

MICCAI Young Scientist Publication Impact Award

Definition and Guidelines; Last Updated: January 30, 2026

Purpose of the Award

This annual award recognizes a MICCAI conference publication by a young scientist that was presented at the main MICCAI conference within the past five years and that has subsequently had a significant impact on the field.

Multiple factors are considered in judging the significance of a publication. The award committee considers qualitative measures such as a personal statement from the author as well as quantitative measures such as the number times the paper, and follow-on papers, have been cited. Ultimately, the award committee has significant latitude in how it estimates and weights the breadth and depth of a paper's impact.

This award is intended to recognize, reward, and encourage those scientists who are early in their careers and who are shaping the future of our field.

Eligibility

If a paper was accepted to one of the five prior MICCAI conferences and the first author was a Young Scientist¹ at the time of the paper submission, then the author and that paper are automatically considered for the MICCAI Young Scientist Publication Impact Award.

There will be no restrictions based on MICCAI membership, organization, nationality, race, creed, sex or age. Once a paper has received this award, it is not eligible to receive this award in future years.

The Award Coordinator and/or MICCAI Society President will make the final decision of eligibility.

Award Coordinator

The Award Coordinator is appointed by the MICCAI Board; they should be a member of the Board or a senior member of the MICCAI community. The role of the Award Coordinator in the process is administrative, he/she does not vote and refrains from influencing the result. If the Award Coordinator has a conflict of interest with any of the candidate papers, then the MICCAI Board replaces the coordinator with someone who is free of conflict.

¹ Young Scientist, defined by MICCAI YSA Guidelines: MICCAI Young Scientist is someone who is or was a student at a recognized university at most two years prior to the paper submission deadline of the conference

Award Committee

The award committee consists of 3 rotating members from the conference Program Committee or senior members of the MICCAI community, each serving a 3-year term. Each year, one member rotates out and the award coordinator invite one new member to join the committee. None of the committee members shall have conflict of interest with any of the candidate papers. If a conflict of interest is detected, the award coordinator should invite an ad-hoc member to replace the committee member in conflict. The committee shall be balanced in areas of expertise as well as geographical and other diversity, to cover the topical range of the candidate papers. The committee should be assembled well in advance of the conference, to leave sufficient time for deliberation.

Adjudication

Long List of Candidate Papers

The Award Coordinator selects ~30 papers from the five prior MICCAI conferences for further consideration by the committee. This list of papers is generated by selecting five to seven papers from each of the five prior conferences. For each of those prior conferences, the five to seven papers are chosen based on quantitative measures of impact, such as the number citations and the impact factor of the publications which made those citations. These statistics are gathered using standard tracking tools, e.g., ISI Web Of Knowledge.

Short List of Candidate Papers

From the long list of papers, the Award Committee selects a short list of three to seven papers based on their review of the text of the papers, the quantitative statistics used to generate the long list, and the eligibility of the lead author as a young scientist.

Final Selection of Winners

The authors of the papers in the short list are asked to submit a summary of the impact of that paper on their careers and the impact of that paper on the field. They are also asked to provide a copy of their CV including a list of related publications and their h-index score.

The Award Committee determines the winning and runner-up papers based on the responses provided by the authors and based on their judgment of the impact the eligible papers have had on the MICCAI community.

Integrity of the Process

The Award Coordinator ensures ethical integrity for the process. Should a potential conflict of interest be discovered during the process, the conflict shall be resolved without affliction to the chances of the competing authors and papers, by making appropriate changes within the committee, such as replacing or removing the conflicted committee member.

Announcement

The awardees and runners-up, with their institutional affiliation, should be announced individually during an award ceremony of the conference.

Financing

The MICCAI Society provides \$1,000 USD for the YSPIA annually.

Payment Method

The awards are sponsored by the MICCAI Society and are made by MICCAI Society check.

Queries

Queries should be directed to the MICCAI Society Awards Coordinator.