

Gates Vaccine Innovation Award Rules & Guidelines

Nominations due by Wednesday, July 31, 2013, 11:59pm, U.S. Pacific Daylight Time

Overview

At the World Health Assembly in May, 2011, Bill Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, announced the following:

“As a global health community ... we need to know who the innovators are, so that the most powerful ideas spread far and wide. Starting in 2012, the Gates Foundation will bestow an award on an individual or team that has made the most uniquely innovative contribution to the Decade of Vaccines ... in my foundation annual letter, I’ll talk about that winner to make sure that pioneering global health leaders get the credit they deserve.”

Hundreds of thousands of lives each year could be saved by improved access to vaccines. Vaccines are inexpensive, safe and are proven to protect children from disease. Innovation is essential to overcoming the most persistent challenges in reaching more children with vaccines.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation seeks to recognize and celebrate revolutionary ways children in the poorest parts of the world are immunized.

If you know individuals or groups of up-to ten individuals who have achieved significant improvements in the prevention, control, or elimination of vaccine preventable diseases through immunization or policy, please nominate them.

Each year, we will recognize the award winner by providing the winner(s) and, in most cases, an organization that works to advance the improvements or innovations highlighted by the award with a shared \$250,000 prize. The recipient will also be recognized by foundation leadership as well as with a feature on the innovation on the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation website.

Key features of the Gates Vaccine Innovation Award are:

- A short nomination form. Three essays (submitted in English) are required to convey the following information:
 - *What is the innovation?*
Describe the innovation. What new idea led to improved immunization quality and coverage? What problem did the innovation help address? In what way is the innovation creative and transformative? Describe why the innovation deserves to receive global recognition.
 - *How did the individual or team contribute to the innovation?*
What was the individual or team’s specific role in the innovation. What did this person or team do differently to increase immunization coverage and quality?
 - *Who benefited from this innovation?*
Describe the community that benefited from the innovation. In what country did the work take place? What segment of the population was immunized as a result of the innovation? To what

degree (if any) is the community and/or local government leading and sustaining the innovation?
To what degree is the innovation already at scale, or suitable to be taken to scale?

- Essay questions must be limited to 500 words or less each, using 11 point Times New Roman font.
- The nomination form can be submitted online <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/What-We-Do/Global-Development/Vaccine-Delivery/Vaccine-Innovation-Award> by email to vaccine-innovation-award@gatesfoundation.org, or by fax to +1 (206) 494-7042.
- We will review nominations for novel ideas that show new thinking in vaccine delivery, have demonstrated impact, and are scalable.
- Our review process involves a committee of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation staff members.

Tips for Nominators

- The nomination forms will be reviewed by a panel with broad expertise and a track record in identifying innovations but these reviewers may not be experts in your field. Please describe the innovation in clear language without the use of technical jargon.
- The innovation you nominate must meet the criteria outlined below.

Application Instructions

Key dates and deadlines for the Gates Vaccine Innovation Award

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| • April 16, 2013 | Nomination period opens |
| • July 31, 2013, 11:59 pm Pacific Daylight Time | Nomination period closes |
| • January, 2014 | Winner announced |

How to Nominate

Any information submitted by you or on your behalf with respect to the Gates Vaccine Innovation Award (including the nomination, reports, or any related documentation and communications) will be subject to and handled in accordance with the provisions in the foundation's Privacy Policy.

You may save and make edits to your nomination any time before submitting the nomination form (online, by email or by fax). Once a nomination is submitted, changes will not be accepted. Any edits must be made before the application deadline.

You may nominate a team of up to 10 individuals per innovation.

Multiple nominations may be submitted by the same nominator.

Nominees will be contacted if they are under consideration to be a finalist.

Changes to the Rules and Guidelines will be posted on the Gates Vaccine Innovation Award page of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation website (www.gatesfoundation.org), including any changes to the dates or times listed above.

Application Format

You should use the online nomination tool which can be accessed at:

<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/What-We-Do/Global-Development/Vaccine-Delivery/Vaccine-Innovation-Award>

If you are unable to complete the online nomination form, please send an email to vaccine-innovation-award@gatesfoundation.org to request a Word version of the nomination form. Please submit these nominations via email to vaccine-innovation-award@gatesfoundation.org, or via fax to +1-206-494-7042. Essay questions should not exceed 500 words each in length.

References to academic publications are not required.

Please do not include a cover sheet with your proposal. A cover sheet will be automatically generated from your registration data.

Nominations must be submitted prior to the submission deadline of 11:59pm Pacific Daylight Time on July 31, 2013.

Eligibility

Any individual or team of individuals is eligible to be nominated. Self-nominations are not allowed. Current and former employees, officers, contractors and agents of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, together with members of their immediate families (parent, child, sibling and spouse of each) and those living in their same household or independent contractors supporting the Gates Vaccine Innovation Award program are ineligible to receive the award. Residents of Cuba, Iran, Syria, North Korea, Myanmar (formerly Burma) and Sudan are ineligible to participate. This program is void in these countries and where prohibited or restricted by law. We reserve the right to limit, or restrict upon notice, participation in the nomination process to any person at any time for any reason.

If a selected recipient is an employee of a corporation or academic institution, a government official, enrolled as a student or representing their employer or academic institution, it is their sole responsibility to review, understand and abide by their employer's or academic institution's policies regarding eligibility to receive this award. Selected recipients may also be required to agree to additional terms and conditions and disclaimers in order to receive the award.

Competitive nominations will be those who have demonstrated impact through innovation in the delivery of life-saving vaccines. Criteria we will consider are described below.

Criteria

Innovation can take many shapes. Even simple ideas, when applied in creative ways, can be innovative and lead to significant change. For this award, we are looking for ideas big and small that are resulting in tangible improvements in vaccine coverage in developing country communities.

Nominees will be assessed on three broad criteria:

- *Developing country impact* – The nominee should have contributed to the prevention, control, or elimination of vaccine-preventable disease through significant improvements in immunization quality and coverage among mothers and children in developing countries.

- *Innovation and creativity* – The nominee should have applied imaginative and pioneering approaches to overcome difficult challenges to immunizing children and achieving impact. Remember, *innovation* is not the same as *invention*. Even simple ideas applied in creative ways to overcome real-world challenges can be considered innovative.
- *Scale* – The nominee’s innovation should be at scale or suitable to be implemented at scale within the nominee’s country and around the world.

In addition, during the application process we may request that you to respond to the following:

1. We may request additional information about nominations from the nominators and/or the nominees.
2. We may ask that you identify any third party that owns intellectual property encompassing or related to the innovation. We anticipate that the nominator, or the nominee, will identify any known third parties based only on your current knowledge. We do not require that you conduct any type of inquiry into the intellectual property rights of third parties.
3. We may ask you to confirm that you have read and understand the Website Terms and Conditions, Privacy Policy, and Rules and Guidelines documents, and acknowledge that any information submitted on their behalf with respect to the Gates Vaccine Innovation Award (including the nomination form, reports, or any related documentation and communications) will be subject to and handled in accordance with such provisions.
4. The Foundation may communicate with nominators and nominees on topics that we think might be of interest to you (for example, sharing with you future opportunities for funding).

Review Process

Review and Handling of Nominations

Nominations (including the nomination form and any related documentation) may be provided to third-party reviewers.

The information submitted by you as part of the nomination is not confidential. The Foundation intends to provide a general description of the nomination online, including but not limited to: our website, facebook, Twitter, and YouTube channels. These brief descriptions may also be made available in press releases and other publically available materials.

For compliance reasons and to promote greater transparency, the Foundation will publish certain information about any awards, including amounts awarded and recipients.

Due to the large number of nominations, those that are not selected for award will receive an email notification of decline without specific feedback. Nominators are encouraged to continue to submit ideas in future rounds.

The Foundation intends to review nominations through the following process:

1. Submissions will be screened by a panel of reviewers comprised of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation staff members to ensure they satisfy the criteria outlined above.

2. Finalists will be selected for additional due diligence review and analysis, at which time finalists will be contacted for further information. Finalists will be expected to provide credible information (e.g., immunization coverage surveys, photos, publications, etc.) and references within set timeframes to help substantiate the accuracy of the innovation nominated and allow for proper vetting prior to selection of a winner. Accurate contact information is required.

3. Foundation leadership will make the final selection.

Due to the large volume of nominations, we will not be able to give specific feedback as to why a nomination was not ultimately selected for the award.

Management of Conflict of Interest

To identify and avert conflicts of interest among reviewers, reviewers will not be permitted to review proposals from organizations with which the reviewer has self-identified conflicts of interest.

Privacy Notice and Terms of Use

Links to our full privacy policy and terms of use are located at: <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/What-We-Do/Global-Development/Vaccine-Delivery/Vaccine-Innovation-Award>

Representation: By providing any Submission Materials, the sender represents to the Foundation that they have the right to provide the information submitted.

Nominators with questions concerning the contents of their Submission Materials may contact the Foundation at: vaccine-innovation-award@gatesfoundation.org

Inquiries

Please direct all questions about this award, selection criteria, or nomination instructions by e-mail to the following address: vaccine-innovation-award@gatesfoundation.org

Appendix

Grant Announcements; Public Reports and Use of Foundation Name and Logo

The Foundation will include information on this award in our periodic public reports and may make information about this award public at any time on its web page and as part of press releases, public reports, speeches, newsletters, and other public documents. Winners may distribute their own news release about the award, as long as it is released after the Foundation's announcement. Winners agree to obtain advance approval from the Foundation of the date of release, or of any other use of the Foundation's name or logo. The Foundation requests an opportunity to review and comment on subsequent press releases or reports that are directly related to the award.