Open call: “Travel awards 2027 to support attendance to EFCE conferences and events”

The Early Career Chemical Engineers Section of EFCE is pleased to announce an open call for two (2) travel awards up to six hundred euros (€600) each. These awards are available to early career chemical engineers who have submitted an abstract to present a lecture or poster in a scientific conference supported by the EFCE in 2027. The 16th European Congress of Chemical Engineering and 9th European Congress of Applied Biotechnology *(ECCE&ECAB27) is excluded* from this call, as a separate call for travel awards is available for this specific conference.

The travel award may be used to cover the registration fee and/or travel and accommodation costs associated with attending the specific EFCE event for which the award was granted. The award will be reimbursed after the event, upon submission of a completed expense claim form and the relevant receipts/invoices within one month of the event’s conclusion.

Awardees will be notified by email and announced on EFCE website, social media channels and EFCE newsletter, while they will also receive a certificate during the EFCE event they attend.

Eligibility Criteria

- Early career status, defined as those who are working towards or have obtained at least a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering and have less than 8 years of relevant professional experience in case of a master’s degree or less than 4 years of relevant professional experience in the case of a Ph.D. title.*
- Membership (or pending application) in an EFCE member society.
- Has not previously won the EFCE travel grant/award.
- Submitted an abstract to a conference that will be held within 2027 and is designated as an *EFCE Event No. XXX*. Full calendar of conferences supported by EFCE can be found here: https://efce.info/events_overview.html#calendar

Application process

We invite early career chemical engineers to submit:

1. Application form (attached)
2. Video of 2-min (max) duration in which candidates explain why they should be selected for this award. The content, structure and format of the video are entirely up to the candidate.

Kindly send the requested documents to Ines Honndorf (ines.honndorf@dechema.de) and the Early Career Chemical Engineers Board (EFCE.earlycareerchemengs@gmail.com).

Timeline

- Opening of the call for applications: 15th of September 2026
- Deadline for applications: 24st of March 2027
- Final selection of travel award winners: 15th of April 2027

**We are committed to a transparent and fair selection process, ensuring equal opportunities for all candidates. The eligibility period will be extended to account for any maternity or paternity leave.*

Evaluation process

The submitted application documents will be evaluated by reviewers from the EFCE Early Career Chemical Engineers Section according to the evaluation criteria presented in **Table 1**. The two candidates achieving the highest overall scores will be the ones selected to receive the travel awards of this call.

Table 1. Evaluation criteria with respective weighting factors and notes

Factor	Weighting	Notes and relevant criteria
Quality of scientific statement	15%	Scientific excellence, novelty, relevance to the conference and clarity, including whether the objectives and key findings of the work are presented in a logical and understandable way. The scientific statement should not duplicate the abstract submitted in the conference.
Career progression and CV	10%	Applicant's track record relative to career stage, considering work experience, publications, conference presentations, awards, engagement with public or volunteering activities.
Personal statement	20%	Strength of the applicant's motivation for attending the conference and its expected impact on their professional development.
Promotion of the award plan	20%	Credibility and feasibility of the applicant's plan to engage with the Early Career community and promote the award.
Video	25%	Confidence, body language, creativity, enthusiasm and originality of the presentation, as well as the candidate's ability to make a convincing case for receiving the award.
Justification of covering expenses for attending event	10%	Clarity and feasibility of the applicant's financial plan, including how the award will be used and how remaining conference expenses will be covered if the award is granted.

For any questions or concerns, please contact us at EFCE.earlycareerchemengs@gmail.com