*Saint-Martin-d'Hères, Thursday 31 october 2024*

**Application for the Thesis Award 2025**

**Note to PhD candidates**

The 2025 Université Grenoble Alpes Thesis Award will be granted to nine or ten PhD gradates enrolled in one of the 13 Doctoral Schools and who defended their PhD thesis in 2024.

**Academic Thesis Award**

The aim of the academic thesis awards is to honor seven PhD graduates whose thesis work is judged to be of exceptional quality in line with the criteria of excellence specific to each disciplinary field represented in the Université Grenoble Alpes Doctoral Schools and research centers.

An eighth thesis award will recognize a piece of interdisciplinary research work covering at least two significantly different PhD specialties.

**Innovation Thesis Award**

One or two innovation thesis prizes will be awarded for outstanding thesis work that involves a promotion and dissemination project or approach with a central involvement of the candidate. The second prize, called the Special Innovation Prize, recognizes exceptional work or achievements of a different nature than those of the Innovation Thesis Prize.

**SER Thesis Award**

A SER Thesis Prize will be awarded to the winner of the Academic Thesis Prize and the Innovation Thesis Prize, for a thesis that respects the criteria set out by the company in terms of social and environmental responsibility, both in the way it is conducted and in its results. The winner will thus receive a double award.

**Dear PhD graduates,**

**You are about to apply for the Université Grenoble Alpes Academic or Innovation Thesis Award 2025. In order to help you prepare your application, please take note of the following elements.**

## **Documents to provide for your application**

* + **For all thesis awards:**
* In a separate document, provide a high definition passport photo in jpg format.

Provide the documents below in the same order in a PDF document. Do not fill in the "scientific quality assessment" which will be filled in at a later date by the Doctoral School management

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| --- |
| Use the relevant application file template:   * Academic Thesis Award: 2a-PTA-Dossier-Candidature-2025.docx * Interdisciplinary Academic Thesis Award: 2b-PTA-interdisciplinaire-Dossier-candidature-2025.docx * Innovation Thesis Award : 2c-PTI-Dossier-Candidature-2025.docx |

* A header page with the type of award applied for, the first and last name of the PhD graduate applicant, the doctoral school to which the applicant belongs, and the research center associated with the application (except for the interdisciplinary academic thesis award and the innovation thesis award);
* The scientific quality assessment written by the Doctoral School management including an appreciation of its interdisciplinary nature if this award is being applied for;
* A resume, with the scientific work related to the thesis research;
* The defense file (pre-defense reports, thesis defense record (PV) and/or the final defense report depending on the discipline);
* A two-page maximum summary presenting the thesis research in an educational manner, accessible to non-specialists of the subject, considering the assessment criteria defined in part of 2 of this document. Please note that applications for the Interdisciplinary and Innovation Thesis Awards must meet both the criteria for these awards as well as the criteria for the Academic Thesis Award.
* **To apply for the SRE Thesis Award:** A one-page summary of how the thesis is socially and environmentally responsible, whether in terms of the subject, results, impact of the thesis or conduct of the thesis, according to the criteria defined below.
  + **For the Interdisciplinary Academic Thesis Award:**
* An extra page justifying the interdisciplinary nature of the research carried out (refer to document 2b-PTA-interdisciplinaire-Dossier-candidature-2025.docx)
  + **For the Innovation Thesis Award:**
* Add the form specific to the Innovation Thesis Award (included in the document 2c-PTI-Dossier-candidature-2025.docx)

The application file can be written in French or English.

## **Criteria for the assessment of application files**

* **For the Academic Thesis Award**

***For all academic thesis awards including the interdisciplinary award***

The scientific quality assessment of applications will be based on the following 3 criteria:

* 1. The application’s scientific excellence is unanimously approved:
  + by the external referees (rapporteurs) ;
  + by the jury ;
  + justified by the Doctoral School Dean’s grade.
  1. Capacity of the PhD graduate to present his/her thesis work in a clear, concise and appealing manner.
  2. Interest and scientific impact for the discipline.

**Additional criteria**

If applicable and depending on the discipline, the scientific quality of the work (articles, intellectual property) during the PhD thesis

***For the Interdisciplinary Academic Thesis Award***

An interdisciplinary academic thesis award will be granted based on the quality of the application (same criteria as above) and an assessment of the interdisciplinary nature of the research conducted.

* **For the Innovation Thesis Award**

In addition to the criteria for the Academic Thesis Award, the assessment will be based on the 4 criteria below, with a list of factual elements considered for each:

1. **Potential of promotion associated with the thesis conclusions**

* Ambition and scope of the project
  + The scientific and/or technical complexity of the project is significant / The project opens up new issues and opportunities;
  + The innovation meets an important unsatisfied social need / The market potential is important;
* Positionning
  + The core of the innovation and the differentiation it provides from the state of the art are identified;
  + The context is favorable (regulatory, etc.);
* Intellectual Property
  + There are unpublished or secret conclusions;
  + There is a declaration of invention based on the conclusions;
  + An intellectual property title exists (patent, trademark, registered software, formalized know-how, etc.);
* Other form of promotion
  + There is a potential for "non-proprietary" promotion through free and participative dissemination;

1. **Maturity of research conclusions**

* Maturity level
  + If technological: the technology has been verified in a laboratory environment
  + If biological: the mechanism of action has been verified in vitro / in vivo;
  + If non-technological (new methods, new organizational modes, new uses, etc.): an experiment has shown the feasibility of the solution, its viability;
* There is a lab model / a functional demonstrator / an application demonstrator / a participatory device for its development
* A leap of maturity was made during the thesis (specify the delta between the beginning and the thesis defense);

1. **Degree of dissemination progress**

* One or more applications have been identified;
* There are expressions of interest from businesses / communities / associations / end users;
* Economic viability is credible, with or without a market dimension;
* The results are used by a socio-economic stakeholder in the framework of dissemination / participatory approach with stakeholders/users;
* A new socio-economic structure or start-up has been created in the context of conclusion dissemination

1. **Background and motivation of the PhD graduate in the field of promotion**

* The candidate's vision of innovation is clear, his/her role in the valorization process or project is major with well identified contributions;
* The candidate's motivation to valorize is strong and his/her career path in terms of valorization is coherent (CV, career path, labels followed in relation to innovation (marketing, valorization, innovation, company creation), context of the thesis in collaboration/co-construction with socio-economic or cultural actors);
* The valorization dynamic continues after the thesis and the doctor is involved in these developments.

In the event of questions about innovation, candidates may contact the Université Grenoble Alpes ["Innovation et Transfert Office" (ITO@UGA)](mailto:ito@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr).

**► For the SER Thesis Prize**

An additional SER prize will be awarded to one of the winners of the academic and innovation thesis prizes, including the interdisciplinary prize. The winner will thus receive a double award.

The latter will be awarded to a winner whose thesis is judged to be socially and environmentally responsible, whether in terms of the subject, the results, the impact of the thesis or the conduct of the thesis, according to the following criteria:

* Taking action against climate change;
* Conserving resources, promoting biodiversity and preventing waste;
* Supporting social inclusion and promoting equality ;
* Supporting and developing human rights, citizenship and democracy;
* Improving social policies and promoting quality of life ;
* Responsible research.

## **Schedule summary for the Thesis Award 2025:**

* Send your application file to your doctoral school: contact your doctoral school to find out the deadline for handing in the application file (March 2025)
* Thursday May 22 2025: results announced to PhD graduates
* **Thursday, June 26 2025, 5:00 pm: Awards ceremony during the PhD Ceremony**

**PLEASE NOTE** the ceremony date in order to be available if you are a winner. We also advise you to inform your thesis supervisor of the date as they are invited to the ceremony.

We remain at your disposal for any further information.

Contact: phd-events@univ-grenoble-alpes.fr

**PLEASE NOTE: we remind you that your application file must be sent to your doctoral school**