

J. GORDIN KAPLAN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Terms of reference and application process

The University of Alberta's most prestigious research award is named for the University's first Vice-President (Research). Two awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding work in distinct fields of research:

1. excellence in general area of business, education, fine arts, humanities, law, or social sciences
2. excellence in the sciences, health sciences, or engineering.

The award recognizes and honours faculty members:

- Whose research contributions, and impact (both academic and knowledge mobilization/translation), add significantly to our knowledge base
- Whose contributions to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Indigenous Initiatives set an example for other University Faculty, students, and the community-at-large
- Who are recognized nationally and internationally for their scholarly accomplishments
- Who set a standard of excellence for other University of Alberta faculty, graduate and undergraduate students and the community-at-large, as they contribute to our institution's research goals

Selection Process

The Office of the Vice President (Research and Innovation) [OVPRI] will review the candidate pool. If the pool is not deemed to represent the diversity of the research community at the University of Alberta, the OVPRI may choose to seek additional candidates from equity-deserving groups.

The award is adjudicated by a committee chaired by the Vice-President (Research and Innovation), or delegate. The committee includes one or more Associate Vice-Presidents (Research) and members from the University's research community who are suitably representative of the diversity that exists across the institution and who conduct research in the designated award categories.

Teaching will not be part of the evaluation except for graduate teaching and supervision relevant to the candidate's research.

The OVPRI will confirm that the selected recipients are members of good standing in their Faculty prior to notification.

Application process

Candidates should keep in mind the equity, diversity and inclusion principles in the [University of Alberta Strategic Plan for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity](#), the [Dimensions Charter](#), the [Scarborough Charter](#) and the [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) when preparing their application.

Each candidate is entitled to submit one application per year. If a candidate decides to reapply, an updated dossier is required for each subsequent submission.

The following information must be submitted as part of the application:

- Statement of the category in which the application is to be considered and rationale for the category choice. The Selection Committee reserves the right to change the category of consideration.
- Brief one page statement of how the candidate's research program contributes to equity, diversity and inclusion and/or Indigenous Initiatives in the discipline, university and broader community. Statements should include information on how the candidate incorporates EDI and/or II principles into all aspects of their research, including (but not limited to): research team composition, research environment and culture, training and development, and research design/methodology.
- Summary, for a multidisciplinary audience, of the candidate's three most important publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions. In the summary, include complete citation of the publication, creative work and/or scholarly contribution, candidate's role, and the impact factors/importance of the journal/dissemination venue. Please limit each summary to a maximum of one page (three pages total). **DO NOT include copies of the publications, creative works and/or scholarly contributions with the nomination package.**
- One letter of support from internal or external assessor that outlines why the candidate qualifies for the award, emphasizing their contributions to and impact on the discipline. Impact statements should include academic contributions, knowledge mobilization/knowledge transfer as well as their engagement with the community (through research focus/methodology, community outreach activities or other).
- One letter from an external assessor in the candidate's field. **Assessors should be experts with no close collegial or trainee link to the candidate from outside the University of Alberta.** Letters should address the candidate's suitability in terms of the criteria for the award and not be a reiteration of their CV. The letter should also include a brief biography of the assessor for the selection committee's information.

NOTE: Letters of support will be received and maintained in confidence by the University of Alberta, except under limited and specific circumstances. Please request to have letters of support emailed directly to: Leslie Parsad, Coordinator, Internal Research Awards and Funding, Office of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) at parsad@ualberta.ca.

- Current curriculum vitae listing publication authorship, creative works and/or scholarly contributions as the authorship appears in print (i.e., for multiple-author publications, applicant's name shall appear in the correct sequence).

Deadline and submission

The deadline for submissions is **4:30 p.m. on September 27, 2024**. Please submit the application as a single PDF to Leslie Parsad at parsad@ualberta.ca.

Records from this competition will be managed in accordance with the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.