

Call for Poster Abstracts

Dr Stephen McQuaid Early Career Researcher Gold Medal Award

We are delighted to invite abstract submissions for the Dr Stephen McQuaid Early Career Researcher Gold Medal Award at the All Ireland Biobank Symposium, which will be held at Riddel Hall, Queen's University Belfast, on 23 October 2026.

This competition is open to Early Career Researchers and will showcase outstanding research enabled by biobanking resources, samples, data, or infrastructure. All submitted abstracts must describe research that has been supported by, or has made use of, biobank resources.

This award is presented in memory of Dr Stephen McQuaid, an internationally respected scientist and champion of biobanking whose contributions to research and mentorship had a profound and lasting influence on the scientific community. The award celebrates his legacy by recognising excellence and innovation in biobank supported research among early career researchers.

Prize

£500 Academic Development Prize to support the recipient's professional and academic development.

Abstract Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts should be between 300 and 800 words.
- Abstracts must be submitted in a structured format using the following headings: Background, Methods, Results and Conclusions (up to one figure and one table may be included).
- Research presented must be supported by, or have utilised, biobank resources.

- Abstracts should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx). Please include the author's name in the file name.
- Abstracts will be published on the Symposium website and shared on the Biobank Ireland website

Submitted abstracts will be reviewed by a panel, and selected applicants will be invited to display their work in a poster format at the All Ireland Biobank Symposium. Posters will be judged during the event, with the highest scoring poster winning the award.

Submission Deadline: Friday 4th September 2026

How to Submit

Please email your abstract to:
symposium@biobankireland.com

Eligibility

An Early Career Researcher is defined as an individual who is:

- Currently undertaking a postgraduate degree or
- Within two years of completing their highest research degree; and
- Not yet holding a substantive senior academic, clinical, or independent research leadership position.

We encourage all eligible researchers to submit their work and take this opportunity to present their research, engage with colleagues from across the biobanking community, and showcase the impact of biobank supported research. The winner will be announced at the Biobank Symposium on 23rd October 2026.