

PGR of the Year (President's Distinguished Achievement Award)

Guidance 2026/27

One award per faculty.

The nominee should be an outstanding **postgraduate researcher** who has excelled in some significant manner, for example, after the presentation of a thesis based on the recommendation and judgment of the external examiner; or has had a major research achievement during a PGR programme e.g. high-quality journal publications; research spin off, etc.

Wherever possible, you are asked to reflect on how a prospective nominee's contributions link to our values – Knowledge, Wisdom and Humanity- but note this is not essential.

Criteria

At the time of being nominated for an award¹, nominees must be registered for a postgraduate research degree at the University of Manchester, be under examination for a postgraduate research degree at the University of Manchester or have completed their doctoral degree within the past twelve months².

All nominations **MUST** be accompanied by:

1. A nomination statement provided by the main nominator, which must be no longer than 700 words.
2. A minimum of 2 statements of support, and no more than 4, from either the nominee's peers or relevant members of academic or PS/Cultural Institutions' staff. These statements must be no longer than 120 words each.
3. nominators are required to provide a very brief summary of the nominee's achievements - no longer than 120 words.

If these statements are not included the nomination will not be considered. The word counts are very strict anything beyond the limits will be disregarded

You can make your nomination via the [online form](#).

¹ The date of nomination is deemed as the date on which the Department/School submits a nomination to the Faculty for consideration.

² The completion date of their doctoral degree refers to the completion date on Campus Solutions.