

Directions for Selection of the Executive Yuan Award for Outstanding Science and Technology Contribution of the NSTC

Amended per NSTC Letter No. 1120004296 issued on January 17, 2023

One. General Provisions

- I. The National Science and Technology Council (hereinafter referred to as “the Council” or “NSTC”) has formulated the Directions herein to handle the selection of the Executive Yuan Award for Outstanding Science and Technology Contribution with regulations pertaining to relevant review process.
- II. Any citizen of the Republic of China who is engaged in scientific and technological work in natural science and engineering, biology, medicine and agriculture, or humanities and social sciences, and whose research and development results or designs have special outstanding inventions or innovations with significant, reformative and creative contributions to the country and society, is eligible to be recommended for selection.
- III. For the selection for the Executive Yuan Award for Outstanding Science and Technology Contribution, the Council shall regularly accept recommendations openly every year, complete the review process by the end of the year for public commendation upon approval by the Executive Yuan.

The selection process at the Council is divided into four groups as follows to accept recommendations:

- (I) Natural Science Group
- (II) Engineering and Technology Group
- (III) Biology, Medicine and Agriculture Group
- (IV) Humanities and Social Sciences Group

Two. Talent Recommendation

- IV. The recommendation for the Executive Yuan Award for Outstanding Science and Technology Contribution shall be made in one of the following ways:
 - (I) Individual, who is employed by a government agency at any level, public or private academic research institution (including foundation), public or private college or university, or public or private enterprise and whose research and development (R&D) results or designs have been completed in the duration of service thereof at the agency, may be recommended by the head of the service agency thereof with the recommendation letter affixed with the seal of the recommending agency.
 - (II) Individual, who belongs to a certain group or overseas Chinese community and whose research and development results or designs are deeply

recognized by the group or overseas Chinese community, may be recommended by the head of the group or overseas Chinese community with the recommendation letter affixed with the seal of the group or overseas Chinese community.

(III) Individual, who is employed by a foreign institution of tertiary education or above, may be recommended by the director of the department, faculty, or institute of the academic institution or by the president or dean of the academic institution.

(IV) Individual may be recommended by a person, who has a deep understanding of the research and development results or designs of the recommended individual.

V. The organization or person responsible for the recommendation shall first carefully verify the content filled in by the recommended individual on the recommendation letter and shall be fully responsible for the accuracy thereof.

VI. If the research and development results or designs are the result of a collaborative effort of multiple individuals, but one of them has made distinctive contributions, the individual shall be recommended as a candidate. The distinctive contributions, and the proportion and influence thereof, shall be accounted for in detail as the basis for evaluation; the proportion and influence of other co-workers shall also be listed in detail for reference in the evaluation. Where the recommended R&D results or designs are selected, only one prize and one medal shall be issued, and the candidate shall be the recipient. The proportion and influence of other co-workers in the preceding paragraph shall be agreed upon and signed by the co-workers or recognized by the service agency with the seal of the agency.

VII. If the research and development results or designs are the result of a collaborative effort of multiple individuals and are all listed as innovators or inventors, the contribution of each recommended individual shall reach 25% or above. The recommender shall also designate one of them as the representative candidate. If the recommended research and development results or designs are selected, one prize shall be issued, and each person shall be awarded a medal. The representative shall be the award recipient in the public commendation.

VIII. The research and development results or designs involving national defense and military secrets shall be recommended only after the approval of the Ministry of National Defense is obtained, as they cannot be kept absolutely confidential during the review process.

IX. The research and development results or designs of the recommended individual must be their own invention or innovation. In the event of plagiarism, the truth shall be made public upon substantiated, and the prize and medal shall be reclaimed.

Three. Recommendation and Review Committee

- X. In order to actively uncover cases with outstanding scientific and technological contributions for the selection and to conduct the review of recommended cases, the Council may establish the Executive Yuan Award for Outstanding Science and Technology Contribution Recommendation and Review Committee (hereinafter “the Review Committee”).
- XI. The work of the Review Committee is divided into four groups in accordance with the provisions of Article III, Paragraph 2, with an excavation team and a review team established for the respective group.
- XII. The members of the Review Committee, and the members on the teams established thereby, shall be appointed by the Council on an as-needed basis, with a term of one year and without pay.
The convener of the Review Committee shall be concurrently held by one of the Deputy Ministers of the Council, and the directors of the competent departments of the Council shall be ex-officio members. Each team shall have one convener and one deputy convener. The convener shall be the Deputy Minister of the Council, and the deputy convener shall be the director of the competent department, with members of each team to be recommended by the respective convener.
- XIII. The teams under the Review Committee shall submit the review results of the recommended cases to the Executive Yuan Award for Outstanding Science and Technology Contribution Recommendation and Review Committee (hereinafter “the Review Committee”) for deliberation.

Four. Excavation Team

- XIV. The list of the excavation team members (including individuals from industries, academia, and research communities) shall be nominated by the competent academic departments of the Council, approved by the conveners of respective teams, and submitted to the Review Committee for review and approval.
- XV. After the first meeting of the Review Committee, the excavation teams shall be established immediately to commence talent excavation.

Five. Review Team

- XVI. The list of members on the review team (including individuals from industries, academia, and research communities) shall be nominated by the competent academic departments of the Council in line with the nature of recommended cases, approved by the conveners of respective teams, and submitted to the Review Committee for review and approval.
- XVII. The review team shall consist of ten to seventeen members. The recommended cases shall be reviewed case by case in the form of meeting review, followed by voting for classification into one of the two categories: “recommended for review” and “not recommended for review.” Reasons shall be specified for each case. Two-thirds or more of the votes of the attending members are required for a case to be “recommended for review,” and a list of recommended reviewers

shall be proposed in accordance with the content of each case, with three regular members and two alternates.

XVIII. After a case is reviewed by three reviewers, it shall be submitted to the review team meeting for review. In reviewing the case by the review team, the team shall refer to the review opinions of the reviewers for the attending members to discuss and undertake voting; the case that obtain two-thirds or more of the votes of the attending members shall be recommended for commendation. Regardless of “recommended” or “not recommended,” evaluation opinions for each case must be specified in writing.

XIX. Attendance of two-thirds or more of the members is required for a review team to convene.

Six. Review and Evaluation Process

XX. Preliminary review stage:

(I) The cases “recommended for review” and “not recommended for review” submitted by a review team shall be reviewed. After discussion by the voting members, a vote shall be taken on the cases with doubts. Only the cases with a minimum of two-thirds of votes shall be “submitted for review” in line with the provisions of Article 18 herein.

(II) Reviewers shall be selected for each case to be submitted for review.

XXI. Secondary Review Stage: The “recommended for commendation” and “not recommended for commendation” cases submitted by the review team shall be reviewed. After discussion by the voting members, a vote shall be taken. Only the cases with a minimum of two-thirds of votes shall be “recommended for commendation.”

Seven. Review Principles

XXII. Contribution to the country and society shall be the focus of the review in the selection for the Executive Yuan Award for Outstanding Science and Technology Contribution.

XXIII. The review shall be made on the ground of academic achievements or technical contributions, with a focus on whether the research and development results or designs presented by a candidate are significantly reformative or creative inventions or innovations and whether such have a significant impact on the country and society. The material contributions, specific facts, or data of the research and development results or designs must be strictly verified. If necessary, on-site visits or interviews with the candidate may be conducted.