

Rules for award of the Barbara Skarga Research Stipend at the Foundation for Polish Science

In honour of the memory of Prof. Barbara Skarga, distinguished philosopher, great humanist, friend and donor of the Foundation for Polish Science, the Board of the Foundation hereby establishes the Barbara Skarga Research Stipend.

General provisions

§ 1

1. The Barbara Skarga Research Stipend (or the “Stipend”) is awarded once per year to one of the winners in the START programme—stipends for young researchers—of the Foundation for Polish Science.
2. The Stipend is a personal distinction and does not constitute a supplementary stipend in the START programme.
3. The winner of the Barbara Skarga Research Stipend will be a stipend holder in the START programme whose research is distinguished by boldly crossing the boundaries between various fields of inquiry, opening up new research perspectives, and creating new values in science.
4. Notices about the competition and its results will be published on the Foundation’s website.

Competition procedure

§ 2

1. All winners in the START programme in a given year will participate in the competition for the Barbara Skarga Research Stipend. Receiving a stipend in the START programme is deemed to mean entry in the competition and no additional applications are required.
2. The fundamental criterion for selection of the winner is the interdisciplinary nature of the research and the highest quality of scientific achievement. Applications by winners in the START programme displaying interdisciplinary and innovative research shall be subject to substantive evaluation by the qualification committee.
3. The qualification committee will be appointed each year by the Board of the Foundation. The members of the committee will include experts from the field of philosophy, which was Barbara Skarga’s field of study, as well as experts from fields appropriate to the topic of the candidates’ research.
4. On the basis of the substantive evaluation of the applications, the coordinator of the START programme will present the recommendations of the qualification committee of the Barbara Skarga Research Stipend to the Board of the Foundation together with a justification.
5. The winner of the Stipend shall be selected from among the candidates recommended by the qualification committee.

6. Decisions resolving the competition are final and not subject to any appeal.

§ 3

7. The Board of the Foundation may decide not to award the Stipend in a given year.
8. The names of the persons serving on the qualification committee are confidential. No evaluations gathered during the course of the competition procedure shall be disclosed to third parties.
9. The Foundation reserves the right to disseminate information about the results of the competition, including the research accomplishments of the winners, via the internet and other media.

Realisation of stipend

§ 4

1. The Stipend shall be paid out on the basis of a stipend agreement specifying the conditions for payment and realisation of the Stipend as well as the rights and obligations of the parties.
2. The amount of the Stipend shall be determined each year by the Board of the Foundation and announced publicly. The monthly amount of the Stipend may range from PLN 3,000 to PLN 6,000 (three thousand to six thousand zloty).
3. The Stipend shall be financed out of the Foundation's own funds.
4. The Stipend is awarded for 12 months.
5. The Stipend will be paid out in quarterly instalments.

Rights and obligations of the parties

§ 5

1. The Stipend holder is required to:
 - a. comply with the terms of the stipend agreement;
 - b. conduct scientific work during the period of receiving the stipend;
 - c. notify the Foundation of any change in status as an employee and/or doctoral student and of any change in the place where he or she is employed and/or pursuing doctoral studies;
 - d. include information in publications and reports arising during the period of receiving the stipend concerning awarding of the stipend from the Foundation, in a form specified in the stipend agreement;
 - e. submit a report to the Foundation on his or her scientific activity while receiving the Stipend, in a form required by the Foundation. The Foundation reserves the right to disseminate the information contained in the report.

2. The Foundation undertakes to pay out the Stipend on the basis of the stipend agreement.
3. The Foundation reserves the right to modify the decision on award of the Stipend or withdraw from or cease paying out further instalments. Grounds justifying modification of the decision shall include more specifically:
 - a) the Stipend holder's failure to comply with principles of scientific integrity,
 - b) resignation from scientific work,
 - c) the Stipend holder's long-term absence from Poland for non-scientific reasons,
 - d) violation of the provisions of these Rules or the stipend agreement.
4. The winner has the right to relinquish all or part of the Stipend.

Concluding provisions

§ 6

1. Any amendments to these Rules shall be adopted in the same manner in which the Rules were adopted.
2. These Rules were adopted by Resolution No. 10/2012 of the Board of the Foundation dated 18 January 2012.
3. These Rules shall be effective upon issuance of a decision by the Minister of Science and Higher Education approving the rules for awarding stipends in this programme.