SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONALE D'ONCOLOGIE PÉDIATRIQUE
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF PAEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY

2026 SIOP SCHWEISGUTH PRIZE

Deadline for submission: March 17, 2026 (Midnight CET; same as abstract submission, no extension)
To be submitted via the online form here.
No submissions are accepted by email and after the deadline.

Background
An annual prize for the best scientific article prepared by a trainee was authorised by the SIOP membership at its 1985 meeting in Venice. It is given in honour of Dr Odile Schweisguth, renowned clinician, investigator, teacher, founding member and first President of the Society.

Dr Schweisguth began her career in 1948 at the Institute Gustave Roussy after ten years with Dr Debre at the Enfants Malades Hospital. She became Director of the IGR Paediatric Department in 1952, and during her tenure raised that unit to worldwide prominence as a centre for clinical care, teaching and research. She retired from the Directorship of her unit in 1978, and until her death in March 2002, she maintained her interest in paediatric oncology through a continuing study of long-term survivors. She also maintained her contacts with friends and erstwhile colleagues as well as with past students, visiting them in far-flung centres across the globe, where many became directors of their own units, patterned after the Schweisguth model.

The Society thought it entirely compatible with Dr Schweisguth's great interest in teaching to restrict the contest to health professionals in training. These need not be physicians, but the focus of the trainee's work should be on some aspect of paediatric oncology, be it in basic science, clinical medicine, allied pursuits such as nursing, psychology, social work, occupational therapy, etc.

Candidate
Contestants must be an active SIOP member and have been in training when the work reflected in the article was performed and must still be in the training period or not more than one year thereafter at the time of submission. The applicant's mentor must certify both these points.

Judgement
Judgement will be based on a written article describing work done by the trainee him or herself. It will consider originality, completeness, scientific accuracy, and contribution to science.

The article should be prepared as though for official publication (see Instructions for Authors) and should be prepared in English. It should not be more than 20 pages in length, including references, tables, and figures. Content, and not accurate use of medical English, will be the basis for judgement, so that those for whom English is not a native language should not feel they are at a disadvantage.

Authors are also required to submit an abstract to the SIOP congress describing the same work. All abstracts will be scored by the Scientific Committee. The Schweisguth Prize winner will not present their work during the abstract sessions, but the other applicants whose work is not selected for the Schweisguth Prize may be invited to present in the abstract session, based on the score received by the abstract.

Important:
Previous Publications
The work must not have been previously accepted by or published in a peer reviewed journal at the time of abstract submission.
Previous Presentation
The work must not have been previously presented at a meeting of any other scientific organization with more than 500 attendees prior to the SIOP congress.

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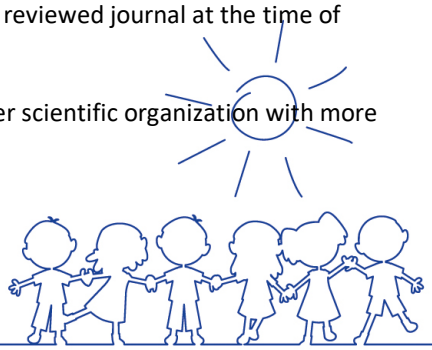

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Instructions for Authors

- Articles must adequately describe the objectives and results of the research so that the quality, originality and completeness of the work can be evaluated by the panel of judges.
- Each article should contain: an introduction indicating the purpose of the study; a description of pertinent experimental procedures, including statistical evaluation where appropriate; a summary of the results; and a statement of the conclusions.
- Authors must accept sole responsibility for the statements in their articles.
- Abbreviations may be used in articles if they are defined. Particular attention should be given to identify complex chemotherapeutic regimens. Abbreviations are permitted in titles if they follow in parentheses immediately after the term being abbreviated. If used in text, they should be defined at first mention if not already defined in the title.

The Prize

The prize will consist of travelling expenses*, (return economy air fare between the winner's professional home city and the meeting venue) together with coverage of three nights' hotel costs and complementary registration fees for the meeting.

** if we need to change the format of the congress to a virtual meeting and/or the recipient cannot travel in 2026, the travel support, free registration and membership will be carried forward to the next in-person congress*

It is expected that the winner will present his or her work at the time of the SIOP Congress. It will not be published in the Abstract Book.

It is further understood that the winning article may have co-authors, but that the first author must be the trainee who is awarded the Schweisguth Prize. The manuscript should be accompanied by a letter stating the contribution of each co-author. It is further understood that all entries must be sponsored by the trainee's head of department certifying that the work reported is by the trainee him/herself and that the entrant is a trainee in good standing. The head of department does not have to be a member of SIOP.

The title and authors of the paper selected for presentation at the annual conference will be printed in the meeting programme. The International Society of Paediatric Oncology will provide time during the annual meeting for the presentation of the winning paper. The time allowed will be decided by the Scientific Programme Committee.

Application

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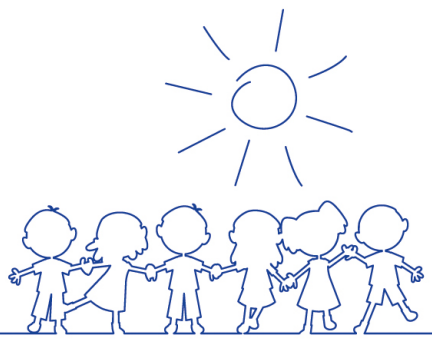
1. Complete article/manuscript
2. Full CV including recent publications
3. Covering letter from the author's mentor
4. An abstract describing the same work must be submitted to the SIOP 2026 Annual Congress San Antonio via the official congress abstract online submission – click here

Questions? Please contact our SIOP Office at info@siop-online

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