



WADD
World Association
on Dual Disorders

WPA & WADD AWARDS IN JOINT RECOGNITION OF PROF. PEDRO RUIZ

Applications can be submitted using the application form that you can find by [clicking here](#). **Deadline for applications: April 25th, 2025**

If you are not a member of the WADD but would like to submit your candidature, you can register as a member of the WADD (25€ per year) by [clicking here](#).

As part of the "Agreement of the Americas," signed in January 2024 between the World Psychiatric Association, American Psychiatric Association, APAL, World Association on Dual Disorders, Canadian Psychiatric Association, American Society of Hispanic Psychiatry, Warming Mental Health, Promoting Mental Health in Females, and the Spanish Society on Dual Disorders and Mexican Consortium of Neuropsychopharmacology, the inaugural project includes a tribute to Professor Pedro Ruiz, recognising his significant contributions to psychiatry through two awards:

- “Pedro Ruiz Academic Fellowship on Psychiatry and Dual Disorders” Award
- “In the Footsteps of Pedro Ruiz” Award

Background to the Awards

Professor Pedro Ruiz was a founding member and first president of the World Association on Dual Disorders (WADD), as well as a past president of both the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and the World Psychiatric Association (WPA). After his passing, WADD governing bodies established these awards to honour his legacy, promote excellence in psychiatry, and inspire hope for individuals suffering from mental health challenges. These awards symbolise international recognition of his efforts to integrate psychiatry and train future professionals.

Award Categories

- “Pedro Ruiz Academic Fellowship on Psychiatry and Dual Disorders”: Recognises senior professionals with a distinguished career in psychiatry and dual disorders.

- “In the Footsteps of Pedro Ruiz” Award: Honors younger professionals making notable contributions to psychiatry and dual disorders.

Both awards acknowledge contributions but do not include grants or scholarships.

Guidelines to apply (Self-nomination)

The “Pedro Ruiz Academic Fellowship on Dual Disorders” is an award for senior professionals that honours a career dedicated to dual disorders. The “In the Footsteps of Pedro Ruiz” is an award for younger professionals working in dual disorder settings. The two awards have a recognition value and do not involve any grant or scholarship. The person selected will have distinguished themselves in the Dual Disorders field and will be recognized for having made significant contributions.

We encourage individuals who meet the eligibility criteria to nominate themselves, if they believe that they achieve qualifications, experience, and passion for these awards. This is an invitation to move your name forward, in one of these two awards, nomination for the “Pedro Ruiz Academic Fellowship on Dual Disorders” award or nomination for the “In the Footsteps of Pedro Ruiz” award through the proper forms. **The application deadline April 25th, 2025.**

Candidates’ selection criteria

Nominees are evaluated by the Scientific Committee based on the following:

1. The nominee’s country must have an active Psychiatry and Addiction program (Dual Disorders) operating for at least two years.
2. Academic Fellowship Award candidates must have 20+ years of experience in dual disorder research and treatment.
3. “In the Footsteps” Award candidates must be under 45 years old with a minimum of five years of relevant experience.
4. Nominees can be treatment providers, researchers, or educators, with demonstrable involvement in dual disorders.
5. Contributions must have significantly impacted the field within their country or internationally.
6. Required documentation includes a 200-word summary of achievements, a



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nomination form.

The Evaluation Committee, comprising representatives from each Association, will select one recipients for the Academic Fellowship Award and one for the “In the Footsteps” Award.

Awards Presentation

The awards will be presented during the **25th World Congress of Psychiatry’s opening ceremony which will take place in Prague, Czech Republic in October 2025**. Recipients will receive complimentary registration, and Academic Fellowship Award winners will deliver the “Pedro Ruiz Memorial Lecture” to share their work.