

Kovler Prize for Trust in Life Science Journalism

Frequently Asked Questions

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PROCESS

Where can I find a description of the Kovler Prize?

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

Where can I find the online nomination form?

Go to the Kovler Prize page on the FNIH website (<http://www.fnih.org/KovlerPrize>) and click “Submit a Nomination” at the top of the page.

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 Kovler Prize page on the FNIH website (<http://www.fnih.org/KovlerPrize>).

May I nominate myself?

Yes. Self nominations are eligible for consideration.

May I discuss my nomination with a juror?

No. It is unacceptable to contact any member of the 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 The nomination submitted by any nominator or for any candidate who does this will be withdrawn from the competition.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 awards@fnih.org directly.

Will you accept multiple nominations for one candidate?

Yes.

May I nominate more than one candidate?

Yes.

ONLINE FORM

PLEASE NOTE: The FNIH is using award management software from Evalato. System-generated e-mails will come to you from Evalato.

Will I need an Evalato account to submit a nomination?

Yes, you will need to register for an Evalato account and then log into that account to submit the nomination form.

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

Yes, if you have created an account, saved the nomination, and have NOT submitted the nomination, you may give them your username and password to complete the nomination.

I submitted my nomination by mistake and need to make changes! How do I get it back?

Send an email to awards@fnih.org to request that it be reopened. If the request is sent more than 48 hours prior to the nomination deadline, the nomination will be reopened so you may access it. Be sure to resubmit the nomination when you have completed your revisions.

I accidentally deleted the nomination! Can you restore it for me?

Unfortunately, a deleted nomination is not retrievable. You are welcome to start a new nomination.

Consider gathering all your answers offline in a Word document to make it easier to fill out the online form without needing to pause to find information.

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

Send an email to awards@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 issues.

CONTENT

What do you mean by “Description of the Candidate's Contributions - 250 Word Maximum?”

The 250-word description of the candidate's contributions for the candidate's fitness for this prize. On what basis do they deserve unique recognition as an outstanding journalist for trust in life science journalism?

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

Yes, two letters of recommendation are required for a candidate's nomination packet.

Should the Resume/CV list only 3-5 examples of published work? Or should all publications be listed and only 3-5 highlighted for consideration?

The CV may contain only 3-5 submissions of published work. Nominations submitted with CVs listing more than 5 publications will be rejected. Those nominations may be resubmitted in accordance with the guidelines if the submission deadline has not passed.

What media is accepted as the 3-5 examples of published work?

Print, Video, or auditory media are eligible for this award. Articles, videos, television broadcast, videos, or other media. A portion of the body of work must be published in a journalistic outlet.

May the CV include books, book chapters and posters?

Yes, if you wish. However, be aware that a portion of the body of work must be published in a journalistic outlet. The jury will focus their consideration on the journalism of a candidate's portfolio.

Does the jury give preference for U.S.-based stories?

The Prize is open to US-based journalists, but the jury will look at both US focused and global examples as a part of the complete body of work submitted in the application.

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

No, a portion of the candidate's work must be published in a publically accessible journalistic outlet. A Resume/CV will be indicative of the work throughout the candidate's career.

Why do I need to provide password access?

If an article, video or other media is behind a subscription paywall or a limited free access (ex. 5 articles a month), the candidate's nomination packet must provide password access or a PDF for the jury to easily access the information. Dropbox, Vimeo, and/or YouTube links are acceptable workarounds for access.

Failure to provide accessible content will result in disqualification.

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 media that you believe most strongly demonstrate the candidate's merit.

Are there any size restrictions for the Resume/CV?

Yes, the resume/CV must not exceed 5 publications and the file size must not exceed 20 MB.

Does the nomination really consist of answers to just a question, the Resume/CV and two letters of recommendation?

Yes.

ELIGIBILITY

What constitutes a journalist?

For the purposes of the Kovler Prize, journalists must do work for accredited and/or independent news organizations in the United States.

May I nominate a journalist with whom I do not work directly?

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

Must the candidate be working in the United States?

Yes. The journalist must work for U.S. accredited or independent news outlets. We welcome nominations for international candidates as long as the candidate's current location or permanent residence is not in a country sanctioned by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Asset Control. See the current list of sanctions at <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Pages/Programs.aspx>.

SPECIFIC TO U.S. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

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

Yes.

Will you accept a nomination FOR a journalist 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 must confirm with the candidate their eligibility to receive this prize. (We welcome the nomination of NIH employees who are also journalists. Please contact the NIH Ethics Office with any questions.)

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

Yes.

Is the NIH considered to be an accredited institution?

Yes.