

UEG Research Prize 2026

Call for Applications and Criteria

Every year, UEG awards a prize for excellence in basic science, translational or clinical research in the areas of gastroenterology, hepatology and related disciplines.

1. Extent of the support

The winner of the UEG Research Prize 2026

- receives the prize money of €50,000, designated to support a future scientific research project from its initial stage to successful completion. The prize money is paid to the winner's department.
 - **Note: The use of the Prize is restricted to salary support, equipment, and research consumables related to the Recipient's future research.**
- will be officially awarded during UEG Week 2026 and will briefly present the winning project during a dedicated session.
- will be announced and introduced in the UEG Week 2026 online programme, on the UEG website and in post-congress reports.

2. Application criteria

Target Group

The UEG Research Prize is aimed at active, established senior researchers whose scientific work has a major impact on digestive health and whose proposed study will significantly advance their careers. UEG encourages applications from all fields within digestive health.

Eligible applicants should:

- Lead a substantial research group, with work carried out mainly in Europe.
- Focus on areas of research that generally face greater challenges in securing funding.
- Have a proven record of substantial peer-reviewed grants from internationally recognised research councils, charities, or industry partners.
- Have been listed as (co-)author of an abstract submitted to UEG Week in the past three years (2023, 2024, or 2025) or have been recognised as a UEG Rising Star within the past five years (2021–2025).
- Commit to delivering the proposed research within the agreed timeframe.

Additional conditions:

- Applications from departments that have received a UEG Research Prize in the past five years (2021–2025) will not be accepted.
- The prize may be awarded to the same recipient only once.
- The call is open to myUEG Associates and myUEG Young GI Associates.

3. Application process

Candidates must submit the completed application form together with their online application. **Application deadline is March 3, 2026.**

4. Selection process

All applicants will be reviewed by the UEG Research Committee.

The **scoring criteria** are structured as follows:

A. Overall candidate score (40 points), including

- Scientific merit based on the candidate's biography, list of 10 best original publications and account of achievements (22 points)
- International grants and consortia (10 points)
- Internationally recognised prizes or fellowships (6 points)
- Support to a junior professional (2 points)

B. Research proposal (40 points), including

- Quality of the research plan (20 points)
 - Significance of the proposed research (15 points)
 - Use of funds (5 points)
- The criteria have no absolute delimitations and no legal weight.
 - All applicants will be informed about the status of their application by mid-April 2026.
 - Applicants who are not successful in this call may reapply in future editions of the UEG Research Prize, provided they continue to meet the eligibility criteria.

5. Obligations to UEG

- The recipient of the UEG Research Prize will be required to submit scientific and financial reports on the work supported by the prize money (max. 5 years after receipt of the prize)
- Furthermore, UEG expects the UEG Research Prize winner to
 - submit a review article to UEG Journal by the end of October 2026.
 - accept potential UEG Week Faculty invitations in subsequent years.

6. Timeline

Application opens:	October 2025
Application closes:	March 3, 2026
Review by RC:	March – April 2026
Notification to RP applicants:	April 15, 2026

RP project starts: As agreed in the UEG Research Prize Agreement (typically following the award ceremony and payment; by October 2026 at the latest)