Call for Applications:
JARA-ENERGY PhD Student Award 2026

1. Background & Purpose of the Award

The "JARA-ENERGY PhD Student Award" recognizes outstanding student work in the field of JARA-ENERGY. The aim is to highlight innovative approaches, scientific excellence, and societal relevance.

2. Prize

The prize is endowed with materials worth €2,000 (e.g., specialized literature, software, travel expenses, research supplies—no cash payment).

3. Eligibility

- Doctoral students at one of the partner universities with a connection to JARA-ENERGY (the main supervisor must be affiliated with JARA-ENERGY)
- The doctoral degree must be completed between the summer semester of 2025 and the current summer semester of 2026 (the date of the defense applies)

4. Submission Requirements

- Doctoral thesis
- Topics:
  - Batteries of the future,
  - Negative CO2 emission technologies,
  - Regional and urban energy systems
  - Hydrogen
  - Circular Carbon Economy
- Language: German/English

5. Required documents

1. One-pager (max. 1 page, PDF) – see template below
2. Brief recommendation of the supervisor
3. Proof of enrollment

6. Evaluation criteria

- Academic quality
- Originality/degree of innovation
- Relevance (scientific/societal/practical)
- Clarity of presentation
- Feasibility/transfer potential (if applicable)

7. Jury & procedure

Selection will be made by a jury composed of professors from the JARA-ENERGY/ECPE section.

8. Timeline

- Call for applications opens: **May 1, 2026**
- Submission deadline: **August 31, 2026 (11:59 p.m.)**
- Notification: **September 30, 2026**
- Award Ceremony: JARA-ENERGY Section Meeting, to be announced

9. Submission

By email to: **energy@jara.org**

Subject: “PhDStudent Award [First Name] – Application-[Last Name]

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One-pager on the thesis (template, max. 1 page)

Title of the thesis:

Author:

Name, field of study, university:

Email:

Assignment of topic area (see 4. in the call for submissions):

The following questions should be answered:

Brief description (3–4 sentences):

What is it about? What is the problem and why is it relevant?

Objective / Research question:

What central question is being answered?

Method / Approach:

What methods, data, or approaches were used?

Key Results:

The most important findings in bullet points (3–5 bullet points)

Innovative Content / Contribution:

What is new or unique about the work?

Practical Relevance / Impact:

What practical, societal, or scientific impact does the work have?

Further Development / Outlook:

How can the project be continued or scaled up?