

2019 European Responsible Care® Awards Competition Guidelines to applicants



Closing date for applications: 31 May 2019 – Email address for submissions: rba@cefic.be

The European Responsible Care Awards are open to all companies and /or sites that are practicing Responsible Care along the supply chain in Europe. National associations and affiliate associations are also eligible to participate provided they have signed up to Responsible Care or have a Responsible Care Partnership Agreement with Cefic.

Companies can submit projects in following three award categories: **Chemical Safety, Environmental Responsibility and Sustainable Workplace**. However, a project can only be submitted once, to one category.

National associations can submit projects in the award category **National Associations**, a category to encourage best practice sharing. Associations can also apply for the other categories.

Descriptions of the categories

Chemical Safety Award

Product Stewardship: making sure chemicals are used and handled safely all along the supply chain

Applicants for this award should be able to:

- design and develop products that are manufactured, transported, used and disposed of or recycled safely
- recognise value chain projects that help companies set up and improve their chemicals management procedures in line with chemicals regulation
- address management of risks and improvement of the performance of a product in the fields of safety, health and environment throughout its entire life cycle

Environmental Responsibility Award

Safeguarding people and the environment

Applicants for this award should be able to:

- demonstrate excellence in environmental processes and products over their life cycles by reducing pollutant emissions to air, water and soil or implement solutions for a circular economy
- limit environmental hazards related to operations through the development of innovative technology



Sustainable Workplace Award

Benefits of a healthy workforce and workplace

Applicants for this award should be able to:

- implement effective process safety management systems, best practices and improvements for chemical prevention, preparedness and response to reduce major process hazards and risks
- achieve excellence in Occupational Health and Safety including management commitment, employee engagement, healthy workforce and workplace and evidence of a culture of proactive health risk management and wellbeing support initiatives

National Associations Award

Promoting the Responsible Care principles

A new award category to encourage best practice sharing by National Associations.

Applicants for this award should be able to:

- describe how the Guiding Principles are implemented
- include evidence of how Responsible Care is promoted throughout the association, membership and external stakeholders
- confirm participation in the Responsible Care network, giving examples of how experience sharing has delivered real benefits

Guidance and criteria for entries

- Entries should include a **project description**, outlining its aim and objectives and list past and future actions, deliverables, milestones and implementation dates.
- **Projects must be properly operational** and not more than five years old starting from planning stage until project implementation.
- **We recommend including additional supporting materials describing the project and its effectiveness**, such as short video, PowerPoint presentation, brochure, etc. to further illustrate the project and must be presented in a clear, and concise form. *Please note that generic marketing material is not appropriate.*
- All **entries must be provided in English** by using the “Responsible Care Awards application form”.
- The jury will assess applications on the basis of their performance and results, communication excellence, innovative strength and contribution towards Sustainable Development.
- In principle, there will be one winning project per category, and four winning projects in total. Projects submitted to more than one category will not be considered part of the awards process.

The selection process and review criteria

Assessment of all entries by an independent jury consisting of experts and stakeholders will take place beginning of July 2019 and four winners will be selected. All applicants will be notified regarding their applications.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the entries:

1. How effectively does the project address the aims of the Responsible Care programme?
2. Is the project original and innovative?
3. Does the project ensure a cycle of continuous improvement?
4. Does the project show concrete facts and figures demonstrating the key benefits?
5. Is the project well communicated to employees, local communities, other stakeholders and is it a best practice-sharing project?

Winners will be announced at the Global Chemical Convention on 24 October 2019 in Helsinki. A representative from each winning company / association will receive an invitation to attend.

Inquiries

Should you have any queries regarding the submission of your entry or any other aspect of the Awards, please contact Rachelina Baio by email: rba@cefic.be