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Swiss National ORD Prize

Call 2025

The 2025 Swiss National ORD Prize by the **Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences** is now open for entries. The 3rd edition of this new award celebrates research projects of individual researchers and research teams demonstrating innovative practices in Open Research Data (ORD).

About the prize

The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences are part of the **Swiss National ORD Strategy** – a collaborative initiative in partnership with swissuniversities, the ETH Domain and the Swiss National Science Foundation. Together, they formed the **National ORD Strategy Council**, responsible for the implementation of the jointly developed **Action Plan for Open Research Data**, which details the measures of the ORD Strategy and defines the action lines that fall under the responsibility of each institution.

The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences are responsible for the action line D1.4: Establish national ORD prizes to reward and promote ORD best practices and to foster the transition to practices that set standards and create new opportunities for an entire (data-) community, including junior researchers.

Open Research Data (ORD)

In line with the **UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science**, open research data include, 'among other things, digital and analog data, both raw and processed data, as well as accompanying metadata, numerical analyses, text documents, images and sounds, protocols, analysis code and workflows that can be openly used, reused, preserved, and redistributed by anyone, subject to acknowledgement. Open research data are available in a timely and user-friendly, human and machine-readable and actionable format, in accordance with principles of good data governance and stewardship, notably the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) principles, supported by regular curation and maintenance.'

Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences (a+)

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Open Thematic Focus

The focus of this year's call is intentionally open. The aim is to recognize research projects of individual researchers and research teams at different stages of academic careers from various research disciplines and/or data communities regarding open research data. This includes explicitly the development and curation of scientific outputs like original scientific research results, research data, software, hardware, source code, source materials, workflows and protocols, digital representations of pictorial and graphical materials and scholarly multimedia material that are openly licensed and dedicated to the public domain following appropriate technical standards (cf. UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science, 9, 2021).

Criteria

The main criteria that will be used in the evaluation are:

methodologically innovative: this criterion is broadly defined and will be evaluated with respect to practices in the specific field(s) of the research project. For example, a project showcasing best ORD practices in a field in which this is not yet established can be considered as innovative. In contrast, for other fields, the innovative aspect may lie, for example, in the fact that a new approach was employed through the use of ORD practices.

impactful: this criterion focuses on the positive impacts related to the demonstrated ORD practices in the project. These can be, for example, scientific, societal, economic, educational, or intergenerational.

community-based: this criterion focuses on interactions of networks and groups that serve as role models for the targeted communities (e.g., outreach activities, codes of conduct, etc.).

Who can apply?

Submitted projects must be part of scientific work executed at a Swiss research institution (e.g., University, University of Applied Sciences, Federal Institutes, Universities of Teacher education etc.).

Researchers from all career levels and scientific disciplines can apply. Early-career researchers and members from underrepresented groups are especially encouraged to apply, and applications will be evaluated considering differences in career stage and discipline. To ensure equal opportunities the evaluation will align with the SNSF's approved **vision and mission for equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI)**.

Researchers who applied last year are welcome to reapply if their project meets this year's criteria.
The 2024 Award winners can apply again with another project.

Prize Money

The nature of the prize will be defined and announced at a later date.

Additional Information

For detailed eligibility criteria and submission guidelines, refer to the prize regulations on the Swiss Academies' **ORD website**.

Submission

Entries must be submitted in English via the application form on the ORD website until **31 July 2025, 17h local time Switzerland**. Late submissions will not be considered.

For further questions, please contact the ORD Unit at Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences:
ord@akademien-schweiz.ch