



GUIDELINES FOR THE FAOBMB ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD

(As of 22 October 2025)

The FAOBMB Entrepreneurship Award is given triennially to a biochemist or molecular biologist, for outstanding achievement in entrepreneurship in biochemistry or molecular biology, especially innovation and creativity in research or technology, and their translation to broader aspects, with a view to fostering leadership in this important area of the FAOBMB activities. Applicants must be members of a constituent Society or Group within FAOBMB with at least 2 years of continuous membership immediately prior to the nomination. Substantial portions of the work of applicants must have been carried out within the FAOBMB region or have been of demonstrated benefit to countries in the FAOBMB region. The recipient will present his/her work in a suitable forum, at the annual FAOBMB Conference in the year of the award, at which the recipient will receive complimentary registration. The award winner will also receive an honorarium of USD 3,000 (the size of honorarium is subject to change over time), and travel/accommodation allowance of up to USD 2,000 provided by FAOBMB and sponsors.

Nominations and Applications

- (i) *General:* The Secretary General shall call for applications for this award by email to Constituent Member Societies and Groups, and shall advertise the award on the FAOBMB website. Applications will be accepted by the Secretary General at any time but applications will be considered only once in the relevant year (normally that year preceding the year in which a Congress is to be held), after the published closing date. Applicants become ineligible if they do not meet the conditions of the Award, have previously received the Award, or allow their membership of the relevant national Society or Group to lapse. The Secretary General shall advise each successful applicant (and their supporters) of his or her success, also notifying them of the requirements of the Award. Where relevant, the Secretary General shall advise sponsors of the names of the successful candidate for their sponsored award and include with such notification a short description of the work for which the Award was given. Nominations submitted in a given year will not be considered in the same form in the subsequent round three years later but must be submitted afresh in order to be considered.
- (ii) *The FAOBMB Entrepreneurship Award Selection Committee:* The Award Winner will be selected by the Entrepreneurship Award Selection Committee of Council which shall consist of: the President (who will act as Chair); Past President or President Elect; the Chair of the Organizing Committee of the Constituent member Society or Group hosting the FAOBMB Conference that year; a current delegate to Council of an FAOBMB constituent member Society or Group, nominated by the Executive Committee and approved by Council; one other member of FAOBMB, nominated by the Executive

Committee and approved by Council, who will normally be a senior member of an FAOBMB constituent member Society or Group with current or recent achievements in research or technology in biochemistry and molecular biology; and an internationally recognized expert in entrepreneurship relevant to biochemistry and molecular biology (not necessarily from the FAOBMB region) nominated by the Executive Committee and approved by Council. Those members nominated by the Executive Committee may serve on no more than two successive Selection Committees for the Entrepreneurship Award. An Entrepreneurship Award Committee member is not eligible to be a nominee for the Award.

(iii) *Criteria for the Award:* Candidates for the FAOBMB Entrepreneurship Award will be assessed on the basis of evidence that supports their claims against five broad criteria:

1. Successful scientific career
2. Translation of research technology to the scientific community
3. Translation to the commercial world
4. Entrepreneurial outcomes in broader aspects of science and technology
5. Contributions to Science and Society

(iv) *Application form:* Applications, on the official application form available on the FAOBMB web page, must include the following: full name and address of the applicant; the names and addresses of three supporters of the application, at least two of whom have been members of an FAOBMB Constituent Member Society or Group for at least the previous 2 years; a statement addressing designated selection criteria; other information as set out on the form. A complete list of publications is required to be attached to the application form. Each of the three supporters named on the application form must provide a confidential reference for the applicant by email directly to the Secretary General by the closing date for applications.

(v) *Closing date:* The closing date for nominations shall be at least 6 months before the relevant Conference. The award winner will be notified by email of the decision of the Committee at least three months before the conference. The FAOBMB reserves the right to withhold the Entrepreneurship Award if the announced winner is not able to accept the award in person at the relevant Conference. A new winner may be selected from the application list by the Entrepreneurship Award Committee.

Notes:

*The closing date for nominations is **January 12, 2026***

In 2026, The award winner will receive complimentary registration for the 32nd FAOBMB Conference (to take place in Hong Kong, China during 10-13 August 2026), as well as receiving an award, an honorarium of USD 3,000, and travel / accommodation allowance of up to USD 2,000 provided by FAOBMB and a sponsoring organization.

The travel allowance payable by FAOBMB will cover airfare costs for the economy class return trip from the home country to the location of the Congress or Conference.

Should the itinerary used by the Award winner not be directly from the home country to the location of the Congress or Conference, FAOBMB will cover airfare costs no more than the equivalent of the economy class return trip from the home country to the location of the Congress or Conference.

Accommodation costs will be reimbursed for expenses reasonably incurred, up to the full duration of the Congress or Conference.

FAOBMB will not normally provide funds for internal travel and accommodation in the home country or for visa expenses to enable travel to the Congress or Conference at which the Award will be presented and the award lecture delivered.

Documentation for the expenses claimable for reimbursement under the travel/accommodation allowance must be forwarded to the FAOBMB Treasurer together with a Claim Form supplied after notification of the Award by the Secretary General. The Claim Form with documentation may be submitted to the Treasurer at a suitable time either before or after the Congress or Conference.