



YEAR 2026
**Prof. Yoo Hang Kim Young
Women Scientists
Award**

Purpose:

The purpose of the Award is to enable young women scientists early in their careers to attend an AASSA-recognized international scientific conference or meeting, at which they will present the results of their original research. Up to **three awards** are available for the latter half of 2026, which will be awarded competitively based on the criteria and inclusive representation from the eligible member countries.

Applications due (from applicant to local academy):
31st July 2026

Nomination:

Nominations for the Prof. Yoo Hang Kim Young Women Scientists Award may be made by an AASSA member academy or society from a Low- or Middle-Income Country (LMIC), **excluding** those from Highly Developed Countries (HDC) and **G-20 countries¹**.

Nominations must be made on the official letter-head of the AASSA member academy or society, and be accompanied by soft (electronic) copies of each of the required documents/evidences. **Self-nominations will not be accepted.**

¹ In 2026, the AASSA member countries excluded are Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, & Turkey. Applications from AASSA academies/societies whose nominees were selected for the award in 1st round of 2026 (*i.e.*, Malaysia, Philippines & Thailand) will **not be considered for the 2nd round.**

Nomination Deadline (to receive applications by the AASSA secretariat): 24th August 2026

Eligibility and Amount of Award:

1. Nominees shall be young women scientists early in their career in the field of STEM, preferably no more than five years after obtaining their PhD degrees.
2. A nominee should have experience with presentations of her original research at an internationally recognized scientific conference or have been accepted/published in international journals.
3. The nominee should specify the **AASSA-recognized² international³** scientific conference/meeting that she wishes to attend and provide evidence that she has been accepted to present the results of her original research at the conference. Each awardee must present the results of her original research at the conference specified in the nomination.
4. Each Award will be of up to USD 2,000 and shall be used to reimburse nominee's expenses related to attending the proposed conference. The expenses eligible for reimbursement include a round-trip basic economy airfare from her country to the conference host country, conference registration, per diem (for meals), and accommodation during the conference. Payment of the award amount shall be made as **reimbursement⁴** of these expenses upon the submission of original receipts, and evidence concerning her presentation, by the awardee. Bank fees may be deducted for international wire transfer.
5. **Late or incomplete applications will not** be processed.

Documents required from the nominee:

Along with the nomination letter from the applicant's respective national academy/society under AASSA, the following documents are required to be submitted:

1. Application form
2. Conference acceptance letter
3. Self-attested copy of PhD certificate/award
4. Web links for up to three important research papers published in internationally reputed scientific journals.

(The applicant and the nominating academy are responsible for the authenticity and accuracy of the requested information. Providing incorrect information will render the nomination void).

Applications close 31st July 2026 Nomination Deadline (for academies and societies) 24th August 2026

² Local Society/Academy will assess the quality of the international scientific conferences/meetings.

³ International conferences should belong to an international organization or a single society that has a long history record (at least 5 years) of >25% international delegates attending the conference.

⁴ There could be a maximum limit for specific reimbursement items.

Process for Year 2026 (2nd round):

1. Up to three awards (given on reimbursable modality) are available for the 2nd round in year 2026. Interested applicants who intend to participate in an international conference taking place within the year 2026 must submit an application form together with supporting files to the local science academy or society by **31st July 2026⁵** for this call.
2. The applicant's Local or National Academy/Society, which must be a member of AASSA, will screen the received applications and forward **only ONE deserving nomination** from the country, with a letter of nomination to AASSA Secretariat (aassa@kast.or.kr) by **24th August 2026**.
3. The AASSA Secretariat will then transmit the nominations to the WISE Committee by **31st August 2026⁶** for the final selection process. The selection results will be announced and published on AASSA's official website (www.aassa.asia).
4. The selection results will be announced by **14th September 2026⁶** and the awards will be reimbursed **after** attending the conference in **2026**. To facilitate the reimbursement process, the award recipients are required to submit proper receipts and evidence (such as boarding passes, conference participation certificates, and pictures) to the AASSA Secretariat within **one month** from the conclusion of the attended conference and before **18th December 2026**.
5. Decisions made by the WISE Committee and AASSA Executive Board are final and shall not be challenged in court of law or elsewhere.

Contacts

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⁵ If AASSA's WISE Committee is able to select eligible awardees by September 2026, there will be no consecutive call for the award this year.

⁶ The announced schedule is subject to change depending on administrative circumstances.