



Acadamh Óg na hÉireann
Young Academy Ireland

Guidance Notes

The following guidance notes accompany the 2022 application form for membership at the Young Academy of Ireland. We would recommend you read through the entire document before proceeding with your application. Additional information about the Young Academy and the application process can be found on our website: www.yai.ie

The Young Academy of Ireland values diversity and strives for a culture of equality and inclusion in all of its activities. The YAI is committed to ensuring greater gender, disciplinary, institutional and overall diversity in every area of the Academy and its work throughout the island of Ireland. It particularly welcomes nominations from under-represented groups and communities.

In line with the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment, commonly known as DORA, the YAI will recognise a wider range of contributions to research, research outputs and activities.

Applying for membership

The Young Academy is welcoming applications for its first members. We are looking for dedicated, driven and dynamic individuals who are committed to collaborating with others from a spectrum of different sectors. Our members will be selected from across Ireland, from a variety of diverse backgrounds and a range of experiences.

Members will be encouraged to help define the Young Academy's activities and contribute to its projects. They will help to build the YAI's reputation and give it a credible voice on issues that matter. This will include engaging with fellow members and other institutions to understand the key issues facing society and pressing for best practice across the sectors they represent. Members will have the opportunity to address challenges faced by their peers, inform national and international policy, and enable positive societal change.

We are looking for forward thinking, innovative and proactive individuals in all key sectors of society. While not an exhaustive list, these might include entrepreneurs, researchers in academia or industry, engineers, professionals in the arts and creative industries, lawyers, teachers, clinicians, along with individuals working in new and emerging fields.

Membership criteria

Applicants for membership must demonstrate a commitment to making a difference in society, collegiality, and leadership potential. The YAI will pursue a broad range of programmes to promote multidisciplinary experiences, engage in policy debate, networking opportunities with other ECRs and to foster international and interdisciplinary collaboration. Applicants should provide evidence of interest or experience in one or more of these areas.

The YAI is committed to diversity, equality and inclusion. It will encourage and consider applications from all qualified candidates. The YAI welcomes applications from researchers from minority groups,



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new and emerging disciplines in academia, and researchers working in government, industry, and non-governmental sectors. It will actively encourage a breadth of regional, disciplinary and gender representation. To be eligible for YAI membership applicants must:

1. Have been awarded a PhD in any discipline within the past 10 years
2. Be normally resident on the island of Ireland at the time of application for membership.
3. Demonstrate the following:

3.1 Research excellence: The call is open to all early career researchers and innovators who demonstrate a high level of excellence (interdisciplinary and practice-based research) in their discipline or research field.

This includes scholars working in any research-based discipline, including the natural, physical and social sciences, arts and humanities, or researchers working in private industry, the public and not-for-profit sector, or civil society organisations. The YAI welcomes applications from researchers from minority groups, new and emerging disciplines in academia, and researchers working in government, business, and non-governmental sectors.

3.2 Research impact: Applicants must demonstrate the impact of their research on the higher education sector, public policy, or wider society.

3.3 Commitment: Members join for one term of 4 years (extensions can be granted for career breaks, e.g., for caring responsibilities). The YAI will be an active organisation, and being a member requires a time commitment on each member's part. Members are expected to commit fully and be active participants in the Young Academy activities and projects including attendance at the YAI Annual General Assembly and participation in one or more of the organisation's priority areas.

3.4 Inter-disciplinary or international collaboration. The YAI will seek to work across disciplines and internationally. Applicants will be expected to be able to demonstrate experience in these areas.

Membership term

Membership in the YAI is for a four-year term: extensions can be granted for career breaks, e.g., for caring responsibilities.

The YAI is committed to observing the principles of integrity and good research practice. Membership may be revoked if a member engages in misconduct or if a member violates the principles of the YAI.

There is no membership fee.

The selection process

Applications for the YAI's first members will be reviewed by the Selection Committee, which comprises individuals with a diversity of experiences and from a variety of backgrounds including;



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academia, public and private sector, early-career and professional sector representatives covering different areas of knowledge, expertise and geography. The committee will also include Members of the Royal Irish Academy.

The membership selection committee will consider all aspects of each candidate's qualifications and skills in the context of the mission of the YAI, with a view to creating a membership cohort with a diversity of experiences and perspectives.

Timeline for the selection process:

30 September 2022	Deadline for applications
September – November 2022	Review of applications by Selection Committee
December 2022	Applicants will be notified about application outcome

Online Application Form

Completed application forms must be submitted online by 5pm, Friday 30 September 2022.

Unfortunately, we are unable to take submissions via email.

The application form consists of six sections that cover an applicant's career, qualifications, experience, and how they feel they will contribute to the Young Academy of Ireland.

Applicants should use these sections to demonstrate evidence of professional achievement, together with other relevant skills and experience they might have. This might include, for example, previous involvement in or enthusiasm for innovation and entrepreneurial activity; interdisciplinary working; interest in national and global policy issues, and interest or participation in international collaboration.

We are also looking for broader skills and experience that demonstrate a commitment to working with others: a capacity for leadership; interest in wider societal issues; and a flair for innovative and creative thinking.

As part of the application process, you will need to submit details of two referees who are willing to provide references to support your application. References will only be contacted if you are shortlisted for membership.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about applying for membership, please contact yai@ria.ie