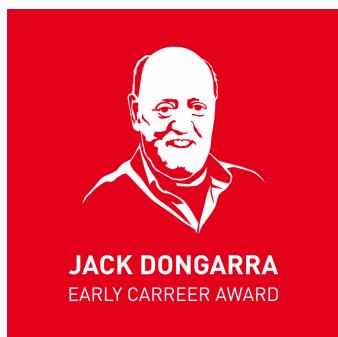# ISC 2026 JACK DONGARRA EARLY CAREER AWARD

NOMINATION GUIDELINES

The annual ISC High Performance Jack Dongarra Early Career Award and Lecture Series commemorates Professor Jack Dongarra's lifelong contributions to the field of High Performance Computing and to the HPC community. This series became a part of the ISC conference series starting in 2023.

The award is intended for an up-and-coming researcher who has been a catalyst for scientific progress in their field. The researcher should have **between 4-10 years of experience after completing their PhD.** The award focuses on outstanding individuals who have made exceptional contributions to high-performance computing, including numerical algorithms and software libraries, computational sciences, mathematics, and machine learning.

Eligibility for "Early Career" Status

Candidates should have **between 4 and 10 years** of post-PhD experience.

Career Break Flexibility

ISC recognizes that personal challenges (such as parenting, primary caregiving, or substantial personal difficulties) affect professional journeys. We are open to extending the eligibility period by up to **four years**. Nominees must provide the graduation year and the rationale for seeking an extension beyond the typical 4–10 year post-PhD timeframe in their nomination.

Nomination Process

- **Nomination Form:** Nominations are made via this form:

  Sample form:
  https://ssl.linklings.net/conferences/isc_hpc/?page=SampleForm&id=JackDongarraEarlyCareerAwardNominations&site=ischpc2026

  Submission form (login required):
  https://ssl.linklings.net/conferences/isc_hpc/?page=Submit&id=JackDongarraEarlyCareerAwardNominations&site=ischpc2026

- **Self-Nomination Policy:** The nominator nor the nominee is allowed to nominate themselves.

- **Nomination Restrictions (Committee Members):** Committee members are not allowed to nominate candidates but can encourage nominations

- **Re-Nomination Policy:** Previous nominees may be nominated again as long as they are still eligible

- **Endorsement Letters:** Submitting endorsement letters is optional and not mandatory. The Nominator must submit the letters on behalf of the referees

- **Page Limits:** The CV upload is limited to **5 pages**, and the (optional) Endorsement Letters upload is limited to **3 pages** total.

Timetable

nomination deadline	**Feb 26, 2026**
end of selection process	mid of April
award winner announcement	May 2026

Advice

A nomination is a report explaining why a candidate is worthy of receiving an award. The success of a nomination depends first and foremost on the quality of the candidate, but this must be adequately reflected in the description and, where appropriate, in the endorsements. Decisions about candidates are made almost exclusively on the basis of the information contained in the nomination and endorsements, which is why the quality of these documents is of crucial importance.

Selection Process

The selection process will be subject to the scrutiny of an international committee headed by Prof Michela Taufer, who co-incidentally holds the Jack Dongarra Professorship in HPC within the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA.

The Jack Dongarra Award Committee

Michela Taufer, University of Tennessee, USA (Chair)
Jack Dongarra, University of Tennessee, USA
David Abramson, University of Queensland, Australia
Sunita Chandrasekaran, University of Delaware, USA
Lin Gan, Tsinghua University, China
Torsten Hoefler, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
Yutong Lu, Sun Yat-Sen University East Campus, China
Estela Suarez, Research Center Juelich, Germany
Richard Vuduc, Georgia Tech, USA
Rio Yokota, Supercomputing Research Center, Institute of Integrated Research, Institute of Science Tokyo, Japan