

2025 Nomination form for honorary degrees, Medals of Honour and national honours

You are asked to note that successful candidates for honorary degrees and medals of honour in this round are likely to receive their awards in 2026 or later and that we are particularly keen to receive nominations for remarkable individuals who have excelled in ways that link strongly to our core goals and themes and our values.

Guidance notes for each of the awards are given at the end of this form for ease of reference.

If you have any queries relating to the form you are asked to contact the Secretary to the Awards and Honours Group, Deborah Black (email: Deborah.Black@manchester.ac.uk).

The deadline for submission for all three categories of awards is **Friday 7 February 2025**.

Please also note that **self-nominations are not permitted**. **Where you are putting someone else forward s/he should not be aware that s/he is being nominated**. **If the Awards and Honours Group which considers the nominations is made aware that a nominee does know that s/he is being nominated it will disregard the submission**.

Your details:	Your response:
Full name:	
Relationship to the University (please highlight/ circle the category to which you belong):	Member of staff Student Graduate Member of the Board of Governors Member of General Assembly
Telephone number:	
Email address:	
Today's date:	
Person you are nominating:	
Nominee's title and full name:	
Suffixes e.g. CBE, FRS	
Award you wish to put him/her forward for (please highlight/circle the relevant award):	Honorary degree Medal of Honour National honour
Please describe your relationship to the nominee (if any)	

200 word citation for use in the shortlisting process. PLEASE NOTE THAT IF YOU EXCEED THE 200 WORD LIMIT THE EXTRA TEXT WILL BE DISCOUNTED.

Below you are asked to give a short summary of your candidate's achievements and contributions. This information will be used by the members of the Awards and Honours Group to determine whether your nomination should be shortlisted. If you wish to, you can include links to additional sources of information provided these fall within the 200 word count.

700 word citation This will be considered by the Awards and Honours Group if the nomination is shortlisted. AGAIN YOU ARE ASKED TO NOTE THAT THE WORD LIMIT NEEDS TO BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO AS ANYTHING BEYOND IT WILL BE DISCOUNTED. AGAIN YOU CAN INCLUDE WEB LINKS IF YOU WISH TO

Confidentiality

I can confirm that the nominee is not aware that s/he is being put forward

Please highlight or circle the yes if you can confirm

YES

References (optional):

Please give the names and email addresses of no more than two individuals who are willing to support this nomination.

(Referees will only be contacted if further evidence/verification of any issue is required.)

Referees should be aware that their contact details are being shared with the University's Awards and Honours Group (AHG) so you must seek permission before submitting this form. Please highlight/circle the confirmatory statement to indicate you have sought permission.

1. Name:

Email address:

2. Name:

Email address:

I can confirm that the referees are aware that their contact details have been shared with the AHG.

Please submit your nomination by email to Deborah.Black@manchester.ac.uk. Nominations need to be received by **Friday 7 February 2025**.

Guidance notes

1. Honorary degrees

Honorary degrees are the most prestigious awards the University can confer. As such, it is likely that recipients will have high standing nationally or internationally in their chosen field and, in most cases, beyond their immediate sphere of influence.

Nominees will be expected to have made an exceptionally distinguished contribution to their field and/or have made an exemplary contribution to public life.

When considering a nomination account will be taken of whether:

- The nominee serves as an example of ambition and achievement;
- The merit the award brings to the individual mirrors the merit the conferment brings to the University;
- The nominee embodies the Vision and Values of the University.

A connection with the University, the city of Manchester or the North West is desirable but not essential.

While the list below is not exhaustive, typically successful nominations include people who have demonstrated an:

- outstanding contribution to education (in research, teaching, administration, philanthropy, etc.);
- outstanding contribution to the world's greatest challenges (through science, technology, innovation, sustainability, poverty reduction, addressing health inequalities, etc.)
- outstanding contribution to business, industry, law, etc.;
- outstanding contribution to cultural life (the arts, sport, etc.);
- outstanding record of voluntary service or community action and engagement.

Often the strongest nominations evidence a range of the individual's contributions which are in addition to his/her current or former paid, professional role, such as volunteering in any of its guises (on boards, advisory groups, within local communities, etc.), support for cultural life and, where applicable, giving to charities/the HE sector, etc.

The University will not normally honour current or former members of University staff nor current members of the Board of Governors. However, in the case of truly outstanding current or past members of staff, exceptions have been made e.g. for former Vice-Chancellors such as Professors Sir Martin Harris, Alan Gilbert and Dame Nancy Rothwell, and current Nobel Prize winning staff Professors Sir Andre Geim and Sir Kostya Novoselov. Exceptions could also be made for current members of the Board of Governors.

It will also not honour serving politicians as their roles could compromise or be perceived as compromising our institutional neutrality. This will also apply to individuals who have accepted an award but, before conferment of it, have been elected or appointed to one of these positions. In the latter case, the Awards and Honours Group that oversees all three award categories would look again at the appropriateness of conferring the honour after the term of office has ended and keep this under review if it is not possible immediately.

Similarly, it will also not honour those holding public office whose roles could compromise or be perceived as compromising our institutional neutrality. Again, this will also apply to individuals who have accepted an award but, before conferment of it, have been elected or appointed to one of these positions. In the latter case, the Awards and Honours Group would do the same as for politicians and consider the appropriateness of conferring the honour after the term of office has ended and keep this under review if it is not possible immediately. Nominators are still able to nominate individuals holding public office as these will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Awards and Honours Group.

Nominations for individuals in all ethnic groups and of all genders are welcomed, as are those for people who have not already received an honorary degree although holding such an award will not preclude their consideration.

When considering if your nominee meets the criteria for an honorary degree you should reflect on whether the contributions are truly exceptional. If they could be considered outstanding and are in service to the University, city or region in whatever field, a Medal of Honour could be more appropriate. You might also wish to consider if your candidate is suitable for a national honour where the nomination could be submitted directly by you to the Cabinet Office.

For advice on making a submission please contact Deborah Black (deborah.black@manchester.ac.uk), Secretary to the Awards and Honours Group, or the Group's Chair, Professor Nalin Thakkar (n.thakker@manchester.ac.uk), Vice-President for Social Responsibility.

Nominations must be submitted to deborah.black@manchester.ac.uk by **Friday 7 February 2025**.

2. Medals of Honour

The University Medal of Honour is the highest non-degree award bestowed by the University. The award is intended to honour and recognise individuals who have made an outstanding and sustained contribution usually to the work of the University, the city of Manchester or the north-west region. Many types of contributions can be considered including to the voluntary/community sectors, business, philanthropy, the economy, education, the arts, science, sports, etc.

As for honorary degrees, often successful nominations evidence a range of the individual's contributions which are in addition to his/her current or former paid professional role, such as volunteering in any of its guises (on boards, advisory groups, within local communities, etc.), support for cultural life and, where applicable, giving to charities/ the HE sector, etc.

For the majority of nominees, nominators should set out the nominee's contributions to the work and aims of the University, city or region and explain why their particular achievements are seen to merit the award of a University Medal of Honour.

Where the contributions are not directly in service to the University, city or region, nominators will need to make a compelling case for why the nominee should be considered.

As for honorary degrees, the University will not honour serving politicians as their roles could compromise or be perceived as compromising our institutional neutrality. This will also apply to individuals who have accepted an award but, before conferment of it, have been elected or appointed

to one of these positions. In the latter case, the Awards and Honours Group would look again at the appropriateness of conferring the honour after the term of office has ended and keep this under review if it is not possible immediately.

Similarly, it will also not honour those holding a public office whose roles could compromise or be perceived as compromising our institutional neutrality. Again, this will also apply to individuals who have accepted an award but, before conferment of it, have been elected or appointed to one of these positions. In the latter case, the Awards and Honours Group would do the same as for politicians and consider the appropriateness of conferring the honour after the term of office has ended and keep this under review if it is not possible immediately. Nominators can still nominate individuals holding public office as these will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Awards and Honours Group.

Again, nominations for individuals in all ethnic groups and of all genders are welcomed.

For advice on making a submission please contact Deborah Black (deborah.black@manchester.ac.uk), Secretary to the Awards and Honours Group, or the Group's Chair, Professor Nalin Thakkar (n.thakker@manchester.ac.uk), Vice-President for Social Responsibility.

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3. National honours

The Awards and Honours Group will also consider nominations which are made for national honours that you would like the University to sponsor. The number of cases the University does sponsor each year is very small so you may wish, as anyone can submit a case, to consider putting your candidate forward directly for these national awards.

Nominations should highlight how the potential recipient has:

- made a difference to their community or field of work;
- brought distinction to British life and enhanced its reputation;
- displayed moral courage and vision in making tough choices and hard applications;
- improved the life chances of those less able to help themselves.

The guidance issued on submissions for national honours states that if a nomination is ultimately successful, success will not be immediate and will take at least 12 to 18 months. Your attention is also drawn to the fact that nominations should be made while the nominee is still active and, if possible, at least 12 months before he/she is expected to retire or stand down.

If the name you put forward on this nomination form is considered appropriate you will be asked to work up the full nomination using the appropriate form supplied by the Cabinet Office or relevant professional association.

For advice on making a submission please contact Deborah Black (deborah.black@manchester.ac.uk), Secretary to the Awards and Honours Group, or the Group's Chair, Professor Nalin Thakkar (n.thakker@manchester.ac.uk), Vice-President for Social Responsibility.

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