

National Academy of Sciences Information Sheet

Membership Overview (<https://www.nasonline.org/membership/>)

- Prestige: Election to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) is one of the highest honors a scientist can receive, signifying exceptional contributions to scientific research and scholarship. It is widely recognized as a mark of excellence in science.
- Annual Elections: Up to 120 U.S. members and 30 international members are elected annually. Current NAS membership totals approximately 2,700 members and 500 international members, of which approximately 200 have received Nobel prizes.
- Who Can Nominate: There is no application process, as membership is strictly by election. And, although informal suggestions are common, only current NAS members may submit formal nominations. The nomination leads to a rigorous review and culminates in a final vote at the NAS Annual Meeting in April.

Member Directory (<https://www.nasonline.org/membership/member-directory>)

- You can search for current NAS members, including those affiliated with Ohio State University, using the NAS Member Directory.
- The directory allows filtering by name, institution, scientific section, and more.

Scientific Sections (<https://www.nasonline.org/membership/membership-overview/>)

NAS members are affiliated with one of six disciplinary Classes, each containing multiple scientific Sections:

- **Physical and Mathematical Sciences**
- **Biological Sciences**
- **Engineering and Applied Sciences**
- **Biomedical Sciences**
- **Behavioral and Social Sciences**
- **Applied Biological, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences**

Each nominee is considered within their primary scientific section, which helps guide the review and election process.

NAS Awards (<https://www.nasonline.org/awards/>)

In addition to election for membership in the National Academy of Sciences, NAS has honored more than 1,000 individuals in the physical, biological, and social sciences since 1886 through its awards program. NAS awards include:

- [Alexander Agassiz Medal \(Oceanography\)](#)
- [Alexander Hollaender Award in Biophysics](#)
- [Arctowski Medal \(the study of solar physics and solar terrestrial relationships\)](#)
- [Arthur L. Day Prize and Lectureship \(the study of the physics of the Earth\)](#)
- [Atkinson Prize in Psychological and Cognitive Sciences](#)
- [Comstock Prize in Physics](#)
- [G. K. Warren Prize \(fluvial geology and closely related aspects of the geological sciences\)](#)
- [Gibbs Brothers Medal \(naval architecture and marine engineering\)](#)
- [Gilbert Morgan Smith Medal \(research on marine or freshwater algae\)](#)
- [Henry Draper Medal \(original investigation in astronomical physics\)](#)
- [J. C. Hunsaker Award in Aeronautical Engineering](#)
- [J. Lawrence Smith Medal \(meteoric bodies\)](#)
- [James Craig Watson Medal \(astronomy\)](#)
- [James Prize in Science and Technology Integration](#)
- [Jessie Stevenson Kovalenko Medal \(research in the medical sciences\)](#)
- [John J. Carty Award for the Advancement of Science](#)
- [Maryam Mirzakhani Prize in Mathematics](#)
- [Michael and Sheila Held Prize \(combinatorial and discrete optimization, or related parts of computer science\)](#)
- [NAS Award for Chemistry in Service to Society](#)
- [NAS Award for Scientific Discovery](#)
- [NAS Award for the Industrial Application of Science](#)
- [NAS Award in Chemical Sciences](#)
- [NAS Award in Early Earth and Life Studies](#)
- [NAS Award in Molecular Biology](#)
- [NAS Award in the Evolution of Earth and Life](#)
- [NAS Award in the Neurosciences](#)
- [NAS Prize in Food and Agriculture Sciences](#)
- [NAS Public Welfare Medal \(use of science for the public good\)](#)
- [Pradel Research Award \(mid-career neuroscientists\)](#)
- [Richard Lounsbery Award \(young scientists in biology and medicine\)](#)
- [Selman A. Waksman Award in Microbiology](#)
- [Troland Research Award \(early-career researchers in experimental psychology\)](#)