

Celebrating Excellence in Research: Call for Applications for the LEE YONG GUAN Award & Best Paper Award

Progress in Microbes and Molecular Biology, in association with AMBeR, is proud to announce its annual awards program, dedicated to recognising and celebrating outstanding contributions to the field of Microbiology, Molecular Biology and Biomedical Sciences. We are now officially inviting submissions for two prestigious awards.

1. Lee Yong Guan (LYG) Bright Scientist Award 2026

Award description

This award honours an early to mid-career researcher who has demonstrated exceptional innovation, impact and potential in their field.

Eligibility criteria

- Must have received their PhD no more than 15 years prior to 31 December 2026.
- Must have produced ground-breaking research and made a significant contribution to the advancement of Microbiology, Molecular Biology and Biomedical Sciences.

Prize:

- A cash prize of \$500 USD.
- A 100% waiver of the Article Processing Charge (APC) for a future submission to *Progress in Microbes and Molecular Biology*.
- A formal certificate of achievement.
- A featured interview published on the journal website and promoted across our scientific network websites.

Submission guidelines

For the LYG Award:

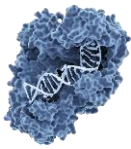
Candidates must submit the following to our awards [submission form](#) by 31 May 2026:

- A current CV of the candidate, including an updated publication list and a list of the researcher's own research grants (max 10 pages).
- A research impact statement* (max 500 words).
- A nomination letter from a senior colleague/mentor/scientist.
- Scanned copy of doctorate certificate or academic transcript to indicate the year of PhD conferment

*Research Impact Statement – details the intellectual significance of the work, your specific contribution to it, and its potential impact on the field.

Judging Process

The LYG Award: A panel of distinguished experts and selected journal's Editorial Board members will evaluate applications based on the candidate's contribution, the innovation of the research, and its potential impact.



2. PMMB Best Paper Award 2026

Award description

This award recognises the single most impactful and well-presented paper published in *Progress in Microbes and Molecular Biology*.

Eligibility criteria

- Any journal article published in *Progress in Microbes and Molecular Biology* is considered. To be eligible, the author team must produce and submit a 5-minute video summary of their work. This video should be designed to explain the paper's core problem, methodology, and significance to a broad scientific audience.

Prize:

- A cash prize of \$500 USD.
- A 100% waiver of the Article Processing Charge (APC) for a future submission to *Progress in Microbes and Molecular Biology*.
- A formal certificate of achievement for all authors.
- The winning paper will be permanently flagged with a "Best Paper Award" badge on the journal platform.

Submission guidelines

For the Best Paper Award:

- 5-minute video and transcript to our awards [submission form](#) by 31 May 2026.

Video Guidelines:

- ✓ Length: Maximum 5 minutes.
- ✓ Content: Must include a clear hook, explanation of core findings using visuals (graphs, animations, etc.), and a conclusion stating the work's impact.
- ✓ Format: .MP4 file, 16:9 aspect ratio, minimum 720p resolution.
- ✓ Submission Limit: One video entry only per published PMMB paper.
- ✓ Accessibility: A complete text transcript must be provided.

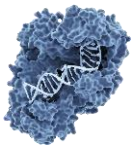
Judging Process

Best Paper Award: The winner will be selected through a unique dual-criteria evaluation:

Public Engagement (30% of score): The submitted video will be uploaded to the official AMBeR network YouTube channel. The total number of legitimate views garnered by a specified deadline will constitute 30% of the final score.

Expert Assessment (70% of score): The Awards Committee will judge the video and the published paper based on scientific significance, quality and clarity of presentation.

Important Note on Video Views: Authors are encouraged to share their video within academic networks. However, the use of artificial boosting services, paid promotions, or any form of incentivised viewing is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate disqualification. Only organic views will be counted.



Key Dates & Contact

Submission Deadline for Both Awards: May 31, 2026

Video View Count Cut-off Date: September 15, 2026

Winners Notified: September 30, 2026

Official Public Announcement: October 2026

For any inquiries regarding the awards or submission process, please contact the Awards Committee at: enquiry@imdf-amber.com