

## Early Career Investigator Award – Biofabrication 2026

### Aim

The purpose of the ISBF's Early Career Investigator Award is to recognize outstanding achievements by members of the International Society for Biofabrication (ISBF) who are in the early stages of a career in the field of Biofabrication.

### Award Eligibility

The nominated individual must have received their highest terminal degree (PhD or equivalent\*) 5 years or less prior to the time of the award application (excluding career breaks) and must be actively contributing to the field of Biofabrication. Nominated individuals with a permanent position (e.g. tenure-track faculty or group leaders) are not eligible. An individual nominated for the ISBF's Early Career Investigator Award **MUST** be an active registered member of the ISBF and **MUST** attend the Biofabrication 2026 Conference in person in Monterrey, Mexico.

*\*Examples of other terminal degrees that may be considered include Doctor of Engineering (Eng.D.), Doctor of Medicine (M.D), Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S), and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M).*

### Award Criteria

The prize will be awarded to Early Career Investigator(s) that have addressed one or more of the following topics in their research:

- 1) design, synthesis and/or characterization of new printable biomaterials.
- 2) design, fabrication and/or validation of novel biomedical devices and/or fabrication processes.
- 3) implementation of novel physical, mathematical or informatics models for the prediction, characterization, or analysis of biomedical devices.
- 4) development of novel tools for Biofabrication.
- 5) development of novel *in vivo* or *in vitro* biofabricated models.
- 6) development of novel applications or the translation of biofabricated constructs to preclinical or clinical practice.
- 7) industrial realization of a device, process, or materials for applications in Biofabrication.

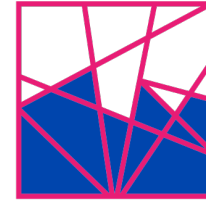
The number of awardees is subject to the discretion of the award committee and may result in two, one or zero recipient(s) being selected, based on the scientific excellence and diversity of the applicants.

### Prize

The ISBF Awards Committee will select the Early Career Investigator. The award winner receives:

- Recognition and presentation of the award at the Awards Ceremony at Biofabrication 2026 in Monterrey, Mexico.
- US\$1000 Award.
- ISBF Recognition Plaque.

### Announcement



This 2026 ISBF's Early Career Investigator awardee will be notified by the ISBF 2026 Awards Committee during the week of 24<sup>th</sup> of August, 2026. The award will be publicly announced on the Biofabrication 2026 website and subsequently on the ISBF website. The Awards Committee will announce and present prize winners their awards on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at the Awards Ceremony of Biofabrication 2026. The awardee **MUST** attend the Biofabrication 2026 Conference in Monterrey, Mexico.

### Application procedures and deadlines

1. The candidate must be nominated by an ISBF member that sends their nomination via a single e-mail message to the Awards Committee Chair, Prof. Carmelo De Maria ([carmelo.demaria@unipi.it](mailto:carmelo.demaria@unipi.it)). The candidate can self-nominate. If that is the case, two separate letters of recommendation are needed. However, if that is not the case, the nominator can write one of the two required letters of recommendation.
2. The nominee must be an ISBF member at the time of the award.
3. The nominator should also provide the following as a single PDF file:
  - 1) Affiliation and Contact form – no more than **one page** (form is available below or on the Biofabrication 2026 Awards webpage, no further details may be included).
  - 2) Curriculum Vitae – no more than **4 pages** (11 point font, 0.5 inch margins).
  - 3) Two (2) Letters of Recommendation (Please note: Recommenders may write a letter for only one 2026 Early Career Investigator nominee). Letters should document evidence of high productivity, scientific impact and leadership potential.
  - 4) **One page** statement summarizing the nominee's major accomplishments (0.5 inch margins, 11 point font). Indicate evidence of high productivity, potential for scientific impact, and leadership vision.
  - 5) Copy of accepted abstract.
4. The nomination messages must have a send date and time no later than **18<sup>th</sup> of July, 6PM Central European Summer Time**. Notification of the award: week of 24<sup>th</sup> of August, 2026.

### Selection Criteria

The candidatures will be examined and evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

#### 1) Outstanding achievements

*These achievements may encompass a spectrum of accomplishments outlined in the CV, e.g. publications in high impact journals, presentations, awards, patents, leadership roles, and/or other relevant contributions and initiatives that have advanced knowledge or practices in the field of Biofabrication.*

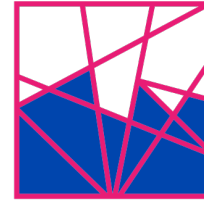
#### 2) Quality and significance of the accepted 2026 Biofabrication Conference abstract

*The caliber of the research conducted may be evidenced through a high-quality conference abstract with strong relevance and significance to the field of Biofabrication in alignment with the criteria outlined for the award. The ability of the candidate to communicate their research findings effectively will also be assessed, highlighting the clarity, coherence, and overall quality of the abstract writing.*

#### 3) Impact of their research



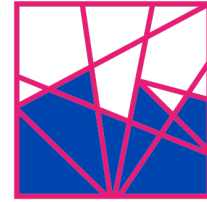
International Conference on  
**Biofabrication**  
**2026** MONTERREY, MÉXICO  
NOVEMBER 02-06



*The overall impact of the developed biofabrication tool or process can be demonstrated through letters of recommendation and the candidate's statement of accomplishments. Evidence of high productivity, potential for scientific impact, and leadership vision may encompass a variety of contributions. Examples include, innovation or translation of the candidate's research into real-world applications, implementation of their work by other researchers, clinicians, or industry professionals, the originality of the research, the ideation and conceptualization of the research by the candidate, interdisciplinary aspects that enhance the impact of biofabrication research, translation of their research into patents/licenses, partnerships with industry/clinicians, outlined market potential, the candidates vision for utilization of the developed biofabrication tool or process, community-building initiatives within the biofabrication field.*

### **Review Committee Decision**

The Awards Committee consists of 6 members of the International Society of Biofabrication. If one of the candidates is on the Awards Committee, they cannot participate in the review of any candidates or the final decision. If a nominator or recommendation letter writer is on the Awards Committee, they cannot vote on or discuss their nominee but can rank the other nominees.



**Affiliation and Contact Information**

**2026 International Society for Biofabrication Award Application (1 page maximum)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle Initial Suffix

Current Position/Title:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution Name

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(include area and country code)

**Educational History (most recent first):**

Name of Institution	Degree (B.S., B.A., Ph.D., etc.)	Field of Study or Focus	Date of Degree (or Expected Date)

**Recent Employment History (most recent first):**

Name of Institution	Position Held	Dates of Employment

Have you previously attended an ISBF conference? Yes/No

**Selected Publications:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Selected Honors and Awards:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.