National ORD Prize

Call 2024

The 2024 ORD Prize by the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences is now open for entries. The 2nd 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
Mandated by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) in 2020, 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.
Thematic Focus Areas 2024

I. Collaborative and/or interdisciplinary reuse of data

This focus area is broadly defined and will be evaluated with respect to practices and types of data used in the respective field(s) of the research project. It includes research projects that reused data or facilitated the reuse of data with an important collaborative or interdisciplinary exchange. The collaborative and interdisciplinary aspect may lie, for example, in a team comprising members from diverse disciplines or fields of expertise; collaboration among researchers in the same field, which use different approaches or combine complementary expertise; the integration of data from different disciplines; the use of diverse types of data; the (re)use of data in one discipline coupled with the reuse in another discipline; and/or the explicit consideration and inclusion of diverse perspectives for data collection, analysis, and/or interpretation.

II. Educational and/or outreach efforts related to the reuse of data

This focus area targets projects that reuse data and that are associated with specific efforts dedicated to education, training, and/or outreach activities related to data reuse, aimed at empowering researchers and students in effectively finding, accessing, using and interpreting research data. An example would be a project that reuses data and/or facilitates reuse of data while proposing workshops, online courses, open source tools or workflows, and/or community engagement activities targeting data reuse.

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 reuse of data in a field in which reusing data is not yet an established practice 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 during data reuse, or that the reuse aimed to address a drastically different question or purpose than that of the original project resulting in data generation.
impactful: this criterion focuses on the positive impacts related to the reuse of data 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 2023 Award winners can apply again with another project.

Prize Money

Several ORD prizes will be awarded, for a total prize money of 21’000 CHF distributed among the awardees.

Additional Information

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

Submission

The submission deadline for applications is 31 July 2024, 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