

Odyssey Publication Award Guidelines

Description of the Awards

The Outstanding Research Publication Awards include monetary prizes, certificates and invitations to give public presentations at an Odyssey Program-sponsored public seminar, where the awards will be officially presented to the winners.

New for FY20, the Odyssey Publication Award will be divided into two categories – basic and translational. Both basic and translational publications will be selected based on significance, novelty, and likelihood that the reported findings will advance the field. **Impact factor is not going to be a criteria for scoring.**

Eligibility

The awardee must have been employed at MD Anderson as a postdoctoral fellow when the manuscript was submitted for publication. The awardee must be the first author on this paper, and the work must have been done at MD Anderson. The paper must have been published (online or paper) within FY21 (Sept. 1, 2020, to Aug. 31, 2021). Papers that are in press and is not available online at the time of submission, although officially accepted for publication will not qualify.

Who Can Apply?

All MD Anderson postdoctoral fellows are eligible to apply. You must be the first author on the article. This may include authors contributing equally or co-first authors.

Application Dates

The application opens on Oct. 1, and the deadline is November 15, at 5 p.m. CST. Eligible postdoctoral fellows will receive an email with detailed information.

What Do I Need to Apply?

Applications must contain the following:

1. Application form which includes a brief description (in 4 bullet points or less) explaining the significance of the publication.
2. The research paper under consideration (must be e-published or published in print).

How do I submit my application?

1. Download and complete the Outstanding Publication Award [application form](#) (pdf).
2. Save your completed application form and a copy of published paper/manuscript as PDF documents.
3. Combine your documents, in the order listed above, into a single PDF document.
4. Name the combined PDF document as follows: Lastname_Firstname.pdf.

Submit your combined PDF document to odyssey@mdanderson.org.

Criteria for Selection of Recipients

The Odyssey Program Advisory Committee will select award recipients based on the following criteria:

1. Importance and novelty of the work described in the manuscript
2. Likelihood that the reported findings will open new research areas
3. Impact in cancer patients and understanding of cancer biology

If several outstanding entries score similarly, additional considerations will include the following criteria:

- Number and importance of other recent publications by the same author
- Number of additional authors on the publication (listing fewer authors suggests a more significant contribution by each author)
- Quality of writing of the publication