

Animal Protection Research Prize 2026 - Application Form

Prize category Animal Protection Research Prize for young scientists in 3R research

Please note that only German researchers can apply for the Animal Protection Research Award of the German Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity (BMLEH). This application form is for information purposes only and provides details of the data and answers requested on the application platform (Request for personal data, see cover sheet).

Link to the application platform:

<https://foerderportal.bund.de/easyonline/reflink.jsf?m=TSCHF&b=PWN3R&t=SKI>

Presentation of the prize proposal and justification of the award

Please write a scientific assessment explaining why the scientist's work has had a major impact on the field of replacement or reduction of animal experiments or refinement methods, resulting in a significant improvement for laboratory animals during experiments or during their care.

[Free text field]

Questionnaire

Please evaluate your application according to the following criteria regarding the influence of the scientist's work to be honoured in terms of the 3Rs and justify your assessment:

→ Which of the 3Rs is the focus of the work proposed for nomination? (only one selection possible)

- Replace: Replacement of animal experiments through the use of alternative methods
- Reduce: Reduction of the number of laboratory animals to the minimum necessary for scientific purposes
- Refine: Reduction of the suffering of laboratory animals before, during and after the experiment

[Free text field: Justification]

- How significant was the scientist's own contribution to the overall work? [Free text field: justification]
- How many animals have been or are expected to be used less as a result of the methods/innovations, and how many animals benefit from these refinement measures? Please also state the basis/information on which your estimate is based. [Free text field: justification]
- How would you describe the degree of innovation of the method? In other words, to what extent does the underlying idea or approach represent an innovation compared to already established approaches? [Free text field: justification]
- How would you assess the general acceptance of the method/innovation (e.g. how many laboratories or individuals are already using the method)? Are there already publications by other groups/institutes that use the innovation? [Free text field: justification]
- How do you assess future usage? Please explain why other laboratories will adopt this method. [Free text field: explanation]
- What other measures facilitate the widespread application of the innovation (e.g. no patent protection, cell lines deposited in cell banks, additional instructions or similar provided, open data, open access, etc.)? [Free text field: justification]
- How far has the translation of scientific results into application progressed (e.g. establishment of a new standard or marketing of ideas or methods)? [Free text field: Justification]
- Exploitation horizon: Is there a concrete application for the developed method? For example, has the developed method led to a regulatory-approved test method, a change in legislation, recommendations from professional associations, or similar? If so, which one? [Free text field: Justification]
- Is there a convincing concept for perpetuating the method or procedure? (i.e. communication strategies beyond a publication, e.g. websites, data sets, additional protocols, strategies for the sustainable dissemination of the method, training opportunities, etc.) [Free text field: justification]
- How do you assess the future potential of the method/innovation (e.g. extension of research results to other methods, other research areas)? [Free text field: Justification]

Key publications

Please only list works that have been accepted for publication, scientific works that have already been published, or scientific publications that were published no more than five years prior to the date of the Animal Protection Research Prize call for entries (5 January 2026). Posters and abstracts will not be accepted. Scientific works must be written in German or English.

For more extensive publications, a summary of the content is requested. If the submitted scientific paper was written by several authors, the individual contributions should be presented with regard to the submitted article(s).

1. 'Title' (publication year 202X) Authors, name of journal, issue no., page (from - to), DOI; number of citations (Google Scholar, date of query); Open Access Open Data Yes/No [free text field: reason]
- 2.

Documents to be submitted

Please upload the following documents in PDF format (max. 50 MB):

- Restricted-access publications (e.g. book chapters, if these describe the method in question)
- Complete list of publications (e.g. from Google Scholar)
- list of awards already received
- curriculum vitae
- scanned letter of recommendation with signature of the institute director (to be sent by post, see note)
- scanned cover sheet with signature (to be sent by post, see note)

Note: Please check that all your documents are complete.

An application is only complete once the original signed cover sheet and letter of recommendation have been sent by post to the BfR. The closing date for entries is 15 April 2026.

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