

**NATIONAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION**  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE  
SINGAPORE

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Nominations for the President's Science and Technology Awards  
2024 open from 13 December 2023 to 29 February 2024**

*Corporates, universities, research institutes and technology firms encouraged to submit nominations for Singapore's top Science and Technology Awards*

13 December 2023 – Nominations for the President's Science and Technology Awards (PSTA) 2024 comprising the President's Science Award (PSA), the President's Technology Award (PTA) and the President's Science and Technology Medal (PSTM) open today.

2 The PSTA is given annually to recognise the achievements of individuals in Singapore's Research Innovation and Enterprise (RIE) ecosystem who have made outstanding contributions in enhancing Singapore's economic progress, addressing national and social needs, and pioneering research and innovation in new and emerging domains.

3 Past recipients of the PSTA have led research breakthroughs in anti-cancer therapies, infectious diseases, space technologies, and sustainable technologies. Their achievements have resulted in new solutions and products that positively impact society and established Singapore as a centre of excellence for RIE. The dedication to their research which can span a lifetime also serves as an inspiration to the many young scientists and engineers they have mentored.

4 Individuals nominated for the PSA and the PTA are peer reviewed in two selection committees comprising eminent researchers, industry veterans and public servants involved in the Science and Technology (S&T) ecosystem. The respective selection committees make their recommendations to the PSTA Main Committee, comprising senior figures and public servants in the S&T ecosystem as well. The Main Committee directly evaluates nominations for the PSTM and makes the final recommendation for all the awards.

5 PSTA nominations are open to anyone who has worked in the Singapore RIE ecosystem regardless of nationality, and the selection committees encourage nominees from various professional backgrounds, such as scientists, engineers, researchers, innovators, and entrepreneurs, to participate in the awards.

6 Jasbir Singh, Director of the Government Scientific Advisors Office, National Research Foundation who chairs the PSTA Working Committee said, "For 2024, we want to impress on Singaporeans the value of science and the role our research scientists and engineers play in enabling Singapore and Singaporeans to progress. The convenience of our modern life is the outcome of years of trials and experiments by individuals who have dedicated their careers for the betterment of society. Recipients of the PSTA awards embody the spirit of inquiry and quest for knowledge that Singapore champions as a knowledge-based economy."

Visit the PSTA website [www.psta.gov.sg/](http://www.psta.gov.sg/) to access the nomination forms. Do note that recommendations must be submitted by 29 February 2024.

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## **About National Research Foundation**

The National Research Foundation, Singapore (NRF), set up on 1 January 2006, is a department within the Prime Minister's Office. The NRF sets the national direction for research and development (R&D) by developing policies, plans and strategies for research, innovation and enterprise. It also funds strategic initiatives and builds up R&D capabilities by nurturing research talent.

Learn more about the NRF at [www.nrf.gov.sg](http://www.nrf.gov.sg).

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## **Annex: About the President's Science and Technology Awards and award categories**

### About the President's Science and Technology Awards (PSTA)

The PSTA are the country's top honours for research scientists and engineers in Singapore. Given annually, the PSTA recognises individuals and teams that have made exceptional contributions in pushing the boundaries of the science and technology (S&T) landscape in Singapore.

There are three distinct awards – the President's Science and Technology Medal, the President's Science Award, and the President's Technology Award. The PSTA also celebrates the Young Scientist Award. The Young Scientist Award is administered by the Singapore National Academy of Science and supported by the National Research Foundation, Singapore.

As the highest accolade, the PSTA brand carries prestige, and influence, and most importantly, inspires the next generation. PSTA winners create orbits of impact through their exceptional work, personal ingenuity, and continued search for excellence; they are role models for their peers and aspiring researchers in the S&T fields.

### President's Science and Technology Medal (PSTM)

The PSTM recognises individual accomplishments and contributions that have significantly advanced Singapore's development through promotion and management of S&T. The accomplishments and contributions would generally be acknowledged by the S&T ecosystem as having a significant impact on the ecosystem's capabilities or international stature. The PSTM is not meant to recognise research accomplishments or contributions to advancing individual technologies, as these are covered by the PSA and PTA, respectively. Examples of achievements recognised by the PSTM include, but are not restricted to:

- a. Being the driving force in pioneering the establishment of an important field of study in Singapore.
- b. Being the leader who was instrumental in the raising of an S&T institution to world-class status.
- c. Contributing exceptionally to a major levelling-up of our S&T ecosystem's capabilities or international stature.

### President's Science Award (PSA)

The PSA recognises accomplishments generally acknowledged by other S&T practitioners as being significant and impactful to their field. They need not have led to practical applications or products. Achievements recognised by the PSA include, but are not restricted to, individual discoveries or a collective body of research work that has led to:

- a. Spawning or enabling new avenues of study,
- b. Revolutionising or significantly advancing the research methodology of a field,
- c. Significantly advancing or overturning our previous understanding of a field, or the potential for such advancement.

### President's Technology Award (PTA)

The PTA recognises accomplishments that have led to transformative changes in the use or potential of technology in Singapore or further afield. The relevant technology need not be fully adopted or deployed at the point of nomination, but its potential must be acknowledged, and it must have progressed beyond academic or theoretical potential and be in the process of translation or adoption by end-users. Achievements recognised by the PTA include, but are not restricted to, individual breakthroughs or a collective body of research and development work that has led to:

- a. Disrupting the industry's status quo with a new technology,
- b. Advancing the state-of-the-art performance of an impactful technology,
- c. Innovative application of existing technology in a new, impactful way,
- d. Pioneering development of local technology capabilities.