



# THE IRISH TIMES

## **Foundation for Fiscal Studies research prize in association with The Irish Times**

### **Aim of the prize**

The Miriam Hederman O'Brien prize is awarded by the Foundation for Fiscal Studies, in association with The Irish Times, to recognise outstanding contributors in the area of Irish fiscal policy. The aim of the prize is to promote the study and discussion of matters relating to fiscal, economic and social policy and to reward researchers who make a contribution to informing or understanding evidence-based policy decisions. The prize forms an important part of the Foundation's overall objective of promoting more widely the study and discussion of matters relating to fiscal, economic and social policy.

### **Details of the prize**

If the standards are of an acceptable level, a prize of €3,000 will be awarded each year, together with a commemorative Gold Medal. The prize will be awarded at a special Foundation event, at which the winner will receive the Prize and present their paper to an invited audience.

### **Details of criteria which will be considered in awarding the Prize**

- The prize shall be awarded to a piece of completed research or analysis, which focuses on Irish fiscal policy, reflecting the social and economic context for government decision making on expenditure, administration and taxation issues,
- Submissions should clearly demonstrate the immediate policy relevance of the analysis and should be written in a manner that makes it accessible to non-specialists in the area.
- Submissions will also be evaluated on the originality of the contribution and the quality of the research methodology.

### **Eligibility to be nominated for the Prize**

The Foundation welcomes submissions and/or nominations of research, which may be suitable for the Prize, from all interested parties. Entry criteria are as follows:

- The Prize will be awarded to work completed or published in the past two years.
- While papers may have been published, there is no requirement for a paper to be published to be eligible for the Prize.
- The paper should not exceed 5,000 words in length.
- There are no age or nationality criteria.
- No researcher may be awarded the prize more than once.
- Joint papers will be considered, provided that no contributor has previously been awarded the Prize.

## **The nomination process**

The closing date for submissions for the 2013/2014 Prize is Friday 5th June 2015.

Submissions for the Prize are to be made by email to [info@fiscal.ie](mailto:info@fiscal.ie).

## **Judging Panel**

Applications will be assessed by a Judging Panel appointed by the FFS Projects Committee. The Judging Panel will be chaired by the FFS Chairman. The applications will be screened firstly by the Projects Committee and those that are successfully screened against a number of criteria will be submitted to the Judging Panel for evaluation. The Prize will be granted to the applicant(s) obtaining the majority vote of the Judging Panel. The FFS Projects Committee reserves the right to amend the above guidelines, at its discretion.