

Guidelines for Awards of Prizes, Funds, Accolates as well as Scholarships and Grants

The RHS (Rudolf Hermanns Foundation) fulfills its purpose - the promotion of sciences – by awarding

- A) prizes and funds for special academic or professional achievements (grand prize)
- B) accolates for outstanding bachelor's or master's theses (small prize)
- C) scholarships and grants for students at Hochschule Geisenheim.

On September 10, 2014, the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee decided on the following guidelines for awards, pursuant to §§ 2, 3, 9 and 11 of the Articles:

A) Prizes and Funds

§ 1 - General Provisions

- (1) In accordance with the founder's wish and the Articles of the RHS, cash prizes can be awarded to scientists working at Hochschule Geisenheim and to other persons from universities and institutions within the European Union as well as associated and neighboring states who have achieved outstanding academic and/or professional performance in the fields of viticulture and horticulture.

Prizes can also be awarded for funding respective workgroups. A prize can be awarded only once to an individual person.

- (2) Prizes are awarded for outstanding achievements in the fields of viticulture and horticulture. In general, the purpose behind is to support award winners in their attempt to achieve further brilliant results.

Although prizes are awarded without imposing any conditions, they are expected to be mainly used for further scientific projects.

§ 2 - Prerequisites for Awards

- (1) Prizes and funds are awarded for outstanding achievements in all fields of viticulture and horticulture and related research projects.
- (2) Results and achievements must be verifiable and available for review, if necessary. Proof of outstanding performance may e.g. be provided by:
 - recognized scientific journals, possibly also manuscripts accepted for publication,
 - general recognition among experts verifiable by neutral expert reports,
 - expert opinions provided by impartial, recognized and competent scientists or institutions.
- (3) For a prize to be awarded it is not mandatory that the scientific research or project has been fully accomplished, if results provided so far already show outstanding achievements and if work is expected to be finished at the same high quality level.
- (4) Preference shall be given to the work of young scientists.
- (5) All achievements reported by the end of the last calendar year will be taken into account. Sect. 3 shall remain unaffected.

§ 3 – Application Process

Applications for a prize award have to be made in writing by means of the application form which is to be sent to

Rudolf Hermanns Stiftung
Postfach 11 54
65358 Geisenheim,

E-Mail: RHS@hs-gm.de.

The application form can either be requested by sending an email to the Foundation or by downloading it from its website (link provided on the Hochschule Geisenheim website).

Applications must include all information required for consideration.

§ 4 - Nature of Prizes and Sums Awarded

- (1) Prizes comprise a certificate issued by the Rudolf Hermanns Stiftung that specifies the respective achievements and cash prizes of up to

€ 12,500.00 (twelve thousand five hundred)

It is up to the discretion of the Board of Trustees to propose the number and amount of prizes awarded depending on the quality of the performance and the funds available. It is not obliged to propose possible candidates.

- (2) Prizes are announced in an award ceremony open to the public.
- (3) The Executive Committee of the Foundation reserves the right to split prizes for achievements of approximately the same quality or to suspend awards should there be no worthy achievements. In this case, additional prizes can be awarded in one of the following years.
- (4) If the prize is awarded to a workgroup or an institution, it may only be used for accomplishing certain research projects and is to be considered as material grants. Respective proof has to be provided to the Foundation.

B) Accolades

§ 5 – General Provisions

In accordance with the founder's wish, an accolade honoring outstanding bachelor's and master's theses can be awarded to students at Hochschule Geisenheim and to students of Viticulture, Enology, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture in graduate degree programs connected to Hochschule Geisenheim.

§ 6 – Application Process

- (1) The Vice-President of Academic & Student Affairs or the Chairperson of the Examination Board file an application with RHS for funding. Appropriate reasons have to be given.
- (2) Applications will be reviewed by at least 2 members of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee who then provide a suggestion for awards.
- (3) The Executive Committee decides on which theses are to be honored and on the sums awarded.
- (4) In general, decisions as stated in aforementioned sections are made by way of circulation.

§ 7 – Nature and Amount of Accolade

- (1) Grants awarded amount to an annual sum of € 1,000.00 (one thousand). The amount can be split up among several persons.
- (2) Grants are awarded by the Executive Committee during the graduation ceremony of Hochschule Geisenheim.
- (3) The accolade comprises a certificate issued by RHS that specifies the thesis honored and a cash prize of up to € 500.00 (five hundred).

C) Scholarships and Grants

§ 8 - General Provisions

- (1) In accordance with the founder's wish, scholarships and grants can be awarded to eligible students at Hochschule Geisenheim and to students of graduate degree programs in Viticulture, Enology, Horticulture and Landscape Architecture.
- (2) By awarding scholarships and grants winners shall be encouraged and supported in their attempt to show sufficient personal initiative and motivation in order to achieve extraordinary results in the field of studies funded.
- (3) This means that scholarships and grants are meant to support recognizable success of students achieved by outstanding achievements during their studies and to give them the necessary financial independence.

§ 9 - Prerequisites for Awards of Scholarships and Grants

- (1) Pursuant to § 4 Sect. 1 scholarships can be awarded as financial support for living. The means (net income) available to the winner to finance his/her living must not exceed three times the standard rate as stipulated in the Bundessozialhilfegesetz (Federal Social Security Act). Any obligations by third parties to provide financial support have to be given due consideration.
- (2) According § 11 Sect. 2 grants can be awarded as financial support for writing bachelor's or master's theses or dissertations. This, however, is based on the prerequisite that such theses cannot be financed by own means but only with the help of subsidies.

§ 10 - Application Process

Applications for scholarship and grant awards have to be made in writing to

Rudolf Hermanns Stiftung
Postfach 11 54
65358 Geisenheim.

Applications must include all information required for considering the application according to these guidelines. In particular, the following documents are to be provided:

- proof of income and pecuniary circumstances
- report by at least one lecturer on results achieved so far.

The Board of Trustees may request further expert opinions.

§ 11 - Nature and Amount of Scholarships and Grants

- (1) Scholarships awarded as financial support for living will be paid in monthly instalments of up to € 200,00 (two hundred) for a period of a maximum of 12 months.
- (2) One-time grants can be awarded for writing a final thesis or dissertation and must be used for this purpose only. Respective proof has to be provided to show proper use. The sums granted can amount to up to € 1,500.00 (one thousand five hundred) for theses or dissertations encompassing highly complex experiments, up to € 750.00 (seven hundred fifty) for theses or dissertations including complex experiments and in all other cases up to € 250.00 (two hundred fifty).
- (3) The sums indicated for scholarships and grants are guidelines that can be amended, if necessary.
- (4) The applicant will be informed about the decision in writing by the Foundation management.

§ 12 - Discontinued Prerequisites

- (1) Should aforementioned prerequisites for awards of scholarships and grants cease to apply, financial support will not longer be paid. The Foundation reserves the right of reclaim.
- (2) Respective decision is made by the Executive Committee after consultation with the Chair of the Board of Trustees.

D) Final Provisions

§ 13 - Award Regulations

- (1) As far as the RHS endowment capital allows, awards of prizes and funds as defined in Section A and accolates as defined in Section B will alternate every second year. Applications for funding according Section C will be decided on independently on an regular basis.

Depending on the financial situation the Executive Committee can decide to suspend awards also for several years.

- (2) All applications handed in will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee of the Foundation. Each year, the Executive Committee defines the amount of funds to be awarded, taking into account the financial situation of the Foundation. The Executive Committee decides on the award of prizes and funds as well as scholarships and grants, if necessary seeking further expert advice. Its decision is binding. Applicants do not have any legal entitlement to claim funding. Legal recourse is excluded.
- (3) Multiple awarding according Section A or Section B shall not be allowed. In specially justified cases, awards as defined in Section A and in Section B do not exclude each other if the time period between the awards is at least 2 calendar years.

Geisenheim, September 10, 2014

sgd. *Prof. Dr. K. Schaller,*
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

sgd. *H.-G. Muckermann*
Chairman of the Executive Committee