



FEMS Outstanding Early Career Microbiologist Award: regulations

We recognize excellence in microbiology and its contribution to society through our high profile awards programme. This Award in particular aims to recognize Early Career Researchers that have realized an excellent body of (published) research and research potential and who are changing the agenda in their field of expertise. It may help them get that next important step on their way to independent funding. The nomination can be based on a single exceptionally significant achievement or the aggregate of a number of exemplary achievements.

MAKING A NOMINATION

Frequency: biennially

Who is eligible?

- microbiologists within 5 years of receiving their highest qualification/PhD*
- active in any field of microbiology
- member of a FEMS Member Society

What does an Awardee receive?

- A free registration and travel grant to attend the FEMS Congress, provided they give an oral presentation at this Congress
- FEMS will give the awardee recognition by promoting the presentation through its channels

What do you need to do?

Nomination opens 4 months before the abstract deadline of the FEMS Congress, that is held every uneven calendar year. The deadline for nomination is 6 weeks before the abstract deadline of the FEMS Congress (for FEMS MICRO 2025 it will be: 16 December 2024, 23:59 CET).

There are two ways in which a candidate can be nominated:

- Candidates can apply by sending the requested information (below) via the form <https://crm.fems-microbiology.org/ssp/awards/forms/fems-outstanding-early-career-microbiologist-award-nomination-form>.
- Supervisors or the Head of Department can send their nomination, by sending the requested information (below) via the form <https://crm.fems-microbiology.org/ssp/awards/forms/fems-outstanding-early-career-microbiologist-award-nomination-form>.

The application should include:

- Candidate's CV including a list of references
- A highlight of the candidate's five most important achievements during their career (publications, research findings, patents, an essay, etcetera)
- A letter of recommendation from a supervisor or the Head of Department indicating the reasons for the nomination
- A letter of recommendation from an external reviewer of the candidate and his/her work

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**Federation of European
Microbiological Societies**

- A letter confirming membership of the candidate in a Member Society, signed by the FEMS Delegate or President of that Society
- Contact information of the nominee

Who makes the selection?

Nominations are scrutinized by the FEMS Awards Board, which includes the FEMS President and the representatives of two Member Societies.

What happens after the nomination?

Following selection by the FEMS Awards Board and approval by the FEMS Directors, FEMS will contact the Awardee latest one week before the abstract submission deadline of the FEMS Congress. We will invite the winner to submit their abstract to give an oral presentation at FEMS Congress.

**periods of maternity/paternity leave, special leave or illness do not count toward this definition*