



Request for Nominations 2025 LUPUS INSIGHT PRIZE \$100,000

INTRODUCTION

The Lupus Research Alliance (LRA) requests nominations for the 2025 Lupus Insight Prize recognizing and honoring significant scientific insights relevant to understanding the causes, pathogenesis, or treatment of lupus. The Prize also aims to stimulate further advances leading to improved outcomes for lupus patients and ultimately to a cure.

PRIZE OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the Lupus Insight Prize is to identify and recognize an outstanding investigator with a documented record of creativity and innovation who has made a novel research discovery in scientific domains relevant to lupus. **The Prize is not a lifetime achievement award. Rather, the Lupus Insight Prize is given for a specific, significant, and recent discovery relevant to lupus.** The seminal observation should have been published between 2020 and 2024. Nominations for discoveries from before 2020 will not be considered.

In addition to recognizing a specific insight or discovery, the Prize also aims to direct the talents of the Prize recipient toward further high impact research achievement and testing of the insight in lupus. This should shift the current paradigms and significantly advance the understanding or treatment of lupus. Secondary objectives of the Prize are to: (1) raise the visibility of lupus as a significant medical condition among the general public and (2) demonstrate the determination of the LRA to surmount the challenges of this complex and debilitating disease through the support of research.

ELIGIBILITY

Nominations of basic, clinical, and translational scientists will be considered. Nominations will be accepted for investigators of any age or rank affiliated with an academic, biomedical, research, government, or biotechnology/pharmaceutical institution worldwide. Should an investigator currently working in the biotechnology/pharmaceutical industry be awarded the Lupus Insight Prize, recognition will be limited to the presentation of the Award plaque and the celebrations associated with this event at the FOCIS meeting. No monetary grant award can be given to investigators currently working in industry. Co-Investigators or teams of investigators are not eligible for this Prize. Only one nomination will be accepted per investigator. Self-nominations are not allowed.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Each nominator can nominate only one candidate per year. Once a nomination has been submitted, it will remain active as long as the insight/discovery remains in the acceptable timeframe for subsequent Requests for Nominations, unless withdrawn by the nominator. Nominations carried from prior years can be updated, if necessary, by the nomination deadline. There are no geographic restrictions on the nominee or the nominator. Nominators are discouraged from simultaneously serving as supporters for other Lupus Insight Prize nominees.

The nominator should submit the materials listed below in the indicated order as a single pdf document to Erin McLaughlin at emclauglin@lupusresearch.org by 5 pm ET on the due date:

- 1. Nomination Form:** The [Nomination Form](#) **must** be used. All the information a nominator would like to communicate to the Selection Committee about the nominee must be contained within the specific sections and word limits of the nomination form. The nominator is to provide the names and contact information for three supporters on the Nomination Form. **These supporters must be available to complete a comprehensive questionnaire to endorse the nomination during January of 2025. Please make sure that the listed supporters are willing and able to complete the questionnaire before submitting a nomination.**
- 2. Publications relevant to the Lupus Insight Prize nomination:** The nominator should submit up to three of the candidate's publications relevant to the nomination. At least one must be the primary publication of the discovery/insight for which the Prize is being sought.
- 3. Candidate's CV:** An up-to-date Curriculum Vitae for the candidate must be provided.

KEY DATES

Call for Nominations:	June 5, 2024
Nominations Due:	December 20, 2024
Nominations Review:	February – March 2025
Notifications:	March 2025
Award Ceremony:	June 15, 2025, at the FOCIS Annual Meeting

SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominees for the Lupus Insight Prize will be evaluated based on the scientific discovery/insight for which they are being nominated. Specifically, nominations will be judged based on 1) the novelty and significance of the discovery/insight, 2) the likelihood of its successful further application to lupus or further development within lupus, and 3) the potential of the discovery/insight to ultimately impact lupus patients.

SELECTION PROCESS

Representative scientific advisors from academia and industry will be selected by the LRA and will constitute the Lupus Insight Prize Selection Committee. The Committee will not include any nominators or supporters (as defined above) of an active nomination. The members of the Selection Committee will review all nominations and will solicit input from the supporters of each nomination. The Selection Committee will select the recipient of the Lupus Insight Prize after careful consideration of each candidate's nomination materials and input from their supporters. The selection will be ratified by the LRA's Board of Directors.

AWARD TERMS

The Prize recipient must agree to provide a one-page description of the research they will conduct using the Prize funds. This must be submitted via email within one month of the award notification letter. In addition, **the awardee must agree to attend and give a lecture at the Lupus Insight Prize Award Ceremony to be held at the FOCIS meeting in June 2025.**

PRIZE FUNDS

The institution of the Prize recipient, unless the recipient is working for a biotechnology or a pharmaceutical company, will receive \$100,000 to be used at the discretion of the recipient with the expectation that the funds will be used to apply the discovery/insight for which the Prize was awarded toward advancing understanding of the genetic, environmental, molecular, immunologic, or cellular aspects of lupus or its treatment. As noted in the Eligibility section above, no monetary award can be given to investigators currently working in industry.

The Prize can be transferred to another institution if the recipient changes their affiliation but cannot be renewed. The funds are to be spent within one year of the start date of the award. The award will be made in US dollars and no adjustments will be made to offset any currency fluctuations. A maximum of 20% of the total dollar amount can be utilized for the recipient's salary and fringe benefits. In addition, a maximum of 20% of the total dollar amount can be utilized towards the purchase of laboratory equipment. Under no circumstances can any of the funds be used to pay institutional overhead or indirect costs. The total amount of the Prize must be utilized for the described research within one year of the start date of the award.

PRIZE CEREMONY

The recipient of the Lupus Insight Prize will be honored at a public ceremony at the FOCIS Annual Meeting in June 2025. The recipient is expected to deliver a lecture describing their discovery/insight, the past work that resulted in the insight, and the planned research as it relates to lupus.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For further information about the Lupus Insight Prize, including a list of past recipients, please visit the [Prize website](#).

INQUIRIES

Scientific:

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