



Health Research Board Impact Award – Guidelines

Context

The Health Research Board will present its first HRB Impact Award in 2019. The award will recognise 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.

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 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 work. 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>).
- 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 work on people's health or on health policy or practice is required.

Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed against these criteria specifically:

Research description (10%): This should include 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.

Impact of Research (60%): This should include or demonstrate:

Research uptake: Clear articulation of how the research has improved people's health or is currently used in policy or practice. The nominee's role in how this 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: Changes in practice/policy/guidelines at a local, national or international level, severity of problem addressed, number of people impacted.

Policy networks established: If applicable, please state committees/task forces nominee participated in to further change.

Health and health systems impact: *(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

Communication of research (10%): Please highlight any knowledge exchange and dissemination activities, media or social media coverage and reach, public acknowledgement through awards or academic exchange.

Potential for future impact (20%): Please describe the potential for further impact of this research and how monies from the HRB Impact Award may be spent to achieve these aims.

Evaluation

- Depending on the volume of applications, a two-step process may be used to identify a shortlist of nominees.
- An international panel peers will select the HRB Impact Award winner.

Canvassing the Health Research Board or the Review Panel is not permitted and will result in automatic disqualification.

Presentation of award

- One HRB Impact Award will be conferred each HRB strategy cycle (five years).
- The award will include a monetary prize of €50,000.
- The award winner will receive support to attend the HRB Grant Holder's Conference 2019 in Athlone on 7-8 February 2019. The winner will be invited to talk 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, activities funded by award and spends.
- The winners will also be profiled in HRB media and online communications.

Important Dates

- FAQs will be uploaded onto the website weekly. The closing date for receipt of FAQs is 24 September 2018.
- Nominations are being accepted from 16 August 2018.
- Closing date for entries: 12 October 2018.
- Review Panel: December 2018

Queries or questions should be submitted only via email to awards@hrb.ie