

## 2026 ISV Annual Congress - Announcement

# LMIC Awards for Early Career Researchers and PhD Students

The International Society for Vaccines (ISV) Annual Congress will be held at **A Room With A Zoo, Antwerp, from 12 to 14 October 2026.**

This year, ISV invites Early-Career Researchers (within 5 years of their PhD award) and PhD students from low-and middle-income countries (LMICs) to apply for a scholarship to attend the congress in person

**Note: Applicants from NON-LMICs are NOT eligible for this award.**

**Application Deadline: Tuesday, 31 March, 2026.**

### In-Person Awards Include:

- ISV Congress Registration Fee.
- Hotel accommodation for up to 4 nights during the congress.
- Economy class air travel and rail ground transportation from Brussels or Amsterdam to Antwerp (travel must be arranged by the Congress travel agent).
- Visa application fees for the award recipient, where applicable

The ISV In-Person Participation Awards are only valid for participation in the 2026 ISV Annual Congress held at **A Room With A Zoo, Antwerp, from 12 to 14 October 2026.** To qualify for this award, selected awardees must present their abstract in-person.

## Eligibility

- Applicants **must** be from a low- or middle-income country (LMIC) whose **place of research** or **source of stipend** is from an LMIC.
  - Applicants funded by a scholarship or fellowship originating from an LMIC but currently studying in a non-LMIC country are eligible for an LMIC travel award.
  - Applicants whose home country is an LMIC but who are funded by a scholarship from a non-LMIC and are studying or working in that non-LMIC country are eligible for a **non-LMIC award**. (*please check the criteria [here](#)*).
- LMIC status is determined according to the [World Bank Classification list](#).



# ISV ANNUAL CONGRESS

International  
Society for  
**VACCINES**

2026

12 - 14 OCTOBER  
ANTWERP | BELGIUM  
ISVCONGRESS.ORG

- Applicants must hold an active membership with ISV at the time of application. To join or renew, visit: <https://isv-online.org/membership/>

## Terms & Conditions

- Awards are intended for participation in the 2026 ISV Annual Congress and cannot be awarded retrospectively.
- Each participant is eligible for only one award.
- Previous award winners are eligible to apply but will be placed on a waiting list and will only receive the award if there are not enough new applicants who meet the criteria
- In-Person Awards are **not** intended to cover the full cost of participation. **Awardees are responsible for part of their travel costs, including any ground transportation in their home nation.**
- Applicants must provide details of other financial support available and obtain required travel documents (including a valid passport and entry visa (if applicable)).
- Applicants agree that the ISV may use any images taken of award recipients at the Congress and use these images and their post congress reports in communications.
- All applicants must provide a **signed letter of support** in English on official Institutional letterhead from a supervisor or head of department that:
  - Confirms the applicant's career stage,
  - Confirms the applicant is in good standing in their program,
  - Confirms a source of stipend funding,
  - Provides a recommendation outlining the applicant's specific contribution to the research in the submitted Abstract.
- Applicants **must** complete the relevant sections in the Application Form (in English) to provide:
  - A brief statement justifying interest in attending the ISV Annual Congress.
  - A brief statement describing how participation at the ISV Annual Congress will be of benefit to their career.
- All Awardees **are required** to:
  - Provide a summary of the educational, collaborative or career value gained within one month of the conclusion of the ISV Annual Congress.

## Assessment Criteria

- The assessment panel of the Awards Committee and Congress Co-Chairs will review all applications, abstracts, and letters of support to select on the basis of:
  - Quality,
  - Research relevancy and originality,
  - Evidence of ability to fully participate,
  - Geographic diversity,
  - Intention to disseminate information gained to colleagues and peers of their institution.

## Abstract Submission

- All applicants must **submit an abstract**.
- To be considered for an **oral presentation** (15 minutes), please indicate the most relevant session in the abstract submission tool.
- To be considered for a **Bright Sparks oral presentation** (10 minutes), please select the appropriate session based on your career stage (PhD or Early Career Researcher).
- All abstracts will be considered for **poster presentation**.

## Technical Information

- Make a user account in the online abstract submission and registration tool: <https://www.conftool.org/isv2026>
- Submit your abstract, application form, and letter of support through the online abstract submission tool: <https://www.conftool.org/isv2026>
  - **Select LMIC ECR Award abstract submission track**
  - Please limit your abstract to 300-500 words.
  - Abstract in English must include:
    1. Title;
    2. Authors;
    3. Introduction/Background;
    4. Material/Methods
    5. Results;
    6. Discussion/ConclusionAbstracts that do not comply with this structure will be **INELIGIBLE**.
  - Please **do not include** any graphs, tables, or images.
  - Upload your completed [Application details form](#).
  - Upload the [Letter of Support](#).

The banner features a dark blue background with a collage of images: a cityscape at night, a microscopic view of a cell, and a DNA helix. The text 'ISV ANNUAL CONGRESS' is prominently displayed in white. Below it, a red bar contains the text 'International Society for VACCINES | 2026 | 12 - 14 OCTOBER ANTWERP | BELGIUM ISVCONGRESS.ORG'.

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- If your abstract is accepted for an oral presentation, at least one presenting author must attend the Congress.
- There is no limitation on how many abstracts any author may submit.
- You may submit an abstract that has been presented at another meeting.

## Questions

Any questions regarding the award applications should be addressed to Elina Martin  
[ISVCongress@ads-insight.com](mailto:ISVCongress@ads-insight.com)