

AWARDS

2026

Father Salvador Gil

RULES OF THE CALL

IQS Alumni

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Introduction

As part of IQS Alumni's commitment to promoting the progress of science for the benefit of society, the Father Salvador Gil sj Awards were created in 1959 to honour the memory of Father Salvador Gil, sj (1890-1958).

Father Salvador Gil SJ was a member of the first graduating class of IQS (Class of 1919). He obtained a doctorate in chemical sciences from the Catholic University of Fribourg (Switzerland), served as the Director of IQS for twenty-three years starting in 1934, and later assumed the leadership of IQS Alumni and the Afinidad magazine until 1958.

He is credited with being the creator of the modern IQS, but he is primarily remembered as a driving force behind IQS and a person with a unique personality, exceptional generosity, and a visionary outlook.

The main objective of the awards is to stimulate interest in research and promote the development of research work of high scientific value.

Purpose of the call for applications

IQS Alumni is pleased to announce the 62nd edition of the Father Salvador Gil Awards for Master Theses written by students in the IQS School of Engineering who have defended their Master Thesis during the 2025-2026 academic year.

The award is announced in four different categories, each with the following prizes:

IQS School of Engineering

- Prize for the Best Master Thesis in Engineering
- Prize for the Best Master Thesis in Science or Bioscience

IQS School of Management

- Prize for the Best Master Thesis in Marketing
 - Prize for the Best Master Thesis in Management, Finances or Auditing.
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Requirements

To participate

- Be a student in an IQS master's program.
- Have defended the master's final project during the 2025-26 academic year (with a deadline of 30 September 2026).
- In the case that there is more than one author for a submitted work, the relevant authorization from all co-authors must be obtained in order to submit a nomination for the awards. [Authorization form](#).

For the thesis

- It must be an original work defended with a minimum final grade of 8.5.
- The content of the works is the responsibility of the respective authors, as well as the rights to images, sensitive data, and any personal data that may be included.

By submitting their work for these awards, candidates accept these terms and conditions.

Incompatibilities

Members of the Board of Directors of the Association and members of the selection committee are not eligible to participate.

Submission of Theses

Candidates must submit their [application electronically](#) by filling out the application form and attaching the work in PDF format.

Submissions will be accepted from the date of publication of these terms and conditions until **1 October 2026**, provided that the thesis has been accepted as a Master Thesis.

The application form will be available on the [IQS Alumni website](#).

Deadlines

1 October 2026	Submission deadline
15 October 2026	Evaluation of the applications
18 November 2026	Award ceremony at the Annual Meeting of the IQS Companies Foundation Scholarship Program.

Selection committee

The Vice President of the IQS Alumni Board of Directors, who will act as the Chair of the committee, will appoint a Selection Committee for the candidate works after the submission deadline has ended.

The Committee will be composed of a multidisciplinary team of experts (Alumni) in each of the categories, who work in fields related to any of the categories.

Tutors, directors, or co-directors of the candidates' works may not be part of this committee.

The committee members will evaluate the quality of each thesis according to the following criteria:

- 40% Academic Quality (Master's Thesis grade)
- 20% Originality and innovative approach
- 20% Contribution to science, industry, or the business sector
- 20% Motivation to participate in the call

Announcement and Delivery of Awards Evaluation of Master Thesis Candidates for Awards

The members of the Committee will complete an evaluation form for each work, and the grade of the master's thesis, as well as the average of the master's academic record, will be requested from the IQS Secretariat.

The Master's Final Project Committee may declare a prize in any category vacant if it deems appropriate, in the event that no candidates have applied or the quality of the submitted works is not considered sufficient. The Committee's decision will be final.

Announcement and Delivery of Awards

Announcement of the winners

The Chair of the Committee will convene a first meeting in the second half of October so that the Committee can decide the candidate deserving of the P. Salvador Gil sj Award in each of the categories. The Committee's decision will be final.

The Chair of the Committee must inform the Association's Board of Directors, no later than 31 October 2026, of the decision made by the Committee.

The decision of the Selection Committee will be made public during the Annual Meeting of the IQS Companies Foundation in November 2026.

The P. Salvador Gil Award will be given to the best work in each category and will consist of:

- €1,000 for each category. If there is more than one author, this amount will be divided equally among the co-authors of the work.
- A certificate of recognition for each winner.
- Two years of free Premium IQS Alumni membership for each author in the case of joint works. This benefit will be granted and will allow them to enjoy the corresponding services and advantages.

IQS Alumni will interview the awardees and their master's thesis supervisors for an article that will be published, together with their photographs, on the IQS Alumni website and in the IQS Alumni News magazine.

Awards ceremony

The prize will be awarded to the winning individuals during the Annual Meeting of the IQS Companies Foundation, on **18 November 2026**, together with a certificate.

The prizes must be collected by the winning candidates or by an authorized delegated person.

