



FONDATION
**CHARLES
DEFFOREY**
INSTITUT DE FRANCE

SCIENTIFIC GRAND PRIZE 2025

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Foundation Charles Defforey-Institut de France will award a scientific prize entitled « Foundation Charles Defforey-Institut de France 2025 Scientific Grand Prize », which will be awarded to a research project focused on the following theme:

Engineering stem cells and developing complex *in vitro* models (CIVM) to better understand diseases and innovate in their treatment.

Progress in physiology and in understanding the pathophysiology of diseases relies today on the integration of discoveries made at molecular, cellular and tissue levels. The use of stem cells - whether reprogrammed or not - and complex *in vitro* models (CIVMs) such as organoids and “organs on a chip” creates a bridge between the cellular scale and the scale of tissues and organs, so as to rise above the complexity of signals and their integration. Thanks to their increased relevance, these models are becoming essential for the design and screening of innovative therapeutic molecules.

This prize will be awarded to a researcher who has made an important contribution to the engineering of stem cells and/or CIVM-type models to understand the development and pathophysiology of diseases, and to innovate in their treatment.

This prize is opened to **international candidates**. It will provide a financial contribution to a high-level research project conducted in a French or foreign laboratory placed under the authority of a French or foreign scientist.

The Prize is worth **400 000 euros**, 90% of which will contribute to research and 10% will be granted to the scientific supervisor of the team or to the laboratory in recognition of their contribution to the award-winning research.

The amount of the prize could be used for operating costs such as consumables, equipment, travel expenses and cost of publications. It cannot be used for salaries.

The jury will evaluate the applications and propose, the first and second candidates, with clear ranking, to the Board of Directors of the Foundation, which will make the final choice.

The laureate of the Prize must be present or represented at the ceremony for the presentation of the Grands Prix of Foundations at the Institut de France, which will be awarded under the

Dome, on Wednesday June, 18, 2025 at 3 p.m. in the “Academie des sciences” (23 quai de Conti - 75006 Paris).

The applications must include:

1. The proposal form (downloadable on the Institut de France website The proposal form (downloadable on the Institut de France website www.institut-de-france.fr)
2. A 1 to 2 pages summary of the project (containing the title of the research project, selections of the team leader’s résumé, a summary of the work accomplished, the research project
3. A list of the team’s 10 most significant publications : *3 to 5 lines maximum of justification of the choice by publication and with the link to the journals or to pen archives if they exist*
4. The team leader curriculum vitae (2 pages max.)
5. The names and titles of the team members,
6. A 3 to 4 pages description of the work already done by the candidate and his team
7. A short description (3 pages max.) of the work in progress

The application should be written in French or in English, for evaluation by outside referees if needed.

Applications should be sent no later than February 28, 2025 via e-mail at prix@institutdefrance.fr as well as by regular mail at the following address:

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23 quai de Conti
75006 Paris - France**