

Felix Franks Biotechnology Medal 2025 – Information Sheet for Nominators

The Felix Franks Biotechnology Medal is an Early Career Award sponsored by the RSC Biotechnology Group. The award is in Commemoration of Cambridge University Professor, Felix Franks (1926-2016), a highly distinguished former Chairman of the Biotechnology Group, and is a result of the generosity of his family who have agreed to provide the medals. The aim of this award is to encourage and recognise excellence in early career scientists in the application of chemical sciences to the study of any aspect of biotechnology.

The 2025 Award will be made for the most meritorious contributions to Chemical Biotechnology on the basis of published papers and/or other documentary evidence, including contributions to conferences, over the preceding 5 years. We encourage proposals both from industry and academia, and accept supporting evidence from more than one person if the candidate has not been able to publish confidential work.

The award is open to all early career scientists, whether or not members of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Early Career eligibility criteria are as follows:

1. An 'Early Career Scientist' is someone with no more than 12 years of full-time equivalent professional experience (allowing for career breaks) from the beginning of Doctoral (PhD, EngD, DPhil) studies up to the closing date for nominations. Time spent as a Masters student is not included. Time spent as a doctoral student and post-doctoral researcher is included.
2. Career breaks due to caring responsibilities or personal circumstances will be taken into account.

Nominations for the 2025 Felix Franks Biotechnology Medal

The call for nominations for the 2025 medal is open from **Monday 18 November 2024 to 17.00 GMT Friday 17 January 2025** and may be submitted by any nominator familiar with the work of the nominee. The candidate's agreement must first be obtained and the name of a second person willing to act as referee should be given.

Nominations must include supporting evidence (including a one-page CV of the candidate), and should be submitted via the online form at www.rsc.org/biotechnology to: networks@rsc.org. On receipt of the submission, the nominator will receive an acknowledgment.

Selection Process

The choice of the winner of the Felix Franks Biotechnology Medal is carried out by an Awards Committee consisting of one member nominated by the family of Felix Franks and the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and at least two other members of the RSC Biotechnology Group Committee.

Notification of the 2025 Winner and Presentation of the Award

Notification of the winner of the award will be made shortly after the Awards Committee Meeting in March 2025. The recipient of the award will be invited to present a lecture on their work at a meeting sponsored by the RSC Biotechnology Group at which a certificate and the inscribed Medal will be presented. Some assistance will be available towards travel expenses and accommodation.