CALL FOR YEAR 2026

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 **five awards** are available for 2026, which will be awarded competitively based on the criteria and inclusive representation from the eligible member countries.

Applications due: 30th April 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 countries**[1].

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.**

Nomination Deadline: 25th May 2026

[1] In 2026, the AASSA member countries excluded are Australia, China, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, and Turkey.

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-recognized[2] international[3]** 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 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 **reimbursement[4]** 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.

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 30th April 2026
Nomination Deadline 25th May 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:

1. There are **five awards** (given on reimbursable modality) available for the 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 **30th April 2026**[5] 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 25th May 2026.**

3. The AASSA Secretariat will then transmit the nominations to the WISE Committee by **31st May 2026**[6] 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 **15th June 2026**[6] 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 **14th 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 five awardees before September 2026, then there will be no consecutive call for the award for the year 2026.

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