

AKIRA OKUBO PRIZE 2027

Call for Nominations

The Akira Okubo Fund was established in memory of Akira Okubo, who made major contributions to many fields, including mathematical ecology and oceanography. Okubo was widely recognized for his scientific work, as well as for his exceptional humanity. The Fund sponsors the Akira Okubo Prize, jointly administered by the Society for Mathematical Biology and the Japanese Society for Mathematical Biology.

The award has two versions, junior and established/senior scientists, each given every four years. The 2027 Akira Okubo Prize will honor a junior living scientist. (assistant professor or equivalent position) for outstanding and innovative theoretical work, for establishing superb conceptual ideas, for solving tough theoretical problems, and/or for uniting theory and data to advance a biological subject. The following criteria are used for ranking nominations and selecting the award winner: originality (discovering a new theory and opening a new research direction), breakthrough (solving outstanding problems in the field), new synthesis (leading to a new research area), and impact already made, or expected, on subsequent studies.

For more information, see <https://smb.org/Akira-Okubo-Prize>

By **Thursday, 1 October 2026**, the nominator must submit:

- Contact information for the nominators and nominee, including SMB or JSMB Member IDs for both nominator and nominee.
- A letter (no more than 4 pages) describing the nominee's qualifications and commenting on the nominee's scientific contributions for the society award.
- The nominee's curriculum vitae, including all publications.
- Two supporting letters.

Submit Your Prize Nomination

Nominees may be affiliated with non-academic institutions, however, please note that SMB or JSMB Society membership is a requirement for the nominator, and nominee. All applications must be complete and submitted by **Thursday, 23:59PM ET, 1 October 2026** in order to be considered.