

## Paul Kayser RRF Global Award Guidelines and Criteria for Selection

**Purpose:** The award was conceived as a vehicle for the recognition of outstanding achievement in visual science with preference given in the specialized field of research on the retina and vitreous. The purpose of the award is to identify and recognize a vision science professional whose work has made a significant new contribution to knowledge about improving vision and prevention of blindness.

**Objectives:** To identify and recognize leading visual scientists in the forefront of innovative clinical and basic science research in Ophthalmology. The award would also recognize the institution where the research is taking place.

**Launching:** The first award was presented at 30<sup>th</sup> Pan-American Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in August, 2013.

- The recipient shall be recognized at the Opening Ceremony of the Pan-American Congress.
- The awardee shall give a lecture as a highlighted speaker at Pan-American Congress linked to the event and time which has the highest anticipated attendance at the meeting.

**The Award:** This award in the amount of \$50,000 will be funded and supported by the Retina Research Foundation (RRF) of Houston, Texas, and shall be given during the Pan-American Congress in the odd years. An honorarium, in the amount of \$20,000 shall be presented to the recipient and \$30,000 shall be awarded to the institution where his/her research is taking place.

Research grant money is to be used only for personnel, equipment, and supplies. Research grant money cannot be used for principal investigator's salary, travel expenses, books, computers, indirect costs, or expenses related to publications. All travel and housing expenses shall be paid by the awardee.

All tax liabilities (if any) shall be paid by the awardee, unless otherwise required by law, in which case the taxes will be withheld from the award.

**Reporting:** The awardee shall be required to submit to the Pan-American and the Retina Research Foundation a full report and a copy of the Pan-American Congress presentation.

### Application Qualifications

- The applicant should be an MD or PhD with a focus of research in the visual sciences, affiliated with an accredited institution.
- The applicant should be between 35 to 65 years of age.
- The applicant should be an Active Member of the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology.

**Exclusions:** Optometrists and corporate employees may not apply for this award.

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### ***Submission Procedures:***

- The applicant needs to complete the official form with the required manuscript.
- Letters of reference may be sent directly to the Pan-American Paul Kayser/RRF Global Award Selection Committee.
- The applicant shall not send videos or similar presentations, books or published papers. All submitted materials become property of the Pan-American and cannot be returned.
- All application materials and supporting letters for the 2023 award must be received no later than **September 13, 2022**.
- All application forms and letters should be uploaded to:  
<https://www.hightail.com/u/PAAO-PAOF>

### **General Criteria for Selection**

The award may be given to individuals who have made contributions in anyone of the realms listed below:

- Developed new techniques accepted worldwide
- Discovery or evolution of new technology
- A new treatment modality
- Discovery of the etiology of a disease state
- Establishing new standards of quality of life due to innovation in ophthalmic care.
- Breakthroughs in new approaches in the genetic research such as biological products, stem cells, genomics and genetic therapies.
- Collaborative multi-centered research breakthroughs.