



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD 2026/2027 TO RESEARCHERS PUBLISHING IN HIGH-IMPACT FACTOR JOURNALS

The Government, through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST), invites applications for the Research Excellence Award, meant to recognize researchers publishing their research findings in high-impact-factor journals.

The Research Excellence Award seeks to strengthen the capacity of local researchers and promote innovation and practical solutions that address national challenges and contribute to socio-economic development and competitive industrialization.

The award will be presented to Tanzanian researchers affiliated with higher learning institutions accredited in Tanzania who published scholarly work in reputable high-impact journals between 1 June 2024 and 31 May 2026. Each winning publication will receive a certificate and a cash prize of TZS 50,000,000, equivalent to Tanzanian Shillings Fifty Million only.

Eligible Fields

The awards will be contested across the following five scientific fields, as specified in the *Guidelines for the Research Excellence Award for Researchers Publishing in High-Impact Factor Journals*: **Engineering and Information and Communication Technology (ICT); Natural Sciences; Health and Allied Sciences; Animal and Agricultural Sciences; and Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences.**

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the award, applicants must apply and fulfil all the following criteria:

- i) Be a faculty member or honorary/adjunct faculty at an accredited higher learning institution (HLI) in Tanzania. Independent researchers are not eligible;
- ii) The research must have been published or accepted for publication between July of the previous year and June of the current financial year (data collection or analysis may have occurred earlier);
- iii) Only accepted manuscripts with evidence of a letter of acceptance from the journal or published manuscripts will be considered;
- iv) In the case of multi-authored papers, the application must be submitted by one of the potential (Tanzanian) awardees, but the award can be shared among Tanzanian authors who appear on the paper based on their percentage of contribution, as outlined in the Harmonized Scheme of Service for academic staff and who are affiliated with Tanzanian HLI/NACTVET institutions;
- v) More than one publication may be considered if submitted separately; in this case, each publication will be evaluated independently;
- vi) Multi-disciplinary applications are allowed within the priority disciplines, but condition (iv) applies;
- vii) Application forms and necessary attachments must be completed and submitted;
- viii) Research must address national research priority areas as regularly updated by COSTECH and field-specific research regulators. Research must fit in the categories listed in section 6.1 and as announced for the specific year;
- ix) The applicant must submit: (a) an updated curriculum vitae (CV) including a full publication record; and (b) an official endorsement letter from an authorised officer of the applicant's employing HLI confirming the applicant's active employment and institutional affiliation at the time of publication. Applications that do not include these documents will be

declared ineligible by the Secretariat before being forwarded to the Selection Committee; and

- x) The position in the publication is not a limiting criterion in the application process, but transparency in the contribution to the publication must be demonstrated.

Integrity and Consequences of Misconduct

The integrity of the award process is paramount. The following provisions apply to all applicants:

- i) Any applicant found to have submitted fraudulent documents, misrepresented their contributions or affiliations, or engaged in any form of scientific misconduct shall be immediately disqualified and barred from applying for a minimum of five years.
- ii) If an award has already been granted based on fraudulent information, MoEST reserves the right to rescind the award and demand repayment of any cash prize.
- iii) Cases of suspected fraud shall be referred to the applicant's employing higher learning institution for investigation under the institution's disciplinary procedures and may also be referred to relevant legal authorities under applicable Tanzanian law. COSTECH, as the Secretariat, shall maintain a register of disqualified applicants.

Mandatory Attachments for Submission

- i) A duly completed application form for the Research Excellence Award;
- ii) The applicant's updated Curriculum Vitae (CV) including a full publication record;
- iii) Published manuscripts or accepted manuscripts with evidence of a letter of acceptance from the journal with high-impact-factor; and
- iv) An official endorsement letter from the applicant's institution in Tanzania.

Application Window

The application window will be open from 19 June to 31 October, 2026. The *Guidelines for the Research Excellence Award for Researchers Publishing in High-Impact Factor Journals*, together with the Application Form, can be accessed through the Ministry's website at: <https://www.moe.go.tz>

All applications must be submitted through the following email address:
award.publication@moe.go.tz

For any inquiry, please contact the secretariat through the following mobile phone number: +255764876530

Issued by:



Prof. Carolyne I. Nombo
PERMANENT SECRETARY