

MICCAI Best Paper Award and MICCAI Young Scientist Award

Definition and Guidelines; Last Updated: June 12, 2023

Purpose of the Award

The MICCAI Best Paper Award and the MICCAI Young Scientist Award recognize the highest quality papers published at the main MICCAI conference. Three MICCAI Best Paper Awards and five MICCAI Young Scientist Awards are issued each year. The awardees are honored with a certificate.

Award Eligibility

If a paper is accepted to the MICCAI main conference, it is automatically considered for the MICCAI Best Paper Award. The paper must be presented in person by the first author or a co-author at the MICCAI main conference. If the paper is selected for both oral and poster presentations, it must be presented in both formats.

For consideration for the MICCAI Young Scientist Award, the first author must be a student at a recognized university at most two years prior to the paper submission deadline of the conference. If a paper is accepted to the MICCAI main conference and the first author is a young scientist, then the first author is automatically considered for the MICCAI Young Scientist Award. The paper must be presented in person by the first author at the conference. If the paper is selected for both oral and poster, the award candidate must present both.

There is no separate application processes for either award. Recipients for the MICCAI Best Paper Award are not eligible for the MICCAI Young Scientist Award.

Written proof of eligibility under the above definition will be requested if the status of the author is challenged. The final decision of eligibility will be decided by the Conference Chair in consultation with the Award Coordinator and/or MICCAI Society President.

Award Coordinator

The Award Coordinator is appointed by the MICCAI Board; should be a member of the Board or a senior member of the MICCAI community. The role of the Award Coordinator in the process is administrative: he/she does not vote and refrains from influencing the result. If the Award Coordinator has a conflict of interest with any of the candidate papers, the coordinator is replaced by the MICCAI Board with someone who is free of conflict.

Adjudication

Long List of Candidate Papers

Program chairs select ~50 papers, by review score and recommendations from reviewers and program committee members. A minimum of ~30 candidate papers out of this long-list should be first-authored by Young Scientists.

Committee Selection

The Award Coordinator invites preferably 5 committee members from the conference Program Committee or senior members of the MICCAI community. None of the committee members shall have conflicts of interest with any of the candidate papers. The committee shall be balanced in areas of expertise, to cover the topical range of the candidate papers. The committee is assembled well in advance before the conference, to leave sufficient time for deliberation.

Short List of Candidate Papers

The committee reduces the long list to the top 25 or so papers. Each committee member is expected to read each paper, but not expected to provide in-depth review. The committee members have access to the final papers with author names and affiliations, reviews, discussions, and review scores. The committee members are not required to rank the papers. Each committee member gives each paper a score of 0 or 1. Each committee member can select more than 25 papers with a score of 0, however, no more than 25 with a score of 1. The committee members submit their short lists to the Award Coordinator in advance of the conference, leaving time for discussion of occasional ties of score. The Award Coordinator sums up the binary scores for each paper and select the highest scoring papers for the short list, ensuring that a minimum of 15 short-listed papers are first-authored by young scientists. If there is a tie between candidate papers, the Award Coordinator holds a discussion via email or in situ before presentation of the first candidate paper, in order to finalize the short list.

Final Selection of Winners

The committee members receive the short list of papers and the presentation schedule. Usually, there are some poster-only papers among the candidates. In order to provide an equal chance for all papers, the committee considers only the poster presentation. The committee members attend the poster presentation of all candidate papers. If for any reason, a committee member misses the poster presentation, the Coordinator arranges for a make-up poster viewing. The committee members may choose to attend the oral presentation too, but that is not necessary. The committee members evaluate quality of scientific contribution made by the presenter and his/her understanding of the contributions, therefore the poster presentation and discussion is critically important to judge the award candidate's competence and understanding. No topical balancing is done, only the scientific quality of the paper matters and the committee members use their expertise and best judgment to select the best papers.

Each committee member enters the rank number for each paper. The Award Coordinator sums up the rank numbers for each paper. Regardless of the young scientist status of the first-author, the lowest score among all short-listed papers is the winner of the MICCAI Best Paper Award and the next two lowest scores are the runners-up for the MICCAI Best Paper Award. The lowest scores among all the remaining short-listed papers with young scientist status are the winners of the MICCAI Young Scientist Best Paper Award. There is no ranking among MICCAI Young Scientist

Award winners. During the conference, the Award Coordinator calls a meeting, the committee discusses the outcome and resolves any tie. If and only if there is a tie, secondary considerations, such as topical balance may be considered.

Integrity of the Process

The award coordinator ensures ethical integrity for the process. Should a potential conflict of interest be discovered during the process, the conflict shall be resolved without affliction to the chances of the competing authors and papers, by making appropriate changes within the committee, such as removing the conflicted committee member.

Announcement

The awardees, with their institutional affiliation, should be announced individually during an award ceremony of the conference. The shortlist should also be presented at the award ceremony of the conference and on the conference's websites.

Queries

Queries should be directed to the [MICCAI Society Awards Coordinator](#).