

Guidelines for the CGCA Young Researchers Award

Qualified Applicants

- All researchers pursuing a PhD degree and researchers with up to one year of experience after successful defense of their first PhD are welcome to apply if they currently work in Germany in the field of chemistry or chemical engineering.

Application Materials

All submissions must be completed in English. The application must contain the following elements:

- A CV of maximum three A4 pages, including name, contact, affiliation, a summary of education and career, a research area summary, a list of **at most** 5 relevant research works (publications,¹ patents, software, etc.), and the total number of publications/patents/software. If the applicant has already obtained the PhD degree, the date of the successful defense has to be stated.
- A recommendation letter from the PhD supervisor of the applicant.²

Selection Schedule

The CGCA Young Researchers Award was established in 2014 and is awarded annually. Application is open from the closing of the CGCA annual conference in the previous year till the announced application deadline in the current year by the CGCA Award Working Group.

Selection Criteria

The following aspects of all applications are assessed:

- Originality of research
- Impact of research
- Quality of research
- Innovation
- Professional standing
- Independence in research
- Collaborations and teamwork
- Other indicators of esteem indicated by the recommendation

Selection Procedure

1. The CGCA Award Working Group (comprised of CGCA board members that have PhD degrees) receives application materials from applicants, and shortlists candidates if there is a high volume of applications, based on the selection criteria as listed above. Shortlisted candidates are asked to prepare a 3-min video briefly introducing the research work.
2. Application materials of shortlisted candidates are considered by the scientific committee, which is composed of three external experts holding professorship at German universities, with related academic background. Referees must state their relationship (if any) with the candidates and note any conflicts of interest.
3. Based on the review scores of the scientific committee, the CGCA Award Working Group invites the top 3 candidates to give a presentation about their research (in English) during the CGCA annual conference of the current year. The presentations are evaluated by the on-site committee composed of members of the CGCA Award Working Group and invited conference participants holding PhD degrees.
4. The final rank of the invited top 3 candidates is decided by a combination of marks from the scientific committee (40%) and the on-site committee (60%). The candidate with the best score will be awarded the first class CGCA Young Researchers Award of the year, and the other two candidates will be awarded the second class CGCA Young Researchers Award of the year. In case of tie for the first class, all candidates with a tied score will be awarded the first class award.
5. The award will be presented at the closing ceremony of the CGCA annual conference of the current year. CGCA will present all award winners with the award certificates and certain prizes.

Rules for Honest Competition

CGCA reserves the right to exclude applicants from the competition who behaved dishonestly in their application. CGCA also reserves the right to take back the awards if such behavior has been found afterwards. Both decisions require the majority of votes of the CGCA Committee. Dishonesty includes but is not limited to falsified recommendation letters, manipulation of author lists of publications, other intentionally provided false information.

Note

¹ Publications with “accepted but not online” status should be supported by acceptance letters from the editorial office of the journal.

² The accepted forms of recommendation letters could be (1) original recommendation letter with the signature of the PhD supervisor of the applicant sent by mail, (2) scanned copy of the recommendation letter with the signature of the PhD supervisor of the applicant sent via email.