

Simone & Pierre Clerdent Foundation

2024 Scientific Award in Human Neurological Disorders

REGULATIONS



- Art. 1 On the initiative of the late Count Clerdent and the "Simone & Pierre Clerdent Foundation", a prestigious Award is granted every 3 years to support a research project in the field of human neurological disorders in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation.
- Art. 2 The awarded project must aim at better understanding the biological basis, improving diagnosis, or advancing the treatment of nervous system pathologies. Research can encompass all stages from bench to bedside.
- Art. 3 The Award amounts to 400.000€ over 3 years.
- Art. 4 The Award cannot be divided amongst several laureates.
- Art. 5 Eligibility rules pertaining to the applicant:
 - Applicants must be established investigators, with a permanent and full-time contract in a University or a University Hospital of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation and with a scientific seniority of min. PhD + 6 years.
 - Applicants must provide the evidence of their affiliation to their institution until the end of the research project and not reach the retirement limit within its timespan,
 - Laureates of previous editions of the Award are not eligible to apply to the current Award.
- Art. 6 Eligibility rules pertaining to the research project:
 - Eligible expenses: eligible expenses encompass personnel costs, operating costs, and equipment. However, the Award cannot be used for travel purposes.
 - National/international cooperation: the project may include the collaboration with research teams based outside the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (WBF). In such case, the Principal Investigator working in the WBF must remain the coordinator of the project and more than 50% of the costs must be incurred in the WBF.
 - Portability of the Award: the holder can retain the benefit of the Award if he/she transfers his/her research activities to another eligible institution. The Award cannot follow the laureate if he/she transfers his/her research activity to a private company or outside the French-speaking Community.

- Budget: the yearly-required amount (based on the budget breakdown described in the application) will be transferred anticipatively each year on the university or the university hospital bank account of the laureate and under no circumstances to the individual bank account of a team member or another institution. The beneficiary is responsible for taking the necessary steps to benefit from the price net of all overhead costs retained by the institution to which he/she belongs.
- Mid-term reporting: the beneficiary is required to submit a mid-term scientific, financial and communication report at the latest eighteen (18) months after the start of the project. Continued support to the beneficiary's research project will be subject to the positive evaluation of this mid-term report. In case of negative evaluation, the support will be discontinued.
- Final reporting: the beneficiary is also requested to submit a final report at the latest two (2) months after the end of the project.
- Art. 7 The Award will be granted by the Board of Trustees of the Simone & Pierre Clerdent Foundation on basis of the recommendation of an international and independent Jury. A representative of the Foundation may attend the Jury meeting as an Observer. The role of the Observer is to ensure the respect of the procedure and the philosophy of the Award. The Observer will not have voting right.
- Art. 8 If no suitable laureate can be identified, the Award will not be granted.
- Art. 9 Proposals must be submitted electronically before 29 February, 2024 at 14.00 (Brussels time) via the FNRS application system "e-space". The form must be completed in English.
- Art. 10 Any problem or dispute arising from the eligibility of submitted applications or from the granting of the Award will be settled by the Simone & Pierre Clerdent Foundation, whose decision will be final.
- Art. 11 The scientific outlines, presentations and evaluation reports generated in the frame of the Award will be treated confidentially.
- Art. 12 Any scientific publication resulting partially or fully from the funding granted as part of the Award shall mention the source of this funding as follows: "This work was supported by the Simone & Pierre Clerdent Foundation".

Brussels, September 2023.