

Memo

To: Associate Deans Research
Cc: Deans, Research Offices/Directors
From: Amir Asif, Vice-President Research & Innovation
Date: October 23, 2024
Subject: Nomination Process for Royal Society of Canada Medals & Awards

Please find below information regarding the process for the 2025 nomination cycle for [Royal Society of Canada \(RSC\) Medals & Awards](#).

This information should be circulated to your respective Research Directors, Research Offices, and Faculty members.

Royal Society of Canada

The Royal Society of Canada (RSC) was established under an Act of Parliament in 1883 as Canada's National Academy, the senior collegium of distinguished scholars, artists and scientists in the country. The primary objective of the Society is to promote learning and research in the arts, the humanities and the natural and social sciences. To that end, the RSC offers medals and awards for excellence in learning, research and artistic achievement. Not all of RSC's medals are open to receive nominations every year.

The following medals and awards will be open to receive nominations in the 2024 cycle:

- [Henry Marshall Tory Medal](#) (astronomy, chemistry, mathematics, physics)
- [Jason A. Hannah Medal](#) (publication in the history of medicine)
- [John L. Synge Award](#) (mathematical sciences)
- [McLaughlin Medal](#) – (medical sciences)
- [Michael P. Païdoussis Medal](#) (applied mechanics)
- [Miroslaw Romanowski Medal](#) (environmental issues)
- [Pierre Chauveau Medal](#) (humanities)
- [Rutherford Memorial Medals](#) (physics and in chemistry)
- [Sir John William Dawson Medal](#) (interdisciplinary)
- [Yvan Allaire Medal](#) (governance)



Eligibility

To be eligible for an RSC medal or award, candidates must be Canadian citizens or have had the status of Canadian Permanent Resident for at least three years. Nominations are valid for one competition only.

Nomination Process

Candidates must be nominated either directly by a current RSC Fellow or College Member or by an Institutional Member of the RSC (i.e., York University).

In either case, candidates are encouraged to take advantage of available university resources and to seek peer advice throughout the development of their nomination file.

Direct Fellow Nomination

Individuals may be nominated for a medal or award by a current Fellow or Member of the Society, who need not be from York University. *This route does not require York University's nomination process or approvals, although support may be accessed.*

Important Considerations for Direct Fellow Nominations:

1. The Primary Nominator need not be from the same field as the nominee.
2. There is no limit to the number of nominations put forward by members of the Society.
3. We encourage Direct Fellow Nominations, as they flow directly to the RSC and are not subject to the institutional nomination process.
4. We encourage Faculties to share the names of these nominees with the Strategic and Institutional Research Initiatives (SIRI) team, which can provide ad hoc support as needed.
5. York nominees using the Direct Fellow route may also access peer review from the Major Awards Advisory Committee (MAAC). To do so, they must notify their Faculty Research Office and Abby Vogus (avogus@yorku.ca) of their interest and submit their draft materials for review by **January 15, 2025**. See step 2 in the Institutional Nomination process for materials to be submitted; partial packages will not be accepted for MAAC review.

Institutional Nomination from York University

As an Institutional Member of the RSC, the President or Vice-President on behalf of York University may nominate individuals for a medal or award. For such institutional nominations only, the selection process to identify these nominees is managed by the Office of Research Services (ORS) and includes a review of internal nominations by the Major Awards Advisory Committee (MAAC). The MAAC will then provide advice to VPRI to inform the final selection of nomination(s) to be advanced to the RSC.

The **institutional nomination process** is as follows:

1. Faculties notify the Office of Research Services of their intent to put forward a candidate for an institutionally nominated RSC medal or award. Faculties are asked to email SIRI Specialist Abby Vogus (avogus@yorku.ca) with the name of the candidate and confirm their support for the nomination as soon as possible.
2. Internal nomination packages are due by **January 15, 2025**, via email to Abby Vogus (avogus@yorku.ca) including the following, which will then be reviewed by MAAC:
 - Draft detailed appraisal (1,200 words)
 - Names and short biographical sketches of three **confirmed** reference letter writers
 - CV (maximum 20 pages)
 - *[For Direct Fellow Nominations seeking MAAC review, please include the name and affiliation of nominator]*
3. Selected nominees will work with the SIRI Specialist and Faculty-based research support personnel (as appropriate) to prepare the full application package for submission.

Relevant Deadlines

DATE	MILESTONE
January 15, 2025	Internal nomination packages due to ORS
End January	MAAC Review
Early February	VPRI feedback to nominees
March 10, 2025	Final nomination package due to ORS
March 14, 2025	RSC electronic submission deadline

For further information, please contact:

Abby Vogus
SIRI Specialist
Office of Research Services
Email: avogus@yorku.ca