UNIVERSITY OF GHANA

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT (ORID)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

2018 AFRICAN UNION KWAME NKRUMAH AWARDS FOR SCIENTIFIC EXCELLENCE

The African Union Commission is inviting applications for the 2018 African Union Kwame Nkrumah Awards for Scientific Excellence. Under this programme prizes are awarded to recognize and honour outstanding and excelling African women scientists, men alike and younger researchers for their scientific achievements, discoveries and innovations. This enhances the profile of science and technology sector in the African Union Member States and contributes to Africa's sustainable development, poverty alleviation and integration efforts.

COVERAGE

Prizes are awarded in each of the following two sectors:

(a) Life and Earth Science

(b) Basic Science, Technology and Innovation

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the Awards, nominees must:

- Be an African scientist who has made remarkable achievements demonstrated by number of publications, number of trained research graduate students, applicability of scientific work to Africa's challenges and its patentability.
- Be a national of an African Union (AU) Member State.
- Be nominated only for achievement based on work conducted in an African country.

CATEGORY OF AWARDS

The programme is implemented at the national level for young researchers, regional level for women scientists and at the continental level for all African scientists.

a) Regional Award

The regional award is presented to only **women scientists** at an amount of **USD20,000.** To be eligible for this award, applicants should have nominators with a PhD degree, if it is an Academic in a university, he/she must be at least at the rank of Associate Professor. There is **no age limit** for this award. The nominees should meet **at least three** of the following:

- Must have published at least five articles in journals (with impact factor greater than 1.0).
- Must appear as a senior/corresponding author in at least three of the five articles.
- Must at least have a minimum H-index of 5.
- Must have at least one international or two national patent registered.
- Must have supervised or co-supervised at least 5 PhD students.
- Must have won an international grant as a principal investigator.
- Must have written a review article in his/her field of specialization.

b) Continental Awards

This award is open to all **African pioneer scientists** at an amount of **USD100,000**. To be eligible for this award, applicants should have nominators with a PhD degree, if it is an Academic in a university, he/she must be of the rank of Associate Professor. There is **no age limit** for this award. The nominees should also meet **at least four** of the following criteria:

- Must have published in Journals (at least 20 articles with impact factor greater than 1.0)
- Must appear as a senior/corresponding author in at least 15 of the 20 articles
- Must at least have a minimum H-index of 25
- Must have at least two international or four national patent registered
- Must have supervised or co-supervised at least 10 PhD students.
- Must have won an international grant as a principal investigator
- Must have written a review article in his/her field of specialization

INFORMATION ON THE NOMINATION/APPLICATION PROCESS

The Office of Research, Innovation and Development (ORID) will coordinate the institutional nomination process for the University of Ghana. To be considered for this institutional nomination, applicants must submit their application package consisting of the following documents through their Dean/Director to ORID:

- Completed AUKNASE application form (attached).
- Completed AUKNASE nomination form (attached). The nomination form must be completed by the Dean/Director of the applicant.
- Narrative justification (up to 5 pages) from nominator (Dean/Director/ individuals who may be senior individuals of the same rank or higher than the nominee). ***The nominator is required to show the importance, relevance, quality and impact of applicant's work and not necessarily number of publications.***
- Curriculum Vitae (CV) with list of publications duly signed and approved by Dean/Director. The CV must satisfy the minimum requirement of the award category being applied for.
- 5-10 copies of best scientific publications.

The application and nomination forms, rules and procedures on the application are attached to this email. These are also available on the AU Commission website at the following link: https://au.int/en/announcements/20180611/african-union-kwame-nkrumah-awards-scientific-excellence-auknase-continental

Exclusion

ORID will review nominations submitted based on institutional requirements and exclusion criteria established for this opportunity by the AU Commission as follows:

- Nominations that do not focus on specific contributions but rather list lifetime achievements.
- Self-nominations
- Incomplete dossiers and/or all supporting documents are not included or not attached.
- If same work has received an award under this programme.
- If their member state is under AU sanctions in conformity with a decision taken by the AU relevant policy organ.
- If they are employees of any AU organisation or employees of the Regional Economic Communities.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Nominations and all supporting documents should be submitted by the nominee's Dean/Director and must reach ORID by **5pm on Monday October 22, 2018.**

For further information or clarification related to the institutional nomination process, please email orid-ppa@ug.edu.gh