



Guidelines for the ASSCR Catalyst Prize

The ASSCR Catalyst Prize aims to recognise an outstanding research team from the Australasian stem cell research community who have made an exceptional impact at a national or international level in the last five years.

- Focused on impact and innovation in research and research adjacent fields
- Self-nominated by a team representative who is a current ASSCR member
- Applying teams will be assessed on contribution and impact over the past 5 years

Eligibility Requirements:

- To be eligible, the team must include at least one PhD student or ECR member (defined as less than 5 years post PhD according to ARC guidelines)
- The nominated team representative must be a current member of the Society and held membership for at least 12 months during the assessment period
- Individual team members cannot be listed in more than one application per round
- The outcome must have occurred in the last five years
 - i.e. For the inaugural award in 2025 this will be between September 2019 and October 2024
- Teams must consist of between three to ten members

Ineligible Applicants

- Applications that do not provide all the required information will be ineligible
- Current members of the ASSCR Committee are not able to apply as team representatives but can be team members

Award

- Up to one award will be presented every two years
- The winning team will receive \$5,000 and a certificate for each team member
- The money should be used within 12 months of receiving the award to support the team's next endeavour or the work of nominated team members by agreement amongst the team
- The nominating team member will be required to provide a short report to ASSCR on how the funds were expended by the team and a letter highlighting the impact of the award that can be highlighted on the ASSCR website

- The winning team must acknowledge the support of the ASSCR in any presentations that discuss the research funded by this award
- Short-listed and successful teams will have their achievement featured on the ASSCR website and social channels

Application process

- Self-nominated by a single team representative and ASSCR member
- Application must be no more than 3 pages (Times, 12 point font)
- Submit application to the Chair of Conference and Awards (ASSCRsubmissions@gmail.com) by 28th March 2025

Application must include:

1. Overview – describe the background and approach behind the achievement.
2. Innovation. Describe the innovation and its significance
3. Impact. Describe the impact and reach of the innovation and how it advances stem cell science in Australasia and/or globally and when this occurred (noting 5-year timeframe)
4. Team
 - A 2-3 sentence bio of each team member and a statement of how the team worked together collaboratively
 - Declaration of ASSCR membership status of the nominated team representative and which team members are PhD students or ECRs (NB: only the team representative must be a current ASSCR member)
5. Evidence of innovation and impact:
 - For example: publications, patents, trial, policies, educational resources
 - Provide a brief statement on how each piece of evidence relates to the innovation and impact

Assessment information:

- Applications will be assessed by the ASSCR executive committee and former committee members
- Selection panel members will be required to declare any conflict of interest with individuals or institutions and if conflicts are high, will be removed from assessment of the application
- Applications will be assessed against selection criteria, relative to opportunity and career disruption as per ARC guidelines
- It is a policy of ASSCR that the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion are observed in both the composition of the selection committee and awardees

Selection criteria:

Criteria	Percentage
Originality & Significance	20%
Rigor of approach (scientific or other methodologies)	20%
Impact and benefit for the stem cell community	60%

Announcement of award:

The Catalyst Prize recipients will be announced at the annual ASSCR meeting and/or the ASSCR AGM.