



Fondation
Bettencourt
Schueller

Reconnue d'utilité publique depuis 1987

Prix Liliane Bettencourt *pour les sciences du vivant*

PRIZE RULES

YEAR 2021

Article I. PURPOSE

For about 30 years, the Fondation Bettencourt Schueller (hereafter “**the Foundation**”) has pursued the mission of its founders André and Liliane Bettencourt and their daughter Françoise Bettencourt Meyers: “taking talent to the top” to contribute to a stronger French society and boost France’s influence on the international stage.

The Foundation aims to contribute sustainably to the life sciences research ecosystem by taking a three-pronged approach: accentuating the influence of French biomedical research, accelerating the innovation process and improving working conditions for researchers. It does so through two means: prizes and donations.

The Foundation is committed to promoting excellence in French and European research through its scientific prizes, particularly the **Liliane Bettencourt Prize for Life Sciences** (hereafter “**the Prize**”), which it created in 1997.

The Prize is awarded annually to a European researcher by the Foundation’s scientific committee (hereafter “**the scientific committee**”).

It honors the work of a European researcher under the age of 45, recognized by the scientific community for the quality of his or her publications, his or her status as a leader in the relevant field, the particular promise of his or her research project and the personal qualities demonstrated in mobilizing a structured team. The Prize is awarded in alternate years to a researcher established in France or working in another European country.

The €300,000 Prize aims to:

- Award €100,000 to the winning researcher personally, and
- Help the laureate’s laboratory to carry out his or her research project through a €200,000 award.

These rules, which can be consulted on www.fondationbs.org, stipulate the applicable terms and conditions for the 2021 Prize.

The calendar for the 2021 Prize is detailed in Annex 1.



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Article II. ELIGIBILITY

The Liliane Bettencourt Prize for Life Sciences is exclusively open to researchers meeting the following criteria:

- Being the leader of a life sciences research project,
- Being a national of a member state of the European Union (hereafter « **EU**¹ ») or the European Free Trade Association (hereafter « **EFTA**² »),
- Being under 45 years of age (as of January 1st of the calendar year of the Prize). The eligibility can be extended in three situations, on presentation of supporting documents:
 - Maternity leave (12 months per birth), paternity leave (leave actually taken), for all births before or after the PhD award;
 - Long-term illness (>90 days) for the researcher or a close family member (child, parents, spouse);
 - National service, and
- Working in a laboratory located in an EU or EFTA member state.

Former laureates of the Liliane Bettencourt Prize for Life Sciences cannot re-enter the competition.

The Prize is awarded in alternate years to:

- Researchers working in France who are nationals of an EU or EFTA member state (odd years), and
- Researchers working outside France in a laboratory located in an EU or EFTA member state, who are nationals of an EU or EFTA member state (even years).

Candidates must submit an application online, using the following procedure:

- A preselection phase from July 10th, 2020 to August 31st, 2020, and
- A full application phase from November 6th, 2020 to December 18th, 2020.

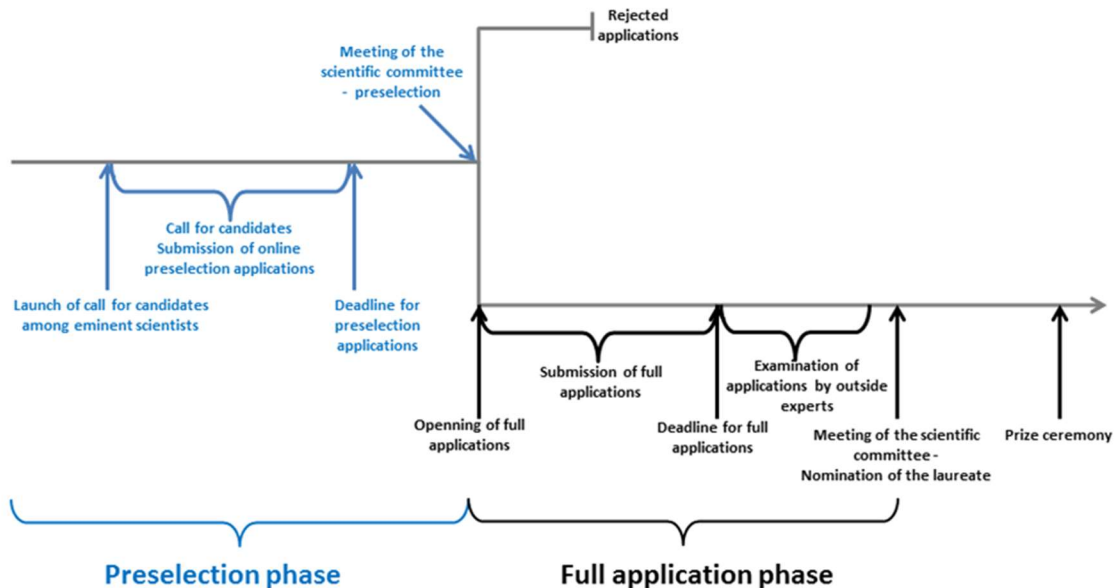
¹ The 27 EU member states are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden .

² The four EFTA member states are: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.



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Article III. PRESELECTION PHASE

(a) Identification of candidates authorized to make a full application

The call for candidates is launched from June 4th, 2020 to July 10th, 2020, among qualified eminent international scientists who have been selected by the Foundation and who will put forward candidates (hereafter “**the candidate**”) by providing them with a letter of recommendation and suggesting that they submit an online preselection application, using access details which will be transmitted by the Foundation’s scientific secretariat (hereafter “**the scientific secretariat**”).

(b) Processing of the preselection application

Each candidate must contact the eminent scientist, who put him or her forward, or the scientific secretariat (sciences@fondationbs.org) before August 31st, 2020.

The scientific secretariat will provide candidates with access to the online platform.

Each candidate must submit, in English, the following information online:

- A short CV (qualifications and work),
- A summary of research projects and main scientific contributions and discoveries,
- A list of the 10 most representative publications over the past 15 years, and
- A letter of recommendation from the scientist who presented the candidate.



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(c) *Submission of the preselection application*

The completed preselection application, together with the letter of recommendation, must be submitted and validated electronically by 11.59 p.m. (French time) on August 31st, 2020, through the online platform:

- In digital format for the preselection application,
- In PDF or JPEG format for the attachment.

Only complete applications including the preselection application and attachment, meeting the criteria required by these rules and submitted online by the closing date will be considered.

An acknowledgment will be sent to the candidate after verification of the application's compliance with these rules.

(d) *Examination of the eligibility of preselection applications*

The scientific secretariat examines the applications to verify their eligibility and compliance with the requirements stipulated in the rules. Complete and eligible applications are then sent to the scientific committee, which preselects the candidates eligible for the competition phase according to the criteria below.

(e) *Selection criteria for preselection applications*

The scientific committee, in a plenary meeting, evaluates the preselection applications using the following criteria:

- The originality, quality and excellence of the scientific work,
- The candidate's recognition within the scientific community, demonstrated notably by the list of international publications,
- The future potential for the research work in improving human health, and
- The candidate's ability to mobilize a team around a particularly promising research project offering hope in strategic sectors.

The decision of the scientific committee is final. It is confidential and not subject to any dispute or appeal by any means or of any nature whatsoever by the candidate or the scientist who presented him or her, as agreed by the candidate when submitting his or her application.

Following the preselection phase, the scientific committee will designate one of its members as a rapporteur for each candidate, along with two outside international experts (**Article V(c)**).

Article IV. FULL APPLICATION PHASE

Candidates admitted to the competition must complete the online application form between November 6th, 2020 and December 18th, 2020, 11.59 p.m. (French time). Access to this form will be provided by the scientific secretariat.

(a) *Completion of the online application form*

The candidate shall enter the following information in English online:



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- A complete CV (academic record, professional experience, distinctions and awards, main speeches/presentations and a complete list of publications),
- A presentation of the research project (scientific and lay summary, general presentation of the research program, planned research program with a provisional calendar and budget, and a brief bibliography),
- Required attachments:
 - a letter from the director of the institution where the candidate works, summarizing the financial, technical and human resources available to the candidate and his or her laboratory,
 - one or more letters of recommendation by an eminent scientist familiar with the candidate's work (either sent directly by the scientist to the scientific secretariat at the address below or submitted online with the application form), and
 - the Prize rules dated and signed by the candidate.

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Secrétariat scientifique

27-29 rue des Poissonniers

92522 Neuilly-sur-Seine cedex

France

sciences@fondationbs.org

(b) *Submission of the application*

The completed application, accompanied by the above-mentioned attachments, should be submitted and validated electronically by December 18th, 2020 at 11.59 p.m. (French time) using the online platform:

- In digital format for the application form, and
- In PDF or JPEG format for the attachments.

Only complete applications meeting the requirements stipulated in these rules and submitted online by the closing date will be considered.

Article V. CONDITIONS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

(a) *Examination of the eligibility of applications*

The scientific secretariat examines the applications to verify their eligibility and compliance with the requirements stipulated in these rules. Applications that are complete (including the required attachments) and eligible are then forwarded to outside experts for evaluation.

An acknowledgment will be sent to the candidate after verifying the compliance of the application with the rules.

Any misleading or false statements will render the application null and void.



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(b) Selection criteria for applications

The scientific committee evaluates the applications on the following qualitative criteria:

- The originality, quality and excellence of the scientific work,
- The candidate's recognition within the scientific community, demonstrated notably by the list of international publications,
- The future potential for the research work in improving human health, and
- The candidate's ability to mobilize a team around a particularly promising research project offering hope in strategic sectors.

(c) Composition and role of the scientific committee

The scientific committee³ in charge of the Foundation's operational scientific expertise is made up of 13 eminent French and foreign scientists whose scientific and medical expertise and skills cover the main life sciences.

Each application is entrusted to two international scientific experts selected by the Foundation's scientific committee who shall in any event meet the following requirements:

- Being a specialist in the scientific discipline in which the candidate is carrying out his or her research work,
- Not being a member of the scientific committee, and
- Not having a conflict of interest with the candidate.

For each application, two reports are prepared by the experts designated by the scientific committee.

The Foundation's scientific committee, in a plenary meeting, examines the applications and nominates the Laureate of the Prize using the selection criteria stipulated in (b).

The Laureate of the Prize (hereafter "**the Laureate**") is nominated by absolute majority of the votes of the scientific committee, each member having one vote in a secret ballot. In the event of a tie, the president of the scientific committee will have the casting vote. Proxy voting is not allowed.

The decision of the scientific committee is final. It is confidential and not subject to any dispute or appeal by any means or of any nature whatsoever by the candidate or the scientist who presented him or her.

The scientific committee is not obliged to nominate a Laureate for the 2021 Prize if the quality of applications is not considered sufficient to meet its requirements.

Article VI. CONDITIONS FOR AWARDING THE PRIZE

The awarding of the Prize is conditional on:

- The signature of the "Charter of Commitments" by the Laureate and the Managing Organization of the Laureate's laboratory (see the model in Annex 2), and
- The presence of the Laureate at the awards ceremony.

³ The list of members of the Foundation's scientific committee is available on www.fondationbs.org.



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Article VII. PRIZE FUNDS

The prize fund awarded to the Laureate is **three hundred thousand euros (€300,000)**.

The day after the awards ceremony, the Foundation makes two distinct bank transfers:

- One hundred thousand euros (€100,000) to the Laureate as a personal award, and
- One hundred and fifty thousand euros (€150,000) to the organization managing the laboratory named by the Laureate (hereafter “**the Managing Organization** ”), intended for the Laureate’s research project,

making a total of two hundred and fifty thousand euros (€250,000). The sum of fifty thousand euros (€50,000), corresponding to the balance of the Prize allocated to the completion of the research project at the Laureate’s research laboratory, is paid later to the Managing Organization of the Laureate’s laboratory following the terms of the “Charter of Commitments,” an example of which is shown in Annex 2.

The Prize constitutes a donation subject to obligations, as defined in the “Charter of Commitments.”

Article VIII. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FOUNDATION AND THE PRIZE LAUREATE

It should be noted that:

- No hierarchical relationship of any nature is established between the Foundation and the Laureate. The Foundation may in no event be considered an employer of the Laureate, who may receive instructions only from his or her organization, laboratory or university. The Foundation lays no claim of any nature to the intellectual or other property rights arising from the Laureate’s work.
- The Prize is purely philanthropic and involves neither chance nor financial commitment on the part of the Laureate.
- Since the Foundation has no involvement in matters of ownership or possible sharing of rights arising from the research work, it can have no liability whatsoever in regard to them.

Article IX. SUSPENSION, CANCELLATION OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE PRIZE

The Foundation reserves the right to modify these rules and to suspend, cancel or postpone the organization of the 2021 Prize if forced to do so by circumstances or for reasons beyond its control, without incurring any liability or giving rise to any damage or loss of opportunity for the candidates.

However, the Prize may no longer be cancelled after the plenary meeting of the scientific committee is held to nominate the Laureate, unless the scientific committee is unable to arrive at a nomination.



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Article X. COMMUNICATIONS, PROCESSING AND PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

(a) Communications

The candidate authorizes the Foundation to follow up his or her application and use his or her image and name.

(b) Processing of personal data

The candidate acknowledges that the required personal data is necessary to apply for the Prize, may undergo computer processing and will be used by the Foundation exclusively for the purpose of selecting Prize Laureates.

The personal data collected on each candidate during the application process and on each Laureate during the awards ceremony are subject to the French Data Protection Act of January 6, 1978, as amended by the Act of August 6, 2004, and to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

In accordance with these regulations, the candidate or the Laureate has the right to access, modify, rectify, limit or delete his or her personal data upon written request to the Foundation. The candidate or the Laureate has the right to withdraw his or her consent and to oppose the processing of his or her personal information, including for purposes of commercial prospection.

To exercise his or her rights, the candidate or the Laureate can write to sciences@fondationbs.org.

Finally, the candidate or the Laureate has the right to lodge a complaint before the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL).

He or she can also review the policy on data protection of the Fondation Bettencourt Schueller : <https://www.fondationbs.org/fr/politique-de-protection-des-donnees>.

Article XI. ANNEX TO THE RULES

These rules include two annexes, which form an integral part thereof.

Annex 1 : PRIZE CALENDAR

Annex 2 : CHARTER OF COMMITMENTS

Place :

Date :

Candidate's signature preceded by the handwritten words « Read and approved » :



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Annex 1. PRIZE CALENDAR

Preselection phase

Launch of the presentation of candidates by the eminent scientists	04/06/2020
Deadline for the presentation of candidates by the eminent scientists and for the opening of the access to the preselection form	10/07/2020
Deadline for the submission of preselection applications	31/08/2020
Date of preselection deliberations by the scientific committee	30/10/2020

Full application phase

Date of opening of access to application forms	06/11/2020
Deadline for submitting full applications	18/12/2020
Date of final deliberations by the scientific committee (pending confirmation)	March/April 2021
Date of Prize awards ceremony (pending confirmation)	November 2021



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Annex 2. CHARTER OF COMMITMENTS



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Prix
Liliane Bettencourt
pour les sciences du vivant

CHARTER OF COMMITMENTS

YEAR 2021

Between on the one hand

Mr./Ms. XXX,

The Laureate of the 2021 Liliane Bettencourt Prize for Life Sciences (hereafter “**the Laureate**” and “**the Prize**”), awarded by the Fondation Bettencourt Schueller (hereafter “**the Foundation**”)

And

Mr./Ms. XXX,

Representing XXX, the managing organization (hereafter “**the Managing Organization**”) of the laboratory of Mr./Ms. XXX, Laureate of the 2021 Prize,

The Laureate and the Managing Organization being collectively known as “**the Parties**”

And on the other hand,

The Fondation Bettencourt Schueller, represented by its Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Olivier Brault.

Préambule

The purpose of the Prize is to:

- Award the Laureate personally the sum of one hundred thousand euros (€100,000), and
- Help the Laureate’s laboratory to carry out his or her research project through a €200,000 award.



1. Prize Conditions

The Parties agree to:

- Respect the research project (hereafter “**the Project**”) for which the Laureate has been nominated, as mentioned in the application,
- Allocate the Prize funds **in accordance with the Project and provisional budget as indicated in the application**, respecting the following ratio:
 - **€200,000 to fund the research work of the Laureate’s laboratory entrusted by him or her to the Managing Organization**, as presented in the application submitted to the Foundation’s scientific committee. The expenses covered by this subsidy include operating expenses such as salaries, laboratory equipment, consumables, travel expenses for conferences or colloquiums linked to the research topic (up to a maximum of €15,000) and team expenses (up to a maximum of €5,000),
 - **€100,000 as a personal award to the Laureate**,
- Inform the Foundation and its scientific committee without delay of any event substantially modifying the composition of the winning Project, the Laureate’s affiliation with the laboratory, the budget or the nature of the Project, and hold a consultation with the Foundation on the use of Prize funds paid or still available, and
- Display the plaque provided by the Foundation. The Laureate will approve, with the Foundation, the text and the place selected for displaying it.

The Laureate undertakes that:

- The Managing Organization :
 - shall expressly mention the origins of the Prize funds when using them,
 - shall make no claim to being the donor and derive no moral benefits as such,
 - shall report to the Foundation on the use of the Prize funds on the same terms as if the Laureate himself or herself had used them,

Within the limits set out above, the Laureate has free and full disposal of the Prize funds paid to him or her by the Foundation;

- He or she shall, for three years from the date of the Prize award ceremony, mention the name of the Foundation on any publication of the research work linked to or resulting from the award of the Prize.

It is expressly understood that the Foundation has nominated the Laureate in consideration of the Laureate’s Project and research work described in the application and supported by his or her laboratory.

The completion of the Project is therefore an essential requirement of this Charter of Commitments.

Failing performance by the third anniversary of the Prize award ceremony of one of the above-mentioned commitments, and in the absence of a waiver by the Foundation of one or more these requirements or an extension by the Parties of their completion date, the Charter will be null and void. The Foundation may claim reimbursement of part or all of the Prize funds without delay.



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2. Prize amount and terms of payment

The Foundation undertakes to pay the maximum sum of three hundred thousand euros (€300,000) on the conditions stipulated in this Charter, to be allocated as detailed in the preamble:

- A first installment of two hundred and fifty thousand euros (€250,000) in two separate bank transfers and in the days following the Prize award ceremony:
 - A personal award of one hundred thousand euros (€100,000) to the Laureate,
 - A payment of one hundred and fifty thousand euros (€150,000) to the Managing Organization, intended to fund the Project,
- A second installment of fifty thousand euros (€50,000) to the Organization on the third anniversary of the date of the Prize awards ceremony at the latest and after the Managing Organization has displayed the plaque provided by the Foundation

The Parties will provide the Foundation with confirmation of receipt of funds within fifteen (15) calendar days of receiving each payment.

3. Documents required for payment of the second installment

Payment of the second installment is subject to approval by the Foundation of the following items:

- A scientific report and a communications report, provided by the Laureate, including evidence showing the use made of the share of the first installment allocated to funding the research work (publications, conferences, speeches/presentations, reports, expert committees, etc.), the composition of the team, the impact of the Prize on the research work and the team (interactions and collaborations with other laboratories, invitations to conferences, prizes/awards, and participation and management of networks) and the medium- and long-term perspectives, as well as the scientific conclusion,
- An expense report, provided by the Managing Organization, demonstrating the use made of the share of the first installment allocated to funding the research work, in accordance with the Project and the budget presented in the application, and
- An expenses forecast on the use of the second installment, provided by the Managing Organization.

4. Liability

It is recalled that the Foundation acts exclusively as a philanthropist providing financial support and is in no way a promoter of the Project.

For this reason, the Foundation cannot be considered as having invested in or having interfered or intervened in the Project's implementation or its scientific, academic, ethical, deontological, technical or operational content.

The Foundation derives no economic benefit from the Project and the authorizations and rights granted, as above, are intended merely for corporate communications purposes as part of its general-interest mission. The Foundation therefore has no intellectual property rights arising from the Project.

The Managing Organization shall indemnify and hold harmless the Foundation and its personnel against any appeal or claim related to the Project, including by third parties towards whom the Managing Organization alone shall be liable.



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5. Consequences of non-compliance with the commitments

Unless justified by factors deemed acceptable by the Foundation, the Laureate's non-compliance with any single undertaking pursuant to this Charter will render null and void his or her entitlement to payment of any outstanding Prize funds.

The Laureate may, upon request, be heard by the Foundation's scientific committee, who will assess the substance and seriousness of the reasons given for not voiding the entitlement to any outstanding Prize funds, and may decide, at its discretion, to pay the outstanding sum. The decision of the Foundation's scientific committee is final and binding on the parties to the present Charter of Commitments.

6. Commitments of the Foundation

The Foundation undertakes to:

- Publicize and promote the Laureate through:
 - a media relations communications campaign,
 - a Prize award ceremony, and
 - its website.

To do so, it may produce a photographic and/or audiovisual documentary of the Laureate and his or her research work, to which the Laureate expressly consents.

- Respect the confidentiality of the data and information contained in the scientific report and the communications report sent in relation to the payment of the second installment. This data will be used only in the abovementioned context and exclusively for the needs of the monitoring process of use of funds, and will remain the exclusive property of the Laureate.

Place :

Date :

The Laureate

The Managing Organization

The Foundation