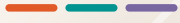


The Comprehensive Guide Social Researcher Award



Qatar Foundation for Social Work

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01

About the Award

The **Qatar Foundation for Social Work** is launching the “Social Researcher Award”, a specialised research award in the field of social work. The Award aims to stimulate the production of knowledge and scientific evidence and to translate them into practical solutions that contribute to the development of social programmes and services and create a tangible impact on the quality of life of beneficiaries.

The Award covers a range of research areas that reflect the diversity of social work issues and their connection to the needs of individuals, families and society, including social issues, issues affecting priority groups, social care services, and other related fields.

The Award seeks to strengthen the role of the Foundation and its centres in social research by attracting researchers from among school and university students, academics and professionals in the social sector, and by harnessing rigorous scientific research as an effective tool for policymaking, supporting decision-making and achieving sustainable social impact.

Vision

From research to knowledge, and from knowledge to impact.

Mission

To stimulate research capabilities and support excellence in social research, producing rigorous knowledge that responds to society’s priorities and contributes to the development of social policies, practices and services.

◆ Award Objectives

- 01** **Raise** awareness of priority social issues in Qatar by supporting research that contributes to understanding and analysing them and to providing evidence-based recommendations and solutions.
- 02** **Encourage** innovation in addressing social issues and stimulate scientific research that offers innovative, applicable insights, models or solutions.
- 03** **Discover** and develop national research capabilities among students, researchers, academics and social practitioners, and enhance opportunities for scientific networking and the exchange of expertise.
- 04** **Enrich** the national social knowledge base by documenting and publishing winning research and making it available as reliable scientific references that support researchers, practitioners, decision-makers and relevant entities.
- 05** **Contribute** to the development of social policies, practices and services, and support the production of knowledge that informs evidence-based planning and decision-making.

02 Tracks

The Award adopts three main tracks that take into account the diversity of participants and their varying experience and academic and professional stages, enabling each group to contribute to social research from its own position, and strengthening the integration between academic knowledge, field practice and community awareness.

● Schools Track

Targets secondary school students.

● Universities and Academics Track

Targets undergraduate and postgraduate students, researchers and faculty members.

● Social Sector Professionals Track

Targets employees, practitioners and specialists in institutions, centres and entities operating in the social sector.

03 General Theme and Targeted Research Areas

General Theme

Family Cohesion

In line with Qatar National Vision 2030 to build a cohesive society based on family and social ties, and consistent with the Qatar Foundation for Social Work's priorities of strengthening family stability and sustainable social development, this theme aims to support research that contributes to addressing priority social issues and enhancing the well-being of individuals, families and society in the State of Qatar through three research areas:

Area 1

Social Phenomena and Transformations

This area addresses the social, economic and cultural transformations affecting the family and society, and their implications for family cohesion, quality of life and social protection, with a focus on understanding emerging challenges, anticipating future trends and developing appropriate solutions to address them.

Area 2

Services, Interventions and Social Impact

This area focuses on evaluating and developing the social programmes and services provided to individuals, families and target groups, measuring their social impact, and exploring innovative practices and modern models that improve the efficiency, outcomes and sustainability of services.

Area 3

Policies, Advocacy and Community Change

This area examines national and community policies, legislation and initiatives that strengthen social protection, empower individuals and families and achieve community cohesion, and explores the role of advocacy, awareness and partnerships in addressing social issues and achieving sustainable development.

Target Research Groups

Persons with Disabilities

Elderly

Women

Children

Families

Orphans (Without Family Support)

At-Risk Youth

Caregivers

04 Timeline



05 Prizes

The Award allocates three tiered cash prizes for each of the designated tracks, as follows:

Schools Track	Universities and Academics Track	Social Sector Professionals Track
First Place 20,000 QAR	First Place 50,000 QAR	First Place 50,000 QAR
Second Place 15,000 QAR	Second Place 30,000 QAR	Second Place 30,000 QAR
Third Place 10,000 QAR	Third Place 20,000 QAR	Third Place 20,000 QAR

06

Registration and Participation Conditions

◆ General Terms and Conditions

- ✓ The applicant must be a Qatari national or a resident of the State of Qatar.
- ✓ The submitted work must be original and prepared by the participant(s).
- ✓ The research must be submitted in Arabic.
- ✓ The work must not have previously won another research award.
- ✓ Adherence to academic honesty and integrity; the research must be free of plagiarism and copying.
- ✓ Adherence to research ethics and protection of participants' rights, privacy and data confidentiality.
- ✓ Adherence to intellectual property rights and proper scientific citation of sources and references.
- ✓ Disclosure of any funding or support received for the research, if any.
- ✓ Commitment to the electronic form, deadlines and documents specified by the Award management.
- ✓ The Qatar Foundation for Social Work reserves the right of first publication of winning research through its electronic platforms and various media outlets, with reference to the researcher(s) as the original authors of the work.
- ✓ The Foundation has the right to exclude any entry that does not meet the Award conditions or that is proven to breach integrity or scientific research ethics.

◆ Track-Specific Conditions

1 Schools Track

- The applicant must be a student enrolled in a secondary school in Qatar (public or private).
- Participation may be individual or as part of a research team.
- Participation requires an educational supervisor for the research.
- Length of work: 6,000 – 8,000 words, with a simplified list of sources, without requiring an advanced academic citation style.

2 Universities and Academics Track

- Adherence to a clear scientific methodology appropriate to the research problem.
- The research must include a theoretical framework and appropriate previous studies.
- Clarification of data collection tools and analysis procedures.
- Adherence to scientific citation according to APA style (7th edition) or any other internationally recognised citation style, applied consistently throughout the research.
- Length of research: 8,000 – 12,000 words (excluding appendices and references).

3 Social Sector Professionals Track

- The research or project must be related to a problem, challenge or practice in the social sector.
- Adherence to a clear scientific methodology appropriate to the research problem.
- The research must include a theoretical framework and appropriate previous studies.
- Data collection tools and analysis procedures must be clarified.
- The research must include applicable recommendations or development solutions, and the expected impact on beneficiaries, services, the organisation or the social sector.
- Obtaining the necessary approvals from the employer to conduct the research.
- Adherence to scientific citation according to APA style (7th edition) or any other internationally recognised citation style, applied consistently throughout the research.
- Length of research: 8,000 – 12,000 words (excluding appendices and references).

07

General Research Structure

No.	Component	Content
1	Cover Page	Includes the research title, the name(s) of the researcher(s), the affiliation, and the category or track.
2	Summary	A brief overview of the research problem, objectives, methodology, key findings and recommendations.
3	Introduction	General background on the research topic and its context.
4	Research Problem and Significance	Defining the research problem and explaining its scientific, social and practical significance.
5	Research Objectives	Defining the objectives the research seeks to achieve.
6	Research Questions and/or Hypotheses	According to the nature and approach of the research.
7	Theoretical and Conceptual Framework	Presenting the main theories and concepts relevant to the research topic.
8	Previous Studies	Reviewing and analysing related studies and identifying the research gap.
9	Research Methodology, including:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approach used. • Study population, sample and sampling method. • Data collection tools. • Study procedures. • Data analysis methods. • Ethical considerations.
10	Findings	Presenting the research findings clearly and in an organised manner.
11	Discussion of Findings	Interpreting the findings and linking them to the research objectives, questions, theoretical framework and previous studies.
12	Recommendations and Proposals	Presenting practical recommendations and proposals grounded in the findings.
13	Social Impact and Applicability of Findings	Explaining how the findings can be used to develop policies, programmes, services or practices.
14	Conclusion	Summarising the key findings, conclusions and their implications.
15	References	Documenting sources and references according to a recognised, consistent scholarly style.
16	Appendices (if any)	Such as study instruments, questionnaires, interview guides, detailed tables, or any supporting materials.

08

Evaluation Criteria

A scientific committee has been formed comprising a select group of specialised reviewers from various academic and research institutions in the State of Qatar, ensuring integrity, transparency and objectivity in evaluating submitted research. The committee evaluates research according to the following criteria:

Criterion	Description
Scientific Value of the Research	The significance and clarity of the research problem, and its relevance to the priorities of the Qatar Foundation for Social Work and its centres and to the Award's targeted research areas.
Originality and Innovation	The uniqueness of the research idea and its contribution to knowledge through proposing new and innovative solutions.
Theoretical Framework	The robustness of the theoretical foundation; the comprehensiveness, currency and critical treatment of local, regional and international previous studies; and the clarity of the research gap.
Methodology	The suitability of the approach and sample to the nature of the problem and the characteristics of the centres' beneficiary groups; the reliability of data collection tools and validation procedures; and the clarity of implementation steps.
Analysis and Findings	The soundness of quantitative or qualitative analysis methods, the accuracy of presenting findings, and their interpretation in light of the theoretical framework, previous studies and the centres' work context.
Recommendations	The extent to which recommendations stem from the findings, their realism, and their feasibility within the centres' programmes and services.
Social Impact	The expected impact of the research on developing the centres' programmes, services, policies and procedures, and on improving the quality of life of their beneficiaries.
Report Quality and Scholarly Documentation	Soundness of language, academic style and content, and accuracy of citation according to a recognised system, including adherence to research ethics and freedom from plagiarism and copying.



Support & Contact

For questions and inquiries about the Award, please contact us at:

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