BMS Young Scholar Award: Call 2026

The BMS Young Scholar Award is a yearly prize established by the BMS board in 2021 to commemorate the centenary of our society. This document concerns the 2026 call for the award. The rules of the prize are as follows:

- Each year, the BMS board decides on the calendar of the prize. For 2026 the calendar is as follows:
  - Call will be launched in October ‘26
  - Call closes November 30, ‘26
  - Decision made and announced by the BMS board in December ‘26.
- Eligibility criteria
  - Candidates must hold a PhD in any area of mathematics (in a broad sense) for less than 7 years (in practice for the 2026 call, this means that the PhD should be defended not earlier than 2020). The board can decide to extend this period in case of particular circumstances (childbirth, career break, medical leaves, etc.).
  - Candidates must have strong link with Belgium. Such a link might, for example, be demonstrated in the following way:
    - The candidate obtained his/her PhD from a Belgian university (a double degree is allowed as well)
    - The candidate is working or has worked recently at a Belgian university.
- The decision on the winner is made by the board of the BMS. The sole selection criterium is scientific excellence. The board of the BMS does not need to communicate the reasons for its decision. The outcome can not be disputed.
- The BMS has the right not to award the prize if there are no eligible candidates and/or if the BMS board considers that the eligible candidates do not reach the standards to be awarded with the prize.
- Candidates can be nominated by a head of department, or a head of a research group from a Belgian University, or by a member of the BMS board. This person is called the “promotor” of the candidate hereafter. Each promotor can nominate at most one candidate.

- In order to nominate a candidate, the promotor should send the following documents to the secretary of the BMS via the email address l.loosveldt@uliege.be.
    - A (short) CV of the candidate, including a full publication list, previous positions, grants and awards and including contact information of the candidate.
    - A (short) support letter of the promotor, highlighting the merits of the candidate.

These documents should arrive at the above email address before the deadline of the call defined in the calendar of the relevant year.

- Board members cannot propose themselves for the prize. However, it can be the case that board members are eligible for the prize, and proposed by others. In this case they will not be taking part in the voting process, and are excluded from all further discussions.
- The prize cannot be won twice.
- The winner of the prize will receive a one year honorary BMS membership and will be invited to give a plenary talk during a BMS event organized within one year following the decision of the board. During this event, the winner will also receive a diploma and a prize of 500 euro. The name of winner of the prize will be published on the BMS website.