Research Staff Strategy Group Excellence Awards

The Research Staff Strategy Group (RSSG) has introduced an award scheme to recognise and celebrate the achievements of research staff.

Awards for 2024/25 will be given in six categories:

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| **Definition:** For all categories, a researcher is defined as someone who is either a research assistant, research associate, postdoc, or research fellow (including Presidential Fellows) employed at the University on the date of the nomination being submitted. **Members of academic staff and technical support staff are not eligible.** |

[**Nomination form**](#_Research_Staff_Strategy)

**Research Staff of the Year (one award per Faculty) -** The nominee should be an outstanding researcher who has excelled in a number of different areas, for example a journal publication, delivery of a prestigious conference presentation, contribution to securing a major research grant, support for Postgraduate Researchers, or enhancing the research environment.

**Best Outstanding Contribution to Social Responsibility by Research Staff (one award per Faculty)** – The nominee should be a researcher whose research can be shown to have had a positive impact on local, national or international communities, commitment to, or innovation in, equality, diversity and inclusion, or has widened participation in, or access to, research and knowledge.

**Best Outstanding** **Interdisciplinary Research (one award per Faculty)** – The nominee should be a researcher whose studies cross boundaries and advance knowledge in two or more disciplines.

**Best Outstanding Output by Research Staff (one award per Faculty) -** The nominee should be a researcher who has published a high-quality research output where they are first, last, or sole author.

**Best Outstanding Contribution to Research Impact by Research Staff (one award per Faculty) -** The nominee’s research should show that they have had a positive impact in terms of improvements beyond academia, for example on society, the economy, health, public policy, or the environment, either in the UK or internationally. Contribution to peer-reviewed publications will not be considered in this category; these contributions should instead be entered in the ‘Best Outstanding Output by Research Staff’ category."

**Best Outstanding Contribution to Research Staff Environment -** The nominee should be a researcher who has shown to have had a tangible and positive impact on the research staff environment at the University of Manchester, for example in the areas of community, inclusion, or research culture.

**Criteria**

1. At the time of being nominated, the researcher must be employed on a research contract at the University and be categorised as a research assistant, research associate, research fellow (including Presidential Fellow), or postdoctoral researcher.
2. All nominations must be made through the completion of the nomination form, and all forms must be accompanied by **one statement of support** from the nominator or a relevant peer or a member of professional services or academic staff.
3. Self-nomination is permitted; one statement of support is still required from a peer or a member of professional services or academic staff.
4. Researchers can be nominated for more than one award. In this case, only one application is needed but the statement of support **must clearly address all the criteria** **required for each award in separate paragraphs**.

Please note: If the statement does not fully address the criteria for each award, then they will not be considered for that award.

**Process and Timeline**

1. All nominations, marked private and confidential, should be sent by email to resdev@manchester.ac.uk, by **Tuesday 27th May.**
2. All nominations will be considered by a panel within the relevant Faculty. A maximum of **three ranked nominations per category per Faculty** will be submitted to the Research Staff Strategy Group (RSSG) for consideration.
3. The three ranked short-listed nominations from each Faculty for each category will be assessed at RSSG on **11th June 2025.**
4. RSSG will select the successful nominee from each Faculty for each of the categories.

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| **Date** | **Detail** | **Who** |
| March to May | Promotion of Call | ResDev |
| 27th May | Deadline for all nominations  | ResDev |
| June | Faculty panels and ranking | ResDev and Faculties |
| 11th June 2025 | RSSG decision | RSSG |
| July 2025 | Winners notified | ResDev |
| September 2025 | Announcements of winners (PAW) | ResDev |

**All nominations must be made directly to** **resdev@manchester****.ac.uk no later than Tuesday 27th May 2025.**

# Research Staff Strategy Group Excellence Awards Nomination Form 2025

If a researcher is being nominated for multiple awards, only one nomination form is required but the supporting statement must clearly address the criteria for all relevant awards. If the criteria for the all the relevant awards are not clearly evidenced, the nominee will not be considered for that award.

Researchers may be nominated by a colleague or may self-nominate. A supporting statement from the nominator (unless self-nominating), or a relevant peer, member of academic staff or professional services is required for all nominations.

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| **Nominee and Nominator Details** |
| Name of nominee |  |
| Job title |  |
| Email address |  |
| School |  |
| Name of nominator  |  |
| Email address |  |
| Job title and School |  |
| **Name of Award** | **Please Tick (√)** |
| Research Staff of the Year |  |
| Best Outstanding Output  |  |
| Best Outstanding Contribution to Research Impact  |  |
| Best Outstanding Contribution to the Research Staff Environment |  |
| Best Outstanding Interdisciplinary Research |  |
| Best Outstanding Contribution to Social Responsibility by Research Staff |  |
| Nominations **MUST** be accompanied by one statement of support (300 words max) from either a relevant peer of the nominee, a member of academic staff or professional services and should be appended to the nomination. The supporting statement must clearly outline the reasons for the nomination. **If you are nominating for more than one award, please address the criteria for that award in a separate paragraph**. Please note, if the evidence is not clear, they will not be considered for that award. |
| Name of supporter | Supporting Statement Attached (Yes/No) |
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