YPIC Student Proteomics Fund Guidelines

Introduction

The Young Proteomics Investigators Club (YPIC) is thrilled to announce a competition designed to ignite creativity and innovation in young researchers. We are searching for Bachelor, Master and PhD students from EuPA countries to design a compelling small-scale proteomics experiment. Three finalists will be invited to the YPIC Retreat and will be able to defend their proposals at the YPIC Annual Proteomics Gathering.

Important dates for the 2025/2026 Student Proteomics Fund

Call opening: 1st October 2025
Submission deadline: 30th November 2025
Finalists announcement: January 2026
Finalists interviews: March 2026
YPIC Annual Proteomics Gathering: 15th - 17th April 2026

Goals and Objectives

- Encourage young researchers to explore novel research questions using proteomics techniques
- Identify and showcase promising talented researchers
- Provide an opportunity for young researchers to present their work and gain valuable feedback from established proteomics professionals

Application

The winner of the competition will have the chance to fulfill a small-scale proteomics experiment by receiving up to **5000 EUR** from the Student Proteomics Fund. This money can be used to cover any direct expense related with the project (consumables, data acquisition, analysis etc.). Indirect costs (overhead costs, salaries etc.) are not covered. The winner will have time until April 2027 to spend the funds.

Three finalists selected by YPIC members will be invited to:

- Join the annual YPIC Retreat (15th – 17th April 2026, Madrid, Spain)
- Present their research and proposed small-scale proteomics experiment during the YPIC Annual Proteomics Gathering (17th April 2026, Madrid, Spain)

Candidate eligibility

This competition is open to **Bachelor, Master, and PhD students** currently enrolled in a program within a EuPA (European Proteomics Association, https://eupa.org/national-socities/) country and interested in proteomics research.

Candidates are not required to be already involved in projects applying proteomics methods. Applications from candidates who are new to the field are highly encouraged. However, a good understanding on how proteomics methods would benefit your research is a requirement and will be evaluated. Finalists are expected to join the Annual Proteomics Gathering in Spain to best benefit from this program and foster collaboration, however upon special circumstances an online presentation is possible.

Content and Requirements

- A detailed description of the proposed small-scale proteomics experiment, including at least: title, background, research question, methodology, expected outcomes, and key reference publications. Inclusion of a timeline for project completion and a budget breakdown are also required.
- Proof of student status
- Letter of support from supervisor
- A cover letter outlining the applicant's background and interest in proteomics research, that does not exceed 1 page A4 paper size

The project plan must not exceed 6 pages A4 paper size which includes figures and legends but not the bibliography. A minimum of point 10 font size (e.g. Times New Roman; condensed fonts not allowed) and 1.15 line spacing must be used. Additionally at least 2cm for the top, bottom, left and right margins have to be used. In the project plan and in the

bibliography, references to articles are permitted, but no links to websites. We kindly ask the applicants to send us the documents in a single pdf document. Submissions will be anonymized for revision, therefore please avoid names and logos in the proposal where possible.

Project plan	
1. Abstract	Present the background and rationale of the project, objectives and aims. Briefly discuss methods and expected results.
2. Proposed project	
2.1 Introduction and state of the art	Describe the current state of knowledge in your field, including current knowledge gaps and limitations. Introduce your research question and aim of the project.
2.2 Detailed project plan	Describe the study or experiment planned to answer your research question. Characterize methods and procedures. Your description should be as detailed as necessary to enable proteomics experts to assess whether your methodology is appropriate and your experiment is feasible.
2.3 Relevance	Describe the scientific relevance of the expected outcomes to your research question.
2.4 Timeline	Compile a timeline that includes the most important milestones.
2.5 Budget breakdown	Compile a realistic cost approximation of the different steps within your experiment.
3. Bibliography	List the sources of all concluded and/or ongoing work referred to in the research plan. Give the full reference, especially the title, source and full author list.

Evaluation Criteria

- Scientific innovation and originality of the proposed experiment
- Feasibility of the experiment with the proposed resources
- Clarity and quality of the written proposal
- Applicant's demonstrated interest and potential in proteomics research

The three finalists will be interviewed in advance of their trip to join the YPIC Retreat. This interview will assess the student's interest in proteomics, understanding of their proposed project, and ability to answer questions effectively.

Contact Information

Please submit your proposal here:

https://eupa.org/ypic/ypic-student-proteomics-fund/

Important: Submissions that are not done over the YPIC Google forms will not be taken into consideration.

Direct communication between YPIC and applicants will be carried out via email. Announcements and regular reminders will be shared on YPIC´s social media platforms.