Timeline and Process for:
Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists
(Deadline: November 15, 2017)

General Information

Overview, eligibility, procedure:  http://blavatnikawards.org/national-awards/nomination-guidelines/

Eligible nominators: Nominators must be the institution’s President (or equivalent) or Provost, or the
President’s official designee. Each institution may nominate up to three candidates, one in each disciplinary
category (Life Sciences, Physical Sciences & Engineering, and Chemistry).

All nominations must be submitted online at:  http://blavatnikawards.org/nominate/

Required letters of support: 2 (submitted online by recommenders)

Refer questions to: Blavatnik Awards staff at blavatnikawards@nyas.org or (212) 298-8624.

Eligibility:

- Born in or after 1976.
- Earned a doctoral degree (PhD, DPhil, MD, DDS, DVM, etc.).
- Currently holds a faculty position at an eligible academic institution in the United States.
- Has made significant research contributions to the life sciences, physical sciences, engineering, and/or
  chemistry during his/her independent career as a principal investigator.
- Candidates who are not selected as Laureates in the current award cycle may be nominated again in
  subsequent years. Past faculty winners of the Blavatnik Awards regional competition are not eligible for
  the national faculty competition.
- The Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists welcomes nominations of candidates from underrepresented
groups in science and engineering.

Evaluation Criteria: The candidate and his/her work will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Quality: The extent to which the work is reliable, valid, credible, and scientifically rigorous.
- Impact: The extent to which the work addresses an important problem and is influential in the
  candidate’s field.
- Novelty: The extent to which the work challenges existing paradigms, employs new methodologies or
  concepts, and/or pursues an original question.
- Promise: Future prospects in the candidate’s field and potential for further significant contributions to
  science.

Required Application Materials: Nomination Form which includes:

- Basic biographical and contact information for the candidate and nominator.
- Nominator’s Rationale for Nomination: a statement explaining why the candidate is being nominated
  (1000 characters not including spaces).
- Candidate’s Curriculum Vitae: List only published work or manuscripts in press authored during independent career;
  do not include manuscripts that are submitted or in preparation or those published during graduate or postdoctoral
  studies. Conference abstracts and proceedings should only be included if they are the primary way of disseminating new
  results in the nominee’s field, such as in computer science and mathematics.
- Candidate’s Research Summary: summary of up to five significant scientific contributions and research
  accomplishments (1,000-word maximum not including references and figure caption, 1 figure; PDF).
- Full-text publications and/or patents representing the candidate’s best work
- Contact information for two recommenders who can attest to the candidate’s qualifications and research
  contributions to his/her field.
Timeline: Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists

**February 1:** Provost sends Deans, Department Chairs, Center Directors, and faculty members a memo announcing the Blavatnik Awards (maybe along with other external awards) and deadline.

**July 1:** OVPR solicits nominations for Blavatnik Awards from Deans, Department Chairs, Center Directors, and faculty members, and sends information about the award, eligibility, and criteria. Nominations must be accompanied by the nominee’s name, department, contact information, CV and a one-page summary of significant accomplishments. Let departments know that President Nellis will be the nominator.

**August 1:** All nominations from departments and colleges are due in the OVPR. Nomination documents are examined by the President and Vice President for Research (VPR), who will select final candidates.

**August 22:** OVPR contacts nominees’ departments to identify who will prepare the materials for the OVPR (e.g., department chair, associate dean of research) and draft the nominator’s rationale for the nomination, which will be edited and approved by the President.

**August 22:** OVPR sends the nominee’s department the links to the information that letter writers will need and relevant instructions and deadlines. Nominee’s department contacts possible letter writers to ask if they are willing to write strong supporting letters (possible writers should be given the nominee’s CV, and one-page summary of accomplishments).

**September 5:** Nominee’s department sends the OVPR the names, affiliations, and email addresses of the two people who agreed to write letters. The OVPR submits these names on the nomination website so that they are contacted via the website with instructions on how to submit the letter.

**September 1:** Nominees are asked to provide the information required for the nomination and send to the OVPR by October 1. This includes: basic biographical and contact information, birthdate, draft of statement explaining why candidate deserves nomination (1000 characters not including spaces), CV (4 pages in their specified format, pubmed citation format), research summary (1000 words, written in third person), and 4 full-text publications and/or patents representing the candidate’s best work. Files must be formatted in pdf and named as specified in the guidelines.

**October 1:** Materials are due from nominee. OVPR carefully examines for consistency and conformance to requirements. If available, OVPR editors will review and edit.

**September 28:** Nominations open and website becomes available. OVPR emails blavatnikawards@nyas.org to designate the President as the official nominator. OVPR begins to complete the on-line nomination form, and submits names and email addresses for letter writers online. They will get email with instructions to upload letter. Submission of these letters is tracked by the OVPR (by looking online: Complete: letter was submitted. Pending: email writer to see if request was received). OVPR will contact letter writers as needed until letters are submitted.

**October 30:** All sections of nomination application are complete. OVPR performs final review of nomination materials. President is sent the username and password to log in to the nomination portal to review and approve the nominations. If needed, letter writers are sent a reminder to submit letters by **November 22.**

**November 6:** President will submit nomination.

**November 15, Agency deadline for nomination materials:** All materials have been submitted to the agency. **November 29: Agency deadline for letters of support:** All letters are uploaded to the website.