UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development

Call for applications and nominations 2023

Deadline: 31 October 2023

The UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development was created in 2008 to support the improvement of teaching and learning quality in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 4 on quality education, which is one of UNESCO’s priorities.

The Prize is awarded every two years to three winners whose projects aim at improving the performance and effectiveness of teachers worldwide.

It is generously supported by the Hamdan Foundation in the United Arab Emirates, and amounts to US $300,000, which is equally divided between the three winners.
Who is eligible to apply?

- Institutions or organizations; international or national governmental or non-governmental organizations; educational or research institutions active in the field of teaching and learning.
- Candidate organizations and institutions nominated by an official nominating body:
  1. Member States in consultation with their National Commissions
  2. Non-governmental organizations in official partnership with UNESCO active in a field covered by the Prize.
- Applications must be submitted in English or in French only.
- Only organizations and institutions’ projects will be considered. Self-nominations are not eligible for the Prize and will not be considered.

What are the conditions of the project’s eligibility?

1. The project must have made a significant contribution to enhancing teaching and learning, in line with UNESCO’s principles and objectives in this field.
2. The project must be exemplary and likely to stimulate similar initiatives; it must have shown itself to be effective in mobilizing new intellectual and material resources.
3. The project must be ongoing for at least three years at the time of the application.

How to nominate a project?

Nominations can be submitted in two ways:

1. Candidates may contact the National Commission for UNESCO of their country or a non-governmental organization in official partnership with UNESCO, and active in a field covered by the Prize, to request a nomination letter;
2. Nominating bodies identify nominees and send them a nomination letter.

Each body can nominate up to 5 candidates before the deadline, and the nomination letter must comply with the Prize requirements. The nomination letter must be uploaded by the candidate in the online platform. In exceptional cases, where candidates do not have access to Internet, nominating bodies can request access to the online platform to submit the candidate nomination and application.
How to apply?

1. Candidates must register online to request an account. In doing so, candidates must comply with the eligibility requirements.
2. After registration is completed, only eligible candidates will receive an invitation link via email to access and complete the online application form.
3. Candidates will receive an email notification once they submit their application. The nominating body also receives an automatic notification of the candidate application.
4. Once the finalized application is received by the UNESCO Secretariat, the application process is complete.

Scan to apply now:

When is the deadline to apply?

The deadline for applications is 31 October 2023 (midnight, Paris time). The online platform will be closed after the deadline.

Selection process

1. The Prize Secretariat reviews all applications received before the deadline and transmits the eligible applications to the International Jury of the Prize.
2. The International Jury meets in person to assess the applications.
3. UNESCO’s Director-General selects the three winners based on the recommendations of the International Jury.
4. The Prize is awarded to the winners during an official ceremony organized on 5 October 2024, on World Teachers’ Day, at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris (France).
UNESCO – a global leader in education

Education is UNESCO’s top priority because it is a basic human right and the foundation for peace and sustainable development. UNESCO is the United Nations’ specialized agency for education, providing global and regional leadership to drive progress, strengthening the resilience and capacity of national systems to serve all learners. UNESCO also leads efforts to respond to contemporary global challenges through transformative learning, with special focus on gender equality and Africa across all actions.

The Global Education 2030 Agenda

UNESCO, as the United Nations’ specialized agency for education, is entrusted to lead and coordinate the Education 2030 Agenda, which is part of a global movement to eradicate poverty through 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Education, essential to achieve all of these goals, has its own dedicated Goal 4, which aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.” The Education 2030 Framework for Action provides guidance for the implementation of this ambitious goal and commitments.

Stay in touch

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