptable to contact any member of the Trailblazer Prize jury to ask about or discuss any aspect of the prize. The nomination submitted by any nominator or for any candidate who does this will be withdrawn from the competition. All questions should be addressed to [TrailblazerPrize@fnih.org](mailto:TrailblazerPrize@fnih.org) directly.

**Will you accept multiple nominations for one candidate?**

Yes.

**ONLINE FORM**

**In entering the candidate or nominator's name, I see that the drop-down list for the suffix (M.D., Ph.D., etc.) this does not include the suffix that I need—or I need to include more than one suffix.**

**What should I do?**

Unfortunately, this is a limitation of our technology. In either case, please enter the suffix as part of the last name (for example, "Jones, MPH, Ph.D.").

**I saved my nomination – how do I get back to it?**

Go to [https://www.grantrequest.com/SID\\_373/?SA=AM](https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_373/?SA=AM), *NOT* the link you used to begin your application. Enter the email address and password that you used to create your account. Your account page will open; click your pending nomination just below the teal-colored bar.

Password doesn't work? Keep reading...

**I created an account for FNIH applications in a previous year. What do I do if my password doesn't work?**

If you have difficulty logging in, just click "Forgot Password?" below the password field and a new one will be sent to you. This works ONLY if you previously created an account.

Once you have logged in you may update your password by clicking "Change E-Mail/Password" at the top left of your Applications page.

**I have already started a nomination. Can I give someone else access to complete it and submit it online?**

Yes, if you have saved the nomination and created an account. Log into your account ([https://www.grantrequest.com/SID\\_373/?SA=AM](https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_373/?SA=AM)) and you will see your pending nomination just below the teal-colored bar. DO NOT click on it. On the right-hand side of the screen under "Action," click on the icon that looks like a small person. That will open an email that you can send to the person to which you are transferring this nomination. You may edit the email subject line and text as you wish.

**I clicked on the link for my account ([https://www.grantrequest.com/SID\\_373/?SA=AM](https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_373/?SA=AM)) but instead of going to the account sign-in page it opens a nomination form or something else that doesn't look right.**

Sometimes this may happen due to the way that your web browser handles pages that you have viewed previously. Try deleting your (1) recent browsing history and (2) the cookies for grantrequest.com. (You don't need to delete *all* cookies unless you want to.)

For assistance, search on “delete history” and “delete a specific cookie” in your browser’s “Help” menu. The following sites may also be of assistance—use at your own risk:

Removing cookies: <http://www.wikihow.com/Clear-Your-Browser%27s-Cookies>

Removing history: <http://www.wikihow.com/Delete-Browsing-History>

**I am having a different technical problem with the online form. How can I get help?**

Send an email to [TrailblazerPrize@fnih.org](mailto:TrailblazerPrize@fnih.org) and we will be in touch as soon as possible. Please include your phone number in the message. We strongly encourage nominators to visit the online form prior to the submission deadline to avoid any last-minute problems.

## CONTENT

**What do you mean by “a 50-word citation of the basis for nomination”?**

The 50-word citation is a concise statement of the candidate's fitness for this prize. It should describe why he or she deserves this unique recognition as an outstanding early career clinician-scientist.

**Do you want/accept letters of support from third parties?**

Yes. Up to three brief letters (no more than two pages each) of support that specifically address the nominees' accomplishments are encouraged. Letters submitted exceeding the 2-page limit will not be included in the review process.

**May letters of support be submitted separately from the online nomination?**

No. Brief letters of support must be uploaded as part of the online nomination. Letters submitted through another mechanism (e.g., email) will not be considered during the review process.

If you do not have the letters when you are ready to submit the nomination, click the “Save and Finish Later” button and be sure to follow the instructions to create an account or access one previously created. Only letters received before the nomination deadline will be accepted.

To access your in-process nomination and attach letters of support, go to [https://www.grantrequest.com/SID\\_373/?SA=AM](https://www.grantrequest.com/SID_373/?SA=AM), *NOT* the link you used to begin your application. Enter the email address and password that you used to create your account. Your account page will open; click your pending nomination just below the teal-colored bar. Once in the nomination form, click the “Nomination” tab and go to the bottom of the page to upload additional documents.

**How long can the CV be?**

The CV may be up to 4 pages in length and contain no more than 10 citations of publications. Nominations submitted with CVs longer than 4 pages will be rejected.

**Should the CV list only 10 publications? Or should all publications be listed and only 10 highlighted for consideration?**

Yes. The CV may contain no more than 10 citations of publications on which the nomination is based. Nominations submitted with CVs listing more than 10 publications will be rejected. Those nominations may be resubmitted in accordance with the guidelines if the submission deadline has not passed.

**May the CV include books, book chapters and posters?**

Yes, if you wish. However, be aware that the jury will focus most intently on publications.

**May I submit an NIH Biosketch in lieu of a CV?**

Yes, as long as it lists no more than 10 publications.

**Should I list publications specific to one topic or should I demonstrate the breadth of a candidate’s work?**

This decision is at the discretion of the nominator. Choose the publications that you believe most strongly demonstrate the candidate’s merit.

**Are there any size restrictions for the CV?**

No, other than the need to limit publications to 10 and the length to 4 pages

**Does the nomination really consist of answers to just two questions, the CV and optional letters of support?**

Yes.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

### **What is meant by “early career”?**

We received a lot of questions about what is meant by “early career”. We define it as no more than 10 years since the completion of clinical training or 10 years from the completion of their first post-doctoral fellowship (whichever was completed last).

### **Given that the nominator must be a member of an accredited educational and/or scientific institution, what is your definition of “scientific institution?”**

For purposes of the Trailblazer Prize, we consider a scientific institution to be a not-for-profit or for-profit organization or a government agency engaged in the pursuit of or support of biomedical research.

### **Does the candidate need to be a physician to be eligible?**

No. Candidate must be a practicing clinician with at least 50% of time devoted to independent active research efforts.

### **May I nominate a scientist with whom I do not work directly?**

Yes, as long as you know his or her work well enough to make a compelling case for the nomination.

### **May I nominate a team of two researchers that has worked together?**

Yes. Two early career researchers may be nominated if they have worked as a team; in this case, at least one of the two must be a clinician-scientist. The honorarium will be divided among the winners, and each will receive a citation and an inscribed crystal prize.

### **May I nominate a team of more than two researchers that has worked together?**

No.

### **Is this prize for candidates doing basic research only, or are those performing translational or clinical research suitable candidates as well?**

The prize is for candidates engaged in achievement(s) in basic, translational and/or clinical research leading to new, innovative approaches in the diagnosis, prevention, treatment or cure of diseases and/or disabilities.

### **Must the candidate be a legal resident of the United States?**

Yes. The finalists will need to be legal residents of United States or its territories. Nomination materials must be in English.

### **If a team of two are nominated how is the monetary prize divided?**

Each winner will receive half of the monetary prize.

**Will the winner and finalists need to attend the ceremony?**

Yes, and the date is October 23, 2019.

**SPECIFIC TO U.S. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

**Will you accept a nomination FROM a scientist working in a federal government research program?**

Yes.

**Will you accept a nomination FOR a scientist working in a federal government research program?**

Yes, though the FNIH does not determine eligibility for government employees. If the candidate is a U.S. federal government employee or anyone else whose receipt of personal cash prizes MAY be restricted, the nominator should confirm with the candidate and team member if two are nominated, their eligibility to receive this prize. (We encourage you to contact your Ethics Office if you have one with any questions.)

**I am an NIH employee or funded researcher. May I nominate a researcher outside of NIH?**

Yes.

**Is NIH considered to be an accredited educational and/or scientific institution?**

Yes.