



WAYAMBA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA WAYAMBA UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AWARDS (WURA)

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

1. Introduction

One of the essential duties of university academics is to involve in research and development activities, and in light of this, universities must encourage and provide a suitable environment for their academics to carry out research. Apart from that, the outputs and outcomes of research, including the publications generated from such are considered very important in many aspects, especially in elevating the ranking of universities. The purpose of the Wayamba University Research Awards (WURA) is to encourage and appreciate the academic community according to the merits of the research.

2. Types of Awards

There are two types of awards, namely:

1. **Wayamba University Most Outstanding Senior Researcher Award 20XX**
2. **Wayamba University Most Outstanding Young Researcher Award 20XX**

A **Gold Medal** and a **Certificate** will be awarded to the winner of each award.

A **Certificate of Merit** will be awarded to all applicants who obtain the minimum mark specified in the marking scheme mentioned in Section 4 below.

3. Eligibility for Wayamba University Research Awards

❖ General Criteria

A candidate to become eligible for the award should comply with the following general eligibility criteria:

- 1) A permanent academic member of the WUSL.
- 2) Submit only publications patents, and other achievements adhering to the evaluating criteria, achieved during the year of the award for evaluation.

- 3) In case of manuscripts published in journals, the year of the first online published date or first published date will be considered as the year of the manuscript, but not the accepted date or journal issuing year or citing/printing year.
- 4) Require at least one publication in an Indexed Journal [see: Section 4 (a) below].
- 5) Require the applicant's affiliation to be stated as "Wayamba University of Sri Lanka" in all claimed publications and patents etc.
- 6) Exclude all publications in predatory journals.
- 7) Exclude publications presented in symposia for undergraduate programs at WUSL.

❖ **Specific Criteria**

A candidate to become eligible for the award should comply with the following specific eligibility criteria:

- 1) Require a **minimum of 15 marks** to become eligible for the "Wayamba University Most Outstanding Researcher Award – 20XX".
- 2) Require a **minimum of 10 marks** to become eligible for the "Wayamba University Most Outstanding Young Researcher Award – 20XX".
 - a) Age should be **below 40 years** as of 31st December of the preceding year of the award.

4. Marking Scheme

Item	Marks Allocated
a) Publications in recognized "Indexed Journals" (i.e. Science Citation Index or Social Science Citation Index, Science or Social Science Citation Index Expanded)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5 marks per paper for the 1st author and the corresponding author limiting the maximum marks per paper to 10. Marks will be calculated as 5 x IF (e.g. For a publication in a journal with IF > 2.0, the marks will be 10). 2. 3.75 marks per paper for the 2nd author and the marks will be calculated as 3.75 x IF limiting the maximum to 7.5 3. 2.5 marks per paper for any other author and the marks will be calculated as 2.5 x IF limiting the maximum to 5.0. <p><i>Note: The allocated marks for authorship should not be multiplied by the IF, if the IF of the considering journal is less than 1.</i></p>
b) Patents (National or International)	7.5 marks per any international patent 5 marks per any national patent
c) Books authored and published by a recognized publisher with an International Standard Book Number (ISBN)*	5 marks per book

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d) Books authored and published by the author or non-recognized publisher with an International Standard Book Number (ISBN)*	2.5 marks per book
e) Publications in refereed journals that publish at least two issues per year* (Manuscripts published in any predatory journal should be excluded)	3 marks per paper
f) Publications in refereed journals that publish less than two issues per year* (Manuscripts published in any predatory journal should be excluded)	2 marks per paper
g) Review articles or book chapters published by a recognized publisher*	2 marks per article or chapter
h) Publications (full papers) in conference proceedings (local or international)*	1 mark per paper
i) Publications (abstracts) in conference proceedings (local or international)*	0.5 marks per abstract
j) Recipient (Principal Investigator or Collaborating Researcher) in Open Competitive Research Grants offered from a recognized national or international institution	3 marks per grant
k) Number of Wayamba University Research Grants completed in the year of applying for the award	1 mark per grant

Note: For section 4 (c to i), Full marks (100%) can be claimed if the applicant is the 1st author or the corresponding author, 75% if 2nd author and 50% if any other author.

5. Method of Selection

- 1) The Senate Research and Higher Degree Committee (SRHDC) will call for applications for the WURA.
- 2) The eligible academic staff members should submit duly completed application forms substantiated with evidence for publication/s and other eligibility criteria before the deadline.
- 3) Candidates can apply for both awards if eligible but the awarding will be made for a single category. The candidate who gets the highest score among all contenders (senior, junior, or both) will be the holder of the Wayamba University Most Outstanding Researcher Award of the year.
- 4) The SRHDC will evaluate the applications according to the set guidelines.

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- 5) The applications submitted without the mandatory information will not be considered for evaluation.
- 6) The SRHDC will select and recommend the list of suitable awardees for the Senate's final approval.
- 7) Multiple awarding will be considered when more than one applicant equals the highest score.