

«Chemistry Travel Award» - FAQ

What is meant by "active participation at an international conference"? *A poster presentation and/or an oral talk have to be given at a conference outside of Switzerland. The conference has to last 3 days or longer.*

I am doing my PhD at a research institution such as Empa, Eawag or the Paul Scherrer Institute. May I also apply for the «Chemistry Travel Award»? *Yes, also PhD students working at such research institutes in Switzerland are welcome to apply.*

I am doing my PhD in collaboration with a foreign university (e.g. in Germany or France). May I also apply for the «Chemistry Travel Award»? *Yes, as long as you are employed and mainly funded by a Swiss institution, you may apply.*

I recently finished my PhD and I have a Post Doc position now. I soon will present my PhD thesis at a conference. May I also apply for the «Chemistry Travel Award»? *No. As stated in the announcement, only PhD students can apply.*

When will the applicants be informed of the decision of the selection committee? *They will be informed by May 15 at the latest.*

May I also apply for a conference I already attended? *No, this rule has been changed. Only conferences attendances from May 15 of the present year to May 14 of the next year can be supported.*

I've won a «Chemistry Travel Award» last year. What are my chances to win again this year? *Zero, the «Chemistry Travel Award» is a once-in-a-lifetime award, each student can only win once.*

May I also apply for a summer school I am going to attend? *As long as you participate in this summer school by presenting a poster and/or giving a talk, your application is welcome.*

Do I have to be a SCS member to apply for the «Chemistry Travel Award»? *No, you do not have to be a member of the Swiss Chemical Society (SCS).*

Do I have to submit the same abstract I also submit to the conference registration? *Yes, an abstract of the work you will present (poster or oral contribution) at the conference is required.*

I am working in the field of biochemistry/nanosciences/analytics, may I also apply for the «Chemistry Travel Award»? *Yes, doctoral students working in all fields of chemistry may apply.*

Is the conference announcement the same as the confirmation of the registration? Do I have to be registered already before applying for the «Chemistry Travel Award»? *No, the conference announcement simply means the advertisement of the conference, e.g. a flyer, poster or homepage of the conference you would like to attend.*

There is no conference announcement existing that I could submit. May I instead submit a screenshot of the conference homepage? *Yes.*

May I also submit two applications for two different conferences? *No, only one application per student may be submitted. However, several students from one research group may apply, and students that didn't win before may re-apply each year.*

My supervisor has a confidentiality policy of not handing out recommendation letters to her/his PhD students. What should I do? *Your supervisor may send her/his letter of recommendation in a separate email to chemistry@scnat.ch. However, please mention this in the comments box of the application form.*

Do I have to send a proof of payment after having attended the conference? *No, we do not demand any receipts of expenses, only a confirmation of attendance is required.*

I have missed the deadline for application, is it still possible to apply after March 31? *A deadline is a deadline. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.*

May I submit my application in French, German or Italian? *No, the application documents and the reference letter have to be written in English.*

I did not receive any confirmation email. Did you receive my application? *There is no confirmation email. After submitting your documents, you will see the confirmation page in your webbrowser.*

Will I receive an award certificate? *No, we prefer to spend the money on supporting excellent students to creating documents. The winners will be published in Chimia.*

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