

John Christian Young Food Microbiologist Award 2021

PURPOSE/RELEVANCE OF THE AWARD

The John Christian Young Food Microbiologist award was created as a means of encouraging and supporting the development of young food microbiologists.

PRIZE

1. Plaque for the winner and inscription of the winner's name onto the perpetual trophy.
2. Presentation at the AIFST 2021 Convention.
3. Article to be published in *food australia* (subject to the approval of the Publications Committee).
4. Complementary attendance at the AIFST 2021 Food Micro Conference.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The applicants must be under 30 years of age and under at the time of presentation and must be a member of the AIFST however, not restricted to students.

Finalists are chosen on the basis of a 500-word summary of a food microbiology topic. The topic and content must be related to food microbiology, including general interest topics, research work, literature review, risk assessment, case- or epidemiological-study. Assessment of applicant summaries will be undertaken by the AIFST.

Topic criteria are that the project be food microbiology related – literature review, experimental-based study, risk assessment, case- or epidemiological-study.

RULES AND PROCEDURES

There must be at least two applicants. Up to six finalists may be chosen from the applicants to give a presentation of their chosen topic. The AIFST reserves the right not to hold the event in any particular year if the calibre of applications is not considered sufficiently high.

Applicants must declare any sponsorship that they have received in the preparation of their submission.

Finalists must make their own travel arrangements to attend the presentation.

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Three judges are selected by AIFST to preferably have a background in either food microbiology, a background in teaching or an active member of AIFST.

Judges will not be selected if there is a perceived conflict of interest with the applicants including through work or sponsorship relationships.

Finalists are chosen on the basis of a 500-word summary of a food microbiology topic. This summary is assessed as part of the final judging.

Previous winners cannot re-apply.

The judges reserve the right not to award the prize.

METHOD OF JUDGING

The presentation time is 10 minutes with 3 minutes for questions.

The finalists are judged according to the background research of their submitted summary paper, the technical aspects of their presentation, the effectiveness of presentation, and their handling of questions.

A marking sheet is used by the judges and is retained by the AIFST.

If the judges are unable to make a majority decision the decision is made by the AIFST CEO.

AWARD DATES

Date	Action	Responsible
22 March 2021	Call for nominations	AIFST
10 May 2021	Close of nominations	AIFST
11 May – 31 May 2021	Judging of awards	Judging panel
07 June 2021	Nominees advised of outcome	AIFST
26 July 2021	Award Ceremony @ AIFST21	AIFST