

Today, the Cultural Foundation of the President of the Republic and Skype Estonia signed an agreement on the granting of a Young IT Scientist Award. Nominations for the award can be submitted until 5 December 2015.

The prize is earmarked for a young scientist aged 35 or younger who has acquired a doctoral degree, has been admitted for a doctoral studies programme or whose research work is closely related to the development of information technology and related spheres. The award can be used to promote research work or for its implementation in practice.

"I have always emphasised the need to study real sciences and information technology in a way that avoids information technology being an object on its own, but rather as a tool that will contribute to the more effective operation of all the spheres of life," said the President, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, who initiated and supported the creation of the award.

"I am pleased that Skype Estonia, which already supports the granting of the special Real Sciences Award to teachers, has taken another step and will now start supporting young scientists who are working in the sphere of software development and application," added the Head of State.

"In the seventh year of co-operation with the Cultural Foundation of the President of the Republic to acknowledge outstanding teachers and lecturers of real sciences, we are extremely pleased to announce the establishment of the new Young IT Scientist Award, which we will fund for the next three years. The development team of Skype Estonia is committed to giving young, talented specialists the opportunity to focus on their research work and allow them to create world-changing knowledge as the highest priority," said Andrus Järg, CEO of Skype Estonia.

Nominations may be submitted by the IT young scientists themselves or by their tutors or employers, professional association, universities or by members of the Board of the Cultural Foundation. Nominations must comprise a written application, including personal details and curriculum vitae; a description of the research being conducted; a list of published research work relevant to the research in question; and at least two references from tutors or teachers.

All of the documents related to nominations for the award must be submitted to the Cultural Foundation at the postal address of the Office of the President of the Republic, Weizenbergi 39, 15050 Tallinn, or, signed digitally, to the following e-mail address vpinfo@vpk.ee

Office of the President
Public Relations Department