



Ethiopian Economics Association (EEA)

Professionalism and Economic Thinking for Development!

Guidelines for Awards and Recognitions

May 2022

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

1. Introduction

The Ethiopian Economics Association (EEA) has long year experience of awarding ‘Eshetu Chole Memorial Award’ for best Masters’ thesis and ‘Mekonnen Tadesse Memorial Award’ for best Bachelor’s essay from among economics students in the public higher learning institutions. Winner students have been receiving financial and non-financial supports from the EEA. In a similar way, the EEA has also a culture of recognizing individuals and partner institutions for their contribution to the advancement of the EEA. Both the best individuals and institutions were being recognized with material awards such as gold pin, crystals and certificates. However, the selection has been subjective without clear selection guideline and criteria.

Furthermore, the awards have been limited to the Bachelor’s and Master’s Theses. There is increased recognition that EEA should bestow similar award to research work for Doctorial Theses.

In order to address the indicated short coming, this award and recognition guideline is prepared.

2. Objectives of the Guidelines

The aim of this guidelines is to establish clear criteria for selection of best students, individuals and institutions for awards and recognitions. The guidelines have the following specific objectives:

1. Establish clear and transparent criteria for selection of the best Bachelor essay, Masters’ thesis, and Doctoral dissertation winners;
2. Develop clear, precise and objective criteria for selection and recognition of individual/s;
3. Develop clear, transparent and objective criteria for selection and recognition of partner institutions; and
4. To define the type and amount of awards and recognitions.

3. Types and Amount of Awards

3.1. Best Students’ Award

The following awards shall be presented to students:

1. First and second-best doctoral dissertation winners of the Wolday Amha Memorial Award shall be awarded ETB 7000 and 5000, respectively.

2. First and second-best thesis winners of Eshetu Chole Memorial Award shall be awarded ETB 5000 and 3500, respectively.
3. The first and second-best Bachelor essay winners of Mekonnen Tadesse Memorial Award shall be awarded ETB 3500 and 2500, respectively.
4. The selected essays, theses and dissertations shall be published on the EEA's website.
5. Certificate of recognition shall be awarded to the winners.
6. Advisors of the students shall also be mentioned during the award ceremony.

3.2. Awards to Individuals

Each year, two individuals shall be awarded for: 1) best economics teaching and research, and 2) significant contribution to the advancement of the EEA. The winners shall be offered crystal cap or hand watch and certificate with a jury report.

3.3. Awards to Institutions

Institutions that significantly contributed to the achievements of the EEA's mission shall be recognized. Selected institutions shall be awarded certificate of recognition with a jury report.

For all the above three categories,

1. Travel expenses (including accommodation, transportation and two days per diem) of winners while coming to receive the awards shall be covered by the EEA.
2. The EEA management may revise the amount and types of awards and present it to the EC for approval.

4. Time/Event for the Award

Students shall be awarded during the General Assembly (GA) whereas individuals and institutions shall be recognized during the annual International Conference on the Ethiopian Economy.

5. Establishment of Selection Committees

There will be two types of committees. The first committee will be established by the EEA management for evaluating essays, theses and dissertations. This committee shall include Research and Policy Analysis Director, PCD Director, one senior research staff assigned by the management, and at least one EC member to be assigned in consultation with the EC.

The second committee shall be formed by the EC for the purpose of evaluating and selecting individuals and institutions for recognition. This committee shall comprise of Vice-president of EEA as a chair person, CEO as a secretary and other three members of the committee assigned by the EC.

6. Roles and Responsibilities of the Committees and the Required Processes

6.1. For Students

- The committee is responsible to announce the call for submission/selection of best essay, thesis, and dissertation to universities together with all necessary information;
- Collect submissions from universities. Universities shall send their best essay, thesis, and dissertation to the committee together with official cover level (it could be via email).
- The committee shall evaluate the qualities of the essays, theses, and dissertations based on well-defined selection criteria (Annexed).
- The committees shall report the draft assessment result to the EEA management one month before the award date (General Assembly).
- The EEA management shall review and decide on the evaluation result and send its proposal to the EC within 5 days of receiving the results from the committee.
- The EC shall make the final decision and disclose the winners within two weeks.

6.2. For Individuals

- The committee shall announce a call to nominate individuals with recognizable contribution together with nomination forms and a request for supporting documents like brief summary or short bio of the nominated individual. Self-nominations shall also be accepted.
- The committee shall compile the profiles of individuals and make verification checks using different ways.
- The committee shall make the evaluations using clear criteria (annexed) and present the evaluation result to the EEA management one month before the award date (International Conference).
- The EEA management shall review and decide on the evaluation result and send its proposal to the EC within 5 days of receiving the results from the committee.
- The EC shall make the final decision and disclose the winners within two weeks.
- Honored individuals shall provide a 5-minute speech to the participants of the international conference during the recognition ceremony.

6.3. For Institutions

- Nominations of institutions for recognition shall only be made by the EEA management, the EC, and the Advisory Board.
- Nominations shall be compiled by the committee organized by the EC.
- The committee shall review profiles of the institutions and their contribution to the EEA.
- Evaluation result shall be sent to the EC for final decisions.
- Recognitions shall be announced during the Annual International Conference.

Under all the three categories, the committee shall explain the selection process to the EEA management or to the EC upon request.

7. Confidentiality

The names of selected awardees are to remain confidential until the EC has endorsed the selections, and the winners have received official notice. When a nominator seek feedback on how his/her nominee fared, such communications should be directed to the chair of the Awards Selection Committee.

8. Source of Finance

The EEA and partner institutions are the source of finance for the awards and recognitions. Potential sponsors may be public and private banks, individuals, research and academic institutions, and others who shall be approached by the committees.

9. Responsible Bodies for Honoring

- Best Bachelor easy winners shall be delivered by the families of Mekonnen Tadesse.
- Best MSc thesis winners shall be awarded by the families of Dr. Eshetu Chole.
- Best PhD dissertation winner of the Wolday Amha Memorial Award shall be awarded by the president of EEA.
- Individuals and institutions shall be honored/awarded by the guest of the honor.

10. Effective date

This guideline will be effective as of 10 October 2022.

ANNEX: Selection Criteria Templates

A) Template for Evaluating Dissertations, Theses and Essays

Code of the applicant: _____

Title of the Essay/Thesis/dissertation: _____

University code: _____

Evaluation Criteria	Weight	Marks/points
Topic • Relevance in the field • Well-defined and well-phrased • Easy to understand	5	
Problem Definition ▪ Clarity of the justification ▪ Originality of the problem ▪ Clarity of the research gap	15	
Literature Review ▪ Comprehensiveness of the theoretical framework ▪ Adequacy of the empirical review ▪ Relation with the topic under consideration ▪ Justification of sources used ▪ Relevance of the empirical framework	10	
Research Design ▪ The design and methodological rigor	20	
Research Results ▪ Description ▪ Clarity of analysis and interpretation	20	
Conclusions and Recommendations ▪ Relation with results ▪ Applicability ▪ Societal impact (e.g., for education, policy, industry etc).	15	
Structure and Format ▪ Clarity of the document, language and grammar ▪ Consistency of structure and format ▪ Clarity and completeness of figures and tables ▪ Referencing standard	15	
Grade	100	

Name of the evaluator: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

B) Template for Evaluating Individuals

Name of the individual to be evaluated _____

Evaluation Criteria	Weight	Marks/points
Quality and quantity of research publications in peer-reviewed journals, research monographs, books, book chapters, and/or research-oriented texts	20	
Recognition received by professional societies, community organizations or other external bodies	10	
Contributions to the training and education in teaching, advising students	15	
Contribution to Professional Associations	10	
New contribution in the field of economics	10	
Contribution to solve economic and societal problems	10	
Record of presenting at national and/or international conferences	5	
Service year in the academia	10	
Leadership contributions	10	
Total	100	

Name of the evaluator: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

C) Criteria for Nominating Best Partner Institution

Name of the institution to be evaluated _____

Evaluation Criteria	Weight	Marks/points
Materials and financial support (donation, gifts and assistance to EEA)	40	
Training and technical support	20	
Strategic support and relation (consistency, long-term, loyalty, ...)	30	
Promoting EEA as valued partner (e.g. mentioned EEA in their documents/websites etc.)	10	
Total	100	