

AACR Award for Outstanding Achievement in Basic Cancer Research

AWARD PROGRAM GUIDELINES

AWARD SUMMARY

- The AACR established this award to recognize an early career investigator on the basis of their meritorious achievements in basic cancer research.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Cancer researchers affiliated with any institution involved in cancer research, cancer medicine, or cancer-related biomedical science anywhere in the world may be nominated. Such institutions include those in academia, industry, or government.
- Candidates must have not yet reached 46 years of age at the time of the award presentation.
- The award may only be presented to an individual investigator.
- Institutions and/or organizations are not eligible to receive the award.

NOMINATION PROCESS

- Nominations may be submitted by any individual, whether an AACR member or nonmember, who is currently or has previously been affiliated with any institution involved in cancer research, cancer medicine, or cancer-related biomedical science.
- Self-nominations are prohibited.
- Nominators must maintain strict confidentiality of their nominations. All nominations must be submitted using [AACR's electronic award nomination platform](#). If you don't have a myAACR account, you can create one at no cost. Paper nominations will not be accepted.
- Eligible nominations must include the following:
 - A nomination letter written in English (Max: 1,000 words), which comprehensively describes the candidate's outstanding recent accomplishments in basic cancer research. Letter must specifically outline the candidate's current research activity and indicate how their research holds promise for continued substantive contributions to the cancer field. All publications that directly support the mentioned research accomplishments must be referenced within the provided letter, and these references will not count toward the total word count.
 - A brief scientific citation (Max: 50 words) highlighting the major scientific contribution(s) justifying the award candidate's nomination.

AWARD SELECTION

- Eligible nominees will be considered by an award selection committee composed of an international cohort of cancer research experts appointed by the AACR President. After committee deliberations, primary and alternate award recipient recommendations will be relayed to the AACR Executive Committee for formal ratification.
- Selection of the award recipient shall be made on the basis of the candidate's scientific accomplishments without regard to race, gender, nationality, geographic location, or religious or political views.

INQUIRIES

- Please direct all inquiries pertaining to this award or any other AACR scientific achievement award to Rachel Mumma, Program Manager, Scientific Programs and Initiatives, at rachel.mumma@aacr.org or by phone at (215) 446-7180.

PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

2025 Han Liang

2024 Sarah-Maria Fendt

2023 Kathryn E. Wellen

2022 Christina Curtis

2021 Nicholas E. Navin

2020 Cigall Kadoch