

## Early Career Research Award Instructions – 2026



**Award Premise:** This award is given to early career scientists (within 10 years of PhD completion, pre-tenure and within 5 years of first faculty-level position) who have made a notable contribution to the study of comparative cognition. The award comes with \$1000 and a plaque sponsored by the Comparative Cognition Society. The award has been given annually since 2021.

Applications will be reviewed by the CCS Awards Committee. The award winner is announced before the Conference on Comparative Cognition and gives a 15-minute talk on their research, introduced by the awards committee chair.

**Award Eligibility:** Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Applicant must be early-career scientists (as defined above) at the time of application
- Applicant must have made a notable contribution to the study of comparative cognition
- Applicant must not have previously won the award

We strongly encourage applications from diverse peoples. The CCS seeks to address structural inequities in science which disproportionately burden specific groups that are represented by (but not limited to): Indigenous peoples, race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, socio-economic status, age, and religion.

**Award Application Process:** Applicants wishing to be considered for this award need to submit the following information:

- A letter of nomination (self-nominations are encouraged) supporting eligibility for this award. The letter should be no more than 750 words. Citations can be included, and a Reference sheet should be attached (does not count against length limit)
- A current CV
- Up to two letters of support

Please e-mail your application to Dr. Jennifer Vonk ([awards@comparativecognition.org](mailto:awards@comparativecognition.org)) by 12 December, 2026