

2026 ISV Annual Congress - Announcement

Non-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 to apply for a scholarship to attend the congress in person.

Note: Applicants from 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.
- Travel costs may be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$1,000.

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 a PhD student or an Early Career Researcher (within 5 years of receiving their PhD).
 - 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.
 - Other applicants from LMICs **are NOT eligible** for this award but may be eligible for **LMIC travel awards** (please check the criteria [here](#))
- Applicants must hold 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.



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- 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 airfare and ground transportation.**
- 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 submit an Abstract.
- 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,

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- 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 Non-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 detail form](#).
 - Upload the [Letter of Support](#).
- 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