

# SCRIP AWARDS

— 2026 —

## ENTRY GUIDE

ENTRY DEADLINE: FRIDAY, 10 JULY 2026

**WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2026**

RAFFLES LONDON AT THE OWO

HEADLINE SPONSOR



**ENQUIRIES:**

Natalia Kay

Email: [natalia.kay@citeline.com](mailto:natalia.kay@citeline.com)

[www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards](http://www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards)



# SCRIP AWARDS 2026

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## CELEBRATING 22 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN GLOBAL BIOPHARMA INNOVATION

Marking over two decades of industry recognition, the Scrip Awards continues to honour the innovations, breakthroughs and contributions shaping the global biopharma landscape.

These prestigious Awards bring together over 400 industry leaders for an evening of networking and celebration, at a black-tie gala and Awards ceremony on Wednesday, 2 December 2026, at the Raffles London at the OWO.



### WHY ENTER?

Gain industry-wide recognition for your company's outstanding achievements.

Be celebrated as a leader in biopharma, making a difference in global healthcare.

Boost your competitive edge and drive business growth with a prestigious accolade.

These Awards champion **businesses of all sizes** – victory goes to those with the **smartest innovations**, not just the biggest names.

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# SCRIP AWARDS 2026

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## THE 2026 SCRIP AWARD STRUCTURE

For 21 years, Scrip has been the pre-eminent Awards for the biopharma industry. To build on this legacy into its third decade, we will continue with the Editor's choice awards.

### Editor's Choice Awards

For these categories, the finalists will be handpicked by our esteemed editorial and analyst teams, to highlight the outstanding and innovative contenders whose achievements in the qualifying year demand their place on the shortlist.

### Open Awards

These categories are open, as always, for submissions from those who know that their achievements deserve wider recognition among their industry peers.

All competing entries will be rigorously evaluated by an independent **Judging Panel** of senior industry experts, ensuring fairness and recognition for the most impactful innovations.

The shortlist for the Editor's Choice Awards will be chosen by the team at Scrip based on the published criteria using metrics taken from the Norstella suite of databases plus input from our internal network of analysts and subject matter experts.

For these categories, the successful nominees identified as being the very best fit for each of these categories will be invited to enter the Awards with their place on the shortlist already assured.

For the remaining categories, entries will remain open to all who wish to enter.

In keeping with previous years, while we accept entries there will be no published shortlist for the **Pharma Company of the Year** and the **Lifetime Achievement Award**.

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*“The Editor's Choice Awards will be handpicked by our esteemed editorial and analyst teams.”*

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## EXCITING NEWS FOR THE SCRIP AWARDS 2026!

This year, we're continuing our refreshed Awards structure, splitting the categories in two pathways to better celebrate excellence across the industry.

**Editor's Choice Awards** – For these categories, the finalists will be handpicked by our esteemed editorial and analyst teams, to highlight the outstanding and innovative contenders whose achievements in the qualifying year demand their place on the shortlist. For these categories, successful candidates will be invited to enter with their place on the shortlist already assured.

### 2026 CATEGORIES:

#### Editor's Choice Awards:

1. BEST NEW DRUG AWARD

2. CLINICAL ADVANCE OF THE YEAR

3. DEAL OF THE YEAR

4. BIOTECH COMPANY OF THE YEAR  
SPONSORED BY BLUE MATTER CONSULTING 

5. BEST PARTNERSHIP ALLIANCE AWARD

#### Open Awards:

1. BEST CONTRACT RESEARCH ORGANISATION – FULL-SERVICE PROVIDERS

2. BEST CONTRACT RESEARCH ORGANISATION – SPECIALIST PROVIDERS

3. BEST ONCOLOGY R&D ADVANCE

4. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM OF THE YEAR

5. COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE YEAR

6. BEST USE OF AI IN DRUG DEVELOPMENT

NEW

7. PHARMA COMPANY OF THE YEAR – SPONSORED BY PAREXEL



8. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – SPONSORED BY ICON



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## WHO CAN ENTER?

The Scrip Awards are open to any research-based pharmaceutical or biotech company operating anywhere around the world, including third-party and partner companies supplying services to the pharmaceutical industry. Entries are free of charge.



ENTRY  
DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY,  
10 JULY  
2026

## HOW TO ENTER

**VISIT** – [www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards](http://www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards)

**CREATE** – your online account.

**SELECT** – your category or categories.

**COMPLETE** – your online entry form(s) explaining why you or your company should be considered a winner this year. Please refer to the category criteria as a guide.

**SUBMIT** – your entry and you will receive an automated submission receipt from a member of the Events team.

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## CATEGORIES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

**Editor's Choice Awards** – Handpicked by our esteemed editorial and analyst teams, to highlight the outstanding and innovative contenders whose achievements in the qualifying year demand their place on the shortlist.



### BEST NEW DRUG AWARD

The Best New Drug Award recognizes excellence in pharmaceutical development. Launching innovative new products is the most important function of the industry, and a successful new drug launch marks the culmination of years of risky and expensive R&D. In this category, the judges will be looking for the small-molecule or biological product that was approved in its first market worldwide during the qualifying period that represents the best therapeutic advance in its area.

EDITOR'S  
CHOICE

#### WHO CAN ENTER

The nominations for the Editor's Choice Awards will be handpicked by our Scrip editorial team, however if you believe your entry deserves consideration by the team, please feel free to submit an entry in the usual way. Entrants must have played a role in the development of the nominated product, and all parties to joint ventures should be disclosed in the application.

All newly launched new active substances, including small molecules, biologicals or vaccines, will be considered by the Scrip team for inclusion in the shortlist as long as they were first licensed in any market between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026. Generic and biosimilar products are not eligible for this award.

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## CATEGORIES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

### CLINICAL ADVANCE OF THE YEAR

EDITOR'S  
CHOICE

This Award seeks to recognize success in a clinical trial of a new drug product (biological or chemical) that is expected to lead to an advance in healthcare. This might include the first demonstration of a clear clinical effect for a new drug in an area of unmet medical need, a pivotal study of a new drug with a breakthrough mechanism of action, or a major study of a potential new or expanded indication for an already marketed product. The product involved need not yet be approved, but the judges will be looking for innovation, clear proof of benefit and potential commercial reward.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

The nominations for the Editor's Choice Awards will be handpicked by our Scrip editorial team, however if you believe your entry deserves consideration by the team, please feel free to submit an entry in the usual way.

To be eligible, the study in question must have been presented for peer review at a major medical meeting or been published in a scientific journal between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

Entrants must have played a role in the clinical study, and all joint parties must be disclosed in the application.

### DEAL OF THE YEAR

EDITOR'S  
CHOICE

Deals are vital both in helping to keep pharma's pipelines replenished and in generating income for smaller firms or exits for investors.

Deals considered here are those that involve the licensing of a particular drug, project or group of closely related drugs/projects from one company to another for further development and/or marketing, or M&A deals centred around a product or group of related products.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

The nominations for the Editor's Choice Awards will be handpicked by our Scrip editorial team, however if you believe your entry deserves consideration by the team, please feel free to submit an entry in the usual way.

To qualify, deals must have been closed between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

Please note, it does not include more involved partnerships between companies to explore particular therapeutic strategies (see Criteria for the Best Partnership Alliance).

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## CATEGORIES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

### BIOTECH COMPANY OF THE YEAR

The biotech industry's entrepreneurial spirit and cutting-edge science have transformed the research and development of medicines.

This Award honours outstanding achievement by biotech companies over the qualifying 12 months.

EDITOR'S  
CHOICE

SPONSORED BY

blue|matter

#### WHO CAN ENTER

The nominations for the Editor's Choice Awards will be handpicked by our Scrip editorial team, however if you believe your entry deserves consideration by the team, please feel free to submit an entry in the usual way.

The winner of the Biotech Company of the Year Award will be the biotech firm the judges believe achieved the most in the 12 months between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

*“This Award honours outstanding achievement by biotech companies over the qualifying 12 months.”*

### BEST PARTNERSHIP ALLIANCE AWARD

Scrip's Best Partnership Alliance Award recognizes the importance of pharmaceutical and/or biotech companies working together to develop new medicines from the earliest stages. This category seeks to reward innovative partnerships between companies in which they share the risks and rewards inherent in exploring novel therapeutic strategies and developing new drugs.

EDITOR'S  
CHOICE

#### WHO CAN ENTER

The nominations for the Editor's Choice Awards will be handpicked by our Scrip editorial team, however if you believe your entry deserves consideration by the team, please feel free to submit an entry in the usual way.

The judges will be focusing on deals that require strong strategic input from both partners, involving R&D, business development or joint marketing/promotion. They are looking for those deals that are the most mutually beneficial, have the most strategic potential, and are innovative in their structure. Partnerships must have been announced, or have achieved a significant milestone, between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026, and entrants should be able to show some benefits arising from the deal.

Please note, this Award does not cover the licensing of a particular drug, project or group of closely related drugs/projects from one company to another for further development and/or marketing (see Criteria for Licensing Deal of the Year).

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## CATEGORIES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

**Open Awards** - For submissions from those who know that their achievements deserve wider recognition among their industry peers.

### BEST CONTRACT RESEARCH ORGANIZATION – FULL-SERVICE PROVIDERS

OPEN  
AWARDS

The Awards for the Best Contract Research Organization acknowledge the critical role that CROs play in drug development. Clinical outsourcing is vital as the pharmaceutical industry seeks to benefit more and more from these specialist companies' experience in handling all aspects of clinical trials. The Awards for CROs are split into two sister categories to separate the larger full-service providers from those smaller CROs that provide specialist services to their clients.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

This Award is for the companies who provide the full range of clinical research services and they will be judged on the quality of these services and relationships the firms have built with their clients. It will pay particular attention to the innovative patient recruitment strategies the CRO has brought to the deal. To qualify, candidates must draw on their achievements in the year between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

### BEST CONTRACT RESEARCH ORGANIZATION – SPECIALIST PROVIDERS

OPEN  
AWARDS

The Awards for the Best Contract Research Organization acknowledge the critical role that CROs play in drug development. Clinical outsourcing is vital as the pharmaceutical industry seeks to benefit more and more from these specialist companies' experience in handling all aspects of clinical trials. The Awards for CROs are split into two sister categories to separate the larger full-service providers from those smaller CROs that provide specialist services to their clients.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

This Award for those companies who provide niche services to their clients will be judged on the quality of these services and relationships they have built with their clients. To qualify, candidates must draw on their achievements in the year between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

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## CATEGORIES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

### BEST ONCOLOGY R&D ADVANCE



This Scrip Award seeks to recognize early clinical advances in oncology made by small biopharma companies. The great strides seen in cancer therapies in recent years often had their genesis in the labs of specialist firms. We are looking to reward companies that are exploiting new knowledge in cancer cell biology and the tumor microenvironment to forge new paths to tackle the disease.

This category is aimed at clinical-stage oncology firms pioneering new approaches in the treatment of cancer that have shown proof of concept in early (Phase I or II) clinical trials and have candidates moving forward in the development pathway.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

To be eligible, results for the study or program under nomination must have been released between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026. Entrants must have played a role in the early phase research, and all joint parties must be disclosed in the application.

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM OF THE YEAR



Scrip's Business Development Team of the Year Award will honour the achievements of business development teams whether they are from a pharma or biotech company or a cross-company team responsible for a specific deal or collaborative project which took place between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

This Award will go to a team that is truly much more than the sum of its parts. The Judges will be looking for strong performance across a number of criteria, such as achievement of short – and long-term goals, and good communication of a shared vision.

*“Recognizing early clinical advances in oncology made by small biopharma companies.”*

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## CATEGORIES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE YEAR

OPEN  
AWARDS

This Award is designed to acknowledge the numerous ways in which pharma and biotech companies give back to the wider community.

This could include outreach within a local community, with a charity or patient advocacy group, or alongside an NGO or humanitarian organization.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

The judges will be looking for effective partnership activity, which took place between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026, to the benefit of humankind. For example, these types of partnerships could include patient and carer support programs, educational programs or disease awareness campaigns or even a social media campaign that went viral.

### BEST USE OF AI IN DRUG DEVELOPMENT – NEW

OPEN  
AWARDS

This award recognizes a pharmaceutical or biotech company that has made outstanding use of artificial intelligence (AI) to improve drug development, either by itself or in partnership with a technology provider.

The judges will be looking for real-world impact: AI that has materially improved decision-making, efficiency, speed or quality from discovery and preclinical research through to clinical development. This would not include use of AI in internal workflow productivity with no bearing on drug development decision making.

This new category is open to pharma and biotech companies and can include projects conducted in collaboration with CROs/CDMOs, technology providers, and academia.

The AI application must have been actively used during the qualifying period (not purely conceptual or early proof-of-concept) and entries can relate to a single program, platform, tool, or partnership, but must be grounded in drug development rather than general business operations.

#### WHO CAN ENTER

This new category is open to pharma and biotech companies and can include projects conducted in collaboration with CROs/CDMOs, technology providers and academia.

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## CATEGORIES AND ENTRY CRITERIA

### PHARMA COMPANY OF THE YEAR

The Pharma Company of the Year Award honours outstanding achievements by pharmaceutical companies over the qualifying 12 months between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

This special Award is chosen by Scrip's senior editorial team, based on a variety of key metrics: The winner will be announced on the night of the Scrip Awards.

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OPEN  
AWARDS

### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The winner of this Award will be an exceptional individual with a consistent history of service, above and beyond the call of duty, throughout their career.

This prestigious international Award will go to someone who has had a distinguished career in the biotech or pharmaceutical arena, primarily within industry.

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#### WHO CAN ENTER

Nominees may be retired or semi-retired but will still be active in the industry in some capacity. For this special Award, candidates must be nominated by a third party.

*“Honouring outstanding achievements by pharmaceutical companies over the qualifying 12 months between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.”*

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## JUDGED BY INDUSTRY LEADERS

The Scrip Awards is proud to feature an independent judging panel of senior, globally recognized industry experts, carefully selected for their expertise, impartiality and credibility.

### HOW IT WORKS

Judges review submissions within their areas of specialization, ensuring each entry receives expert, focused attention.

Every category is evaluated by at least three judges against clear, published criteria, with scores out of ten determining the shortlist and ultimate winners.

The chair of the Judging Panel may cast a deciding vote if necessary, ensuring fair and thorough adjudication.

### TRANSPARENCY & CONFIDENTIALITY

Shortlisted entries will be announced on our website.

Winners remain confidential until revealed at the Scrip Awards ceremony in December.

The judges' decisions are final, with no correspondence entered into regarding results.

**ENTRY  
DEADLINE:  
FRIDAY,  
10 JULY  
2026**

### SHOWCASE YOUR EXCELLENCE!

Visit [www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards](http://www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards) to learn more.

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## THE RULES

### **All entries must be written in English.**

- Limit your entry to 1500 words or less.
- All entries must be accompanied by a 250-word synopsis of the entry as you would like it to appear on all publicity material (this is in addition to the 1500 words or less entry).
- All entries must be submitted via our online system
- All entries must be based on activities undertaken between 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.
- Companies may enter more than one category, provided that each entry has been specifically written to address the relevant criteria and is accompanied by a separate 250-word synopsis.
- All entries will be treated as confidential, but Scrip reserves the right to publish positive extracts from the winning entries' 250-word synopses.
- All companies shortlisted as finalists will be notified directly by the Scrip Awards team in September.
- The Judging Panel reserves the right to move an entry into a different category if they feel it is better suited in this category.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

- The organizer of the Scrip Awards, recognizes and respects the sensitive nature of the information submitted in the entries. We ensure that this recognition is shared by our Judging Panel. We therefore require each judge to sign a confidentiality agreement before they are appointed.
- Entries are not disclosed or discussed outside the judging process.
- Once an entry is shortlisted, extracts from the entry summary only will be sourced for inclusion in the Awards ceremony and any subsequent editorial coverage.
- Please ensure your entry summary contains no confidential or sensitive information. The Judging Panel for each Award is selected to avoid any conflict of interest.

## HOW TO ENTER

**VISIT** – [www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards](http://www.citeline.com/awards/scripawards)

**CREATE** – your online account.

**SELECT** – your category or categories.

**COMPLETE** – your online entry form(s) explaining why you or your company should be considered a winner this year. Please refer to the category criteria as a guide.

**SUBMIT** – your entry and you will receive an automated submission receipt and an invoice will be sent to you shortly after your submission.

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Q. HOW DO I ENTER?

It's very simple. Ensure you have read the entry guidelines and category criteria.

Decide on which category (or categories) you wish to enter, and create your online account via [www.citeline.com/awards/ScripAwards](http://www.citeline.com/awards/ScripAwards)

Once you are ready click 'Enter Now', follow the onscreen instructions and submit your entry by clicking 'Enter'.

### Q. HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO ENTER?

Entries for the Scrip Awards are free of charge.

### Q. WHEN IS THE ENTRY DEADLINE?

Entries are being accepted until Friday, 10 July 2026.

### Q. I AM NOT SURE WHICH CATEGORY OUR ENTRY WOULD FIT INTO?

If you are not sure which category your entry fits into, please contact Natalia Kay at [natalia.kay@citeline.com](mailto:natalia.kay@citeline.com) for further assistance.

### Q. CAN I ENTER THE SAME SUBMISSION INTO MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY?

We encourage entries in more than one category per individual or company, where appropriate; please ensure to review the category criteria and tailor your entry accordingly.

### Q. I AM A SPONSOR OF THE AWARDS, AM I STILL ABLE TO ENTER?

Yes you can enter the Awards and we would encourage this, however you are unable to enter the category you are sponsoring. Don't worry, there are plenty of other categories.

### Q. HOW WILL I KNOW WHETHER MY SUBMISSION HAS BEEN RECEIVED?

All submissions will be acknowledged by an automated email once you have submitted your entry. Our Awards team will also get in touch with you again shortly before the entry deadline. If you have any concerns, please contact Natalia Kay at [natalia.kay@citeline.com](mailto:natalia.kay@citeline.com)

### Q. HOW WILL I KNOW IF MY SUBMISSION HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL?

Following the judging all companies and individuals will be notified by email. Finalists will be announced on [www.citeline.com/awards/ScripAwards](http://www.citeline.com/awards/ScripAwards). If you are successful, you will also receive an email from us on what happens next.

### Q. WHAT DO I GET IF I WIN?

The Scrip Awards are highly regarded within the industry and winning an Award marks you out as a leader in your field. In addition to your trophy (if in attendance at the ceremony) and a certificate of recognition you will receive a winner's pack with additional details on publicising your success.

### Q. HOW CAN I ENSURE I'M AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY FOR NETWORKING?

It's essential to book your place at the event. Please contact Christopher Keeling, Sales Manager, email: [christopher.keeling@citeline.com](mailto:christopher.keeling@citeline.com)

### Q. ARE THERE OTHER WAYS I CAN GET INVOLVED IN THE AWARDS?

Yes, there are a variety of sponsorship opportunities available. Please contact Christopher Keeling, Sales Manager. email: [christopher.keeling@citeline.com](mailto:christopher.keeling@citeline.com)

### Q: HOW WILL THE SHORTLIST FOR THE EDITOR'S CHOICE AWARDS BE DETERMINED?

The shortlist will be selected by the Scrip team using published criteria, leveraging metrics from the Norstella suite of databases along with insights from internal analysts and subject matter experts.

### Q: WILL SHORTLISTED NOMINEES NEED TO SUBMIT AN ENTRY FOR THE AWARDS?

Yes, nominees will be invited to submit their entries for the category in June with their place on the shortlist already assured. The nominations will be announced as part of the Scrip Awards main shortlist in September.

### Q: CAN ANYONE ENTER THE REMAINING AWARD CATEGORIES?

Yes, for the remaining categories, entries will remain open to all who wish to participate.

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# SCRIP AWARDS

— 2026 —

**WEDNESDAY, 2 DECEMBER 2026**  
RAFFLES LONDON AT THE OWO

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