



Call for Application Baldwin and Inge Knauf Award for Outstanding Academic Achievements 2026

In 2026, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg (JMU) will once again present the Award for Outstanding Academic Achievements, established by its benefactors Baldwin and Inge Knauf. The award aims to **promote early-career researchers and to strengthen JMU's commitment to excellence and competitiveness** across all fields of research.

The award will be granted in four academic areas: (i) Life Sciences and Medicine, (ii) Natural Sciences, (iii) Humanities, and (iv) Social Sciences. **Up to four awards of €50,000 each** may be conferred to support the flexible advancement of the recipients' academic careers.

Excellent early-career researchers who have submitted a Habilitation thesis reviewed by external experts, outstanding junior research group leaders (e.g. funded through the DFG Emmy Noether Programme or an ERC Starting Grant), as well as W1 assistant professors (with or without tenure track) and W2 tenure track professors **are eligible for nomination**.

Award recipients are distinguished by excellent publications and have already demonstrated success with an innovative research concept in a competitive selection process. The nominated research achievements should generally have been accomplished within four to eight years after the doctorate, or within seven to twelve years for candidates engaged in clinical work. At the time of application, employment at JMU or at the University Hospital Würzburg is required.

Applications are to be submitted by e-mail to the Research Advancement Centre (RAC) at rac-office@uni-wuerzburg.de by 19 December 2025 incl. the following documents in a single PDF file (font size 12 pt, line spacing 1–1.5): (1) a summary of past research achievements and their significance for the respective field, written in lay terms and with reference to the publication list (max. 2 pages), (2) a curriculum vitae (max. 3 pages), (3) a list of up to ten key publications, and (4) two external reviews from competitive evaluation procedures (e.g. appointment process, mid-term evaluation, or third-party funding proposal). For questions regarding this call, please contact Dr. Anna Kaufman at the RAC. **The award ceremony will take place in May 2026 as part of JMU's Stiftungsfest (Annual Foundation Celebration).**