

The RSC Food Group Open Medal

The RSC Food Group Open Medal is awarded for outstanding contributions to the chemical sciences in the area of food chemistry.

The prize is sponsored by the RSC Journal [Sustainable Food Technology](#)

The winner receives £2,000, a medal and a certificate.

- The winner will be invited to receive their medal at the 50th Anniversary of the Food Group celebrations at Burlington House on the 11th December 2024.
- They will be offered the opportunity to deliver a presentation on a topic of their choice at any of the RSC Food Group events.
- The winner will be chosen by the Food Group Awards Committee.
- The competition will be held biennially.

History of the prize

The Food Group Senior Medal were originally established in 1987 to recognise research and/or impact in the area of food chemistry and ran for 20 years. In light of the recent innovation in food chemistry in response to the challenges to our current food system, this medal was reinstated in 2022 as the biennial RSC Food Group Open Medal. It will be open to chemists in all organisations including academia, industry, government and consultancy.

Guidelines for nominations

Nominations open **15th August 2024**

Nominations close **15th October 2024 17:00 GMT**

The candidate's agreement must first be obtained and the name of both a proposer and a seconder should be given. The proposer is responsible for completing the nomination form.

Nominations may be submitted by anybody familiar with the work of the candidate. They will be asked to provide details of the nominee's professional experience and their key contribution to food chemistry, highlighting the impact and the reason the contribution is outstanding, in relation to the criteria outlined below.

Nominees need not be members of the RSC but may NOT nominate themselves. Team nominations will be accepted, and the prize shared between the team.

Individuals named in any of the following roles during the nomination and judging period are not eligible to nominate or be nominated:

- Division Presidents
- Awards Working Group members
- Trustees of the Royal Society of Chemistry
- Royal Society of Chemistry Staff

There are no career stage restrictions associated with this prize.

When nominating previous RSC prize or award winners, please remember that a person cannot be awarded twice for substantially the same body of work.

To make a nomination, please submit the following information to rscfoodgroup@gmail.com

- A completed nomination form, signed by both proposer and seconder, which can be downloaded from the Awards section on www.rsc.org/food or obtained from the secretary at rscfoodgroup@gmail.com
- An up-to-date CV for the nominee (no longer than two pages of A4, 11pt text) which should include a summary of their education and career.
- Details (title, author/inventor list, publication year, DOI/reference no., abstract) of up to 5 relevant publications/patents or other supporting evidence provided by the nominee.
- Other written references are not required for this prize and will not be accepted.

The RSC reserves the right to rescind any prize if there are reasonable grounds to do so. All proposers will be asked to confirm that, to the best of their knowledge, their nominee's professional standing is such that there is no confirmed or potential impediment to them receiving this prize.

Selection Criteria and Judging Panel

Our selection committee will base their evaluations primarily on the overall quality of relevant contributions made by nominees and not on quantitative measures. The scientific content of any supporting publications is much more important than publication metrics or the identity of the journal in which it is published.

The selection committee will consider the following aspects of nominations for this prize:

- Innovation in food chemistry
- Originality of research
- Impact on the food sector
- Professional standing
- Collaborations and teamwork
- Quality of publications and/or patents and/or software
- Other indicators of esteem and impact indicated by the proposer

In an instance where multiple nominees are judged equally meritorious in relation to the above criteria, judging panels have the flexibility to use information provided by the proposer on the nominee's broader contribution to the chemistry community as an additional criterion. Examples of relevant contributions could include, but are not limited to:

- Involvement with Royal Society of Chemistry member groups/networks
- Effective mentorship
- Service on boards, committees or panels
- Leadership in the scientific community
- Promotion of diversity and inclusion
- Advocacy for chemistry
- Public engagement and outreach
- Teaching/demonstrating
- Peer-reviewer



Food Group Awards Committee

Chair:

Prof. Jane K Parker (University of Reading)

Judging Panel:

Prof. Wendy Russell (The Rowett Institute, Aberdeen)

John Points, (Independent consultant)

Alan Cross (Thames Water)