



## Health Research Board

# HRB Impact Award 2021

---

### Guidance Notes

| <u>Key Dates &amp; Times</u>   |                                  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Nominations Open</b>        | <b>10 August 2020</b>            |
| <b>Nomination Closing Date</b> | <b>25 September 2020 @ 13:00</b> |

*Applications must be completed and submitted through the HRB online Grant E-Management System (GEMS) (<https://grants.hrb.ie>). This system will close automatically at the stated deadline according to the timeline listed above. It is strongly recommended to read the Guidance Notes prior to completing the nomination form.*

## Context

The Health Research Board Impact Award recognises a researcher or health professional working in any health-related discipline who at *any time during their career*, has made, or is making, an outstanding contribution to research that has had a significant impact on people's health or on health policy or practice. We are now inviting applications for the HRB Impact Award 2021.

**Research impact** has been defined as '*an identifiable benefit or positive influence on society, public policy, quality of life and/or the economy*'.

- For the purposes of this award, we will be looking specifically at the impact of health research in relation to practice, people's health, patient care and health policy.

## Eligibility Criteria

- Nominees will have made a tangible, lasting impact through their research on people's health or on health policy or practice within the last 10 years.
- Nominees must be a Principal Investigator who received funding from the HRB, or someone employed on a HRB-funded award who made a significant contribution to the research. This may have been at any time during their career, but it must be directly linked to the research that resulted in the impact on people's health or on health policy or practice for which they are receiving the award.
- Nominees must be working/have worked on the island of Ireland when pursuing the research related to the nomination.
- Current HRB staff or Board members may not be nominated.

## Nomination Process

- Nominees for the award **may not nominate themselves**. All nominations must be made by the Head of a college, school or research institute; by the Head of Research and Development; or by the secretary of a professional body.
- Persons submitting more than one nomination should ensure that at least one nomination from the underrepresented gender is included.
- Nominations will be by means of the online nomination form on the HRB online application system, GEMS (<https://grants.hrb.ie>). Nominators can register on GEMS and they will receive an email to confirm their registration and log in details. The nominator should then add information to 'Basic Information' in the 'Manage My Details' section of GEMS prior to beginning a new application. Nominators previously registered on GEMS can log in to GEMS and update any information regarding their details in 'Manage my Details'.
- Applications should be concise and clear, written in Plain English and should avoid the use of acronyms, jargon or overly-technical language.
- Each nominee must agree to be nominated and will be required to complete a letter of acceptance as part of the nomination process.
- A letter of support from a person who has had personal/professional experience of the impact of the nominee's research on people's health or on health policy or practice is required.

## Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed against these criteria specifically:

**1. Research description (10%):** This should include a summary of the research question, the approach and methods used to answer it and the outcomes of the research that lead to the impact on people's health or on health policy or practice.

**2. Impact of research (60%):** This should include or demonstrate:

**Research uptake:** Clearly articulate how the research findings have directly improved people's health and/or have been translated into policy or practice. The nominee's role in how this research was implemented should be stated. Please elaborate if integrated knowledge transfer and public and patient involvement techniques were used and how these approaches may have helped to enhance the impact of the nominee's work.

**The reach or scale of the research:** Please describe the significance of the health problem/challenge addressed, the beneficiaries of the research (e.g. patients, clinical staff, policy makers, public etc.) and the number of people impacted. Please detail any changes in practice/policy/guidelines at a local, national or international level that have arisen from the research.

**Policy networks established:** If applicable, please state any committees/task forces nominee has participated on as a result of their research to further change.

**Health and health systems impact:** *Impact of research on one or more of these criteria should be included:*

- Quality of care or service delivery e.g. quality adjusted life years, patient-reported outcomes.
- Changes to clinical diagnosis, treatment approaches decision making e.g. adoption of a health technology to improve healthcare systems
- Improved health information management e.g. influence of research on provision of services or preventing cost
- Cost containment and effectiveness e.g. influence on healthcare allocation
- Changes in behaviour or attitudes in society

**3. Communication of research (10%):** Please describe the nominee's commitment and ability to communicate the nature and impact of their research beyond that of their peers. Any knowledge exchange and dissemination activities, media or social media coverage and reach, public acknowledgement through awards or academic exchange should be highlighted.

**4. Potential for future impact (20%):** It is essential that the application clearly outlines the potential to further the impact of this research, how the nominee will ensure this continued advancement of their research, and how monies from the HRB Impact Award will be spent to achieve these aims.

## Evaluation

- All nominations will first be checked against the eligibility criteria. Any ineligible nominations will be notified at this stage and will not proceed to review.
- Depending on the volume of nominations, a two-step review process may be used to identify a shortlist of nominees.
- An international review panel will rank the nominations based on the assessment criteria and select the HRB Impact Award winner.

## Conflict of Interest

Conflict of interest rules are applied rigorously. Where a conflict of interest exists, the reviewer is requested to inform the HRB immediately so that an alternative reviewer may be appointed. Reviewers will not provide comments or scores on any nomination on which they have a conflict of interest.

Reviewers are required to respect the confidentiality of the peer review process, which is designed to protect and preserve the integrity of the HRB's advisors and processes. Reviewers may not discuss any aspect of the scoring or assessment with applicants or colleagues. All such requests must be referred to the HRB.

*Canvassing the Health Research Board or the review panel is not permitted and will result in automatic disqualification.*

## The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** came into force on 25 May 2018. As a result, the nominator will be asked through GEMS to '**confirm you understand**' that personal data provided as part of this nomination, including but not limited to CV information, may be shared with person(s) based outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) for the specific purpose of obtaining reviewers of this nomination. International reviewers play a vital role for the HRB in setting standards and in benchmarking our scientific community to enable them to operate in a global context. Individual expert reviewers can be based anywhere in the world.

Furthermore, by confirming participation, the nominator will be asked to '**confirm you understand**' that the HRB uses the information provided to consider the nomination, contact the nominator/nominee about the nomination, and if successful, to manage the award in accordance with HRB general T&C for research awards. This will include contacting the nominee with regard to monitoring of progress through written reporting. We will publish some basic information on successful award including the nominee, Host Institution, amount awarded and lay summary on our website and may highlight the award in more detail (with specific consent). We will also use the information provided to generate general statistics around our current funding portfolio, and to evaluate our funding mechanisms and investment. After the award has ended we will continue to keep the information on file (in accordance with HRB policies) to allow us to evaluate the outcomes, outputs and impacts of HRB investment in research.

Please note that we will also use information associated with unsuccessful applications for a number of the purposes outlined above such as generating general statistics around our current funding portfolio, and to

evaluate our funding mechanisms and investment e.g. demographics of applicants, research areas of applicants.

## Presentation of award

- One HRB Impact Award will be conferred every two years.
- The award will include a monetary prize of €50,000.
- The winner will be invited to talk at the HRB Grant Holders Conference in 2021 about the impact of their work on health research, policy and practice today.
- An award letter will be issued upon notification of award which will outline the use of funding and state the requirement for an annual report detailing any impact of award, research activities funded by award and spends.
- The winner will also be profiled in HRB media and online communications.

## Timeline

| Important Dates                           |  |
|---|--|
| 10 August 2020                            | Nominations open                       |
| 25 September 2020                         | Nomination closing date                |
| End of September                          | Eligibility check                      |
| End of September – Mid-November 2020      | Review process                         |
| Mid-December 2020                         | Board Approval of panel recommendation |
| End of December 2020 – Early January 2021 | Notification of outcome                |

## HRB Contact

If you have any queries or questions in relation to the HRB Impact Award, please contact:

### Emma McGrath PhD

Research, Strategy and Funding Directorate  
Health Research Board  
Grattan House  
67 -72 Lower Mount St.  
Dublin 2  
D02 H638

Queries should be submitted via email only to [emcgrath@hrb.ie](mailto:emcgrath@hrb.ie)