

# Young Scientist SFEC Award 2026

On the occasion of the 2009 World Conference on Carbon, the **Francophone Carbon Society (SFEC)** has created an award to recognise a **significant contribution to carbon science or carbon technology** brought by a young, non-tenured, scientist or engineer, **regardless of his/her country of origin and citizenship**. This prize is now awarded every year at the ongoing World Conference on Carbon, and intends to highlight **one specific piece of work** from a young scientist.

The SFEC Award 2026 is open to **all researchers** who are **citizens of a French-speaking country** wherever they work, as well as to **any researcher working in a laboratory located in a French-speaking country/region** whatever his/her citizenship. The laboratory may be academic and public, or from a company and private. The applicants **must not have defended their thesis for more than four years**, at the closing date of the applications.

The SFEC Award 2026 includes a one-time money-prize of 1000 EUR (one thousand Euros).

The **enforced conditions** for eligibility are:

- (1) the remarkable results to be awarded should be unpublished or **recent**, *i.e.* disclosed or already published not earlier than in 2025;
- (2) the recipient of the Award **will attend in person BOTH** the following conferences to present the awarded work:
  - the *World Conference on Carbon* (CARBON 2026, July 12<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, Charleston, SC, USA) and give the related lecture **in person**. The SFEC will cover the registration fees to the CARBON 2026 conference.
  - the *Colloque Francophone du Carbone* (SFEC 2026, Aussois, May 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>) and give the related lecture **in person**. The SFEC will waive all registration fees and will cover on-site lodging and food expenses.
- (3) the awardee **should not have a permanent position** in industry or academia yet, by the time of the nomination submission.
- (4) the date of defense of the nominees' thesis (if already passed) **can not be before January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**.

Each applicant proposal is submitted by a "Nominator", typically a close colleague, or the candidate's supervisor if applicable. The nomination may come from anyone in the world. The members of the SFEC Award Committee will select the winner on the basis of FOUR documents (PDF format):

- (1) A proof that the work being submitted for the SFEC Award has also been submitted to the forthcoming World Conference on Carbon. It could be the screen-copy of the Short Abstract taken from the conference website page, or a copy of the email from the Conference acknowledging for the submission.
- (2) An **Abstract of at least 4 pages** detailing the performed research, so that the Committee can fairly assess the quality and originality of the work. It can also be the **preprint or the reprint of the related article if already submitted to a journal or published**. Note that since the intent is to award a specific piece of work, **only one article/contribution** will be submitted.
- (3) A **commentary provided by the "Nominator"**. The fact that the nominee is the main author of the proposed work should be clearly assessed, as well as the reason(s) why the nominee is fully eligible (quality of the work, originality, extent of the candidate's contribution). Note also that the purpose of the Nominator commentary is not to detail the Curriculum Vitae of the candidate: it should concern the proposed work only.
- (4) The **"Application-Checklist" document** to be filled and signed by the nominee (provided as the last page of this document).

Please strictly comply with the above-mentioned rules. Applications that do not comply with the rules will not be considered. **In particular, no other document will be taken into consideration by the Award Committee.** As the award is dedicated to reward the scientific quality of a **specific piece of work**, and not a sum of career achievements, **no Curriculum Vitae shall be provided.**

The **deadline** for the nomination submission is set to **January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. Nominations must be sent by the Nominators directly to both Prof. Alain CELZARD ([alain.celzard@univ-lorraine.fr](mailto:alain.celzard@univ-lorraine.fr)), and Dr. Bénédicte ALLARD ([benedicte.allard@tokaicobex.com](mailto:benedicte.allard@tokaicobex.com)).

The award winner will be selected by the SFEC Award committee and **all the applicants will be informed of the results by March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026**. The laureate will receive the award along with the money prize from the current Chair of SFEC at any appropriate time of the 2026 *World Conference on Carbon*, as allocated by the Organising Committee.

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**APPLICATION CHECK-LIST**  
**To be filled-out by the nominee to the SFEC Young-Scientist Award**

**Commitment**

*In case I am selected as the SFEC Award winner, I hereby certify that I will attend the World Conference on Carbon 2026 to receive my Award and money Prize and to present my work in person, and that I will duly acknowledge the SFEC. My registration fee will be supported by the SFEC along with the membership fee to the SFEC for one year.*

**Information about the nominee :**

Last Name:

First (given) name:

Citizenship(s):

Date of thesis defence, if already passed (dd/mm/yyyy):

Full name, acronym (if any), and address of the laboratory(ies) where the research work submitted for the SFEC Award was performed:

e-mail:

Signature:

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Once filled out, this form should be provided by the nominating person along with the following documents:

- 1. The nomination letter** (from a close, senior colleague, such as the researcher supervisor for instance) specifying the personal contribution of the nominee to the work submitted for the SFEC Award, among any other relevant comment;
- 2a. An Abstract of at least 4 pages** (including authors and affiliations) detailing the research performed;  
**OR, alternatively**
- 2b. The article** already published (not earlier than 2025) or submitted reporting the research work proposed for the SFEC Award.
- 3. As the winner commits to participate in Carbon 2026, proof of submission of the abstract** corresponding to the work proposed for the SFEC Award. **Careful: the deadline for abstract submission to Carbon 2026 is December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (<https://carbon2026.org>).**

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