

ENCON ENERGY AWARD

<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/encon-energieprijs>

2019 Encon Energy Award– 9th edition

WIN €2,500 AND MAKE YOUR SUSTAINABILITY IDEA KNOWN TO THE WORLD



Did you recently write a thesis on energy efficiency, renewable energy or sustainability? Do you think you have the right solution for tackling the climate change problem? If so, you can now register for the 2019 Encon Energy Award!

Would you like to get some recognition for all the hard work you have put into your thesis? Then why not participate in the Encon Energy Award? The Encon Energy Award contest is open to all students with a Master's degree in Industrial Sciences, Engineering, (Applied) Science and Bioscience Engineering.

The winner of the 2019 Encon Energy Award will receive a cash prize of €2,500 and his or her thesis will immediately receive the necessary publicity thanks to a press release, citations in professional periodicals, a defence before a prestigious panel of leading experts, a meeting with the competent government minister, and the like. So be sure to participate in the Encon Energy Award!

You can apply using the registration form below. Please send us your abstract and we'll let you know if you have a chance of winning the Encon Energy Award!

The deadline for registration is 1 July 2019. Do you plan to submit your thesis during the second examination period in August? No worries! We also accept applications during a second period. In that case, you need to send us your abstract before 30 September 2019.

More information about participation in previous years can be found here (<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/energieprijsreglement> or at page 2). Please make sure to read the rules of our contest. Background information about the competition can be found here (<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/achtergrond-encon-energieprijs> or at page 9).

Have a look at the Encon Energy Award Hall of Fame

Our **Hall of Fame** features all winners from previous editions! If you want to be part of it, then make sure to apply and your name might be included soon!

<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/encon-energieprijs-hall-fame>

ENCON ENERGY AWARD CONTEST RULES

<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/energieprijsreglement>

Below you will find the detailed rules for the contest. If you have any questions, please contact Lorien Bielen at lorien.bielen@encon.be

The Encon Energy Award is a competition that annually aims to reward the best thesis on energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability or a topic related to climate change. This contest will take place according to the rules described hereafter.

Selection criteria

- Content and depth of the thesis
- Practical experience applied in the thesis
- Innovation
- Relevance for application in the corporate world/industry
- Social impact
- Soundness and reliability
- Presentation & communication

ART. 1 Admission to the contest

Art. 1.1 All final-year students who are about to obtain a Master's degree in Industrial Sciences - Industrial Engineering, a Master's degree in Engineering - Civil Engineering, a Master's degree in Applied Economics - Business Engineering and a Master's degree in Bioscience Engineering, and who are enrolled in a Flemish educational institution, can take part in this competition by submitting a thesis on energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability, or (combating) climate change (cf. article 2).

No other students, except those described above, may take part in this competition, regardless of the topic of their thesis.

Art. 1.2 Only one application can be submitted for each thesis. Theses that have been submitted in the past will be excluded from the list of contestants without any possibility of appeal.

There is a possibility to participate through a shared thesis, with several students cooperating on a single thesis. However, only one student can be the winner.

ART. 2 Topic of the thesis

Art. 1.1 Only theses dealing with a topic related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability or (combating) climate change are eligible for this contest.

Art. 1.2 The admissibility of the topic of all theses will be assessed by an independent jury. This assessment will be made based on the abstract (the maximum size being one A4-size page), which should describe the topic and objective of the thesis.

Art. 1.3 Contestants whose theses are considered by the jury to be ineligible on the basis of the chosen topic will have the opportunity to modify the topic of their thesis. They will be given a limited number of days, as specified in the timeline (cf. art. 9). On the basis of the revised version, a final assessment of the admissibility of the submission will be made.

Art. 1.4 The final decision on the admissibility of a thesis cannot be appealed.

ART. 3 Applications

Art. 3.1 Students who wish to compete for the Encon Energy Award should only apply through the Encon website or by sending an e-mail to Lorien (lorien.bielen@encon.be) stating clearly that they wish to submit their thesis in order to participate in the Encon Energy Award contest. All other forms of application shall be considered null and void.

Art. 3.1.1 Contestants can apply during two periods. The applications for the first-session examinations in June shall be submitted by 1 July 2019 at the latest. These applications concern students who plan to submit their thesis and pass their examinations during the first-session term in June. The applications for the resit examinations in August shall be submitted before 30 September 2019. This gives students who defend their thesis during the resit examination period the opportunity to compete for the Encon Energy Award as well. Applications submitted at a later stage will be rejected without any further justification.

Art. 3.1.2 This deadline is without prejudice to cases where the application page was not accessible or operational due to technical problems or malfunctions of any kind within or outside Encon. However, in the light of the above cases, the jury may decide to extend the submission period.

Art. 3.2 Only applications that include all the requested information are eligible for the contest. In addition to personal data and information about the educational institution that the student attends, the application should also include an abstract.

Art. 3.2.1 The abstract shall not exceed one A4-size page.

Art. 3.2.2 The abstract shall specify the topic and objective of the thesis.

ART. 4 Submission of the thesis

Art. 4.1 The thesis shall be submitted to the jury in a digital format, at the latest on 1 July 2019 (for students who plan to graduate after their first-session examinations) or at the latest on 30 September 2019 (for students who plan to graduate after their resit examinations).

ART. 5 First selection

Art. 5.1 On the basis of the submitted theses, the jury will then make a first selection. Three theses will be selected from the first-session applications. Three theses will also be selected from the resit/second-session period applications. A video presentation will then be expected from the submitters of these six theses. The best three contestants will be allowed to present and defend their thesis before a panel of prestigious jury members.

Art. 5.2 In their selection, the jury focuses on the added value of the thesis in the field of energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability or (combating) climate change. Specific consideration will be given to the relevance of the topic in terms of its application in the corporate world and the practical implementation or usefulness of the conclusions or final results of the thesis.

It goes without saying that the soundness of the research and the reliability of the conclusions will be part of the assessment.

Art. 5.3 The degree obtained at the educational institution will not be taken into account when assessing the thesis. However, it is required that each student passes the thesis defence examination and his/her other examinations.

Theses which fail to pass the thesis defence examination at the educational institution where they were defended, shall not be considered for further participation in the competition.

Students who obtained a pass grade for their thesis, but did not pass the examinations for the other subjects, shall not be considered for further participation in the competition either.

Art. 6. Final assessment

From the pre-selected theses, a winner will be chosen by a broad-based jury (see article 10).

Art. 6.1 Each of the selected contestants will be asked to submit a video presentation of their thesis. During this video presentation, the student will present and comment on his/her thesis for a maximum of 30 minutes. A jury will then select the three best theses from among the six selected contestants (cf. art. 5.1). These final three contestants will be invited to present their thesis to a panel of professional and prestigious jury members during a short presentation of max. 10 minutes. This jury will then have the opportunity to ask questions for 15 minutes to the student. Subsequently, the latter will be given the opportunity to explain why (s)he deserves to win the Encon Energy Award and why his/her topic/thesis is the most suitable to win this award.

Art. 6.2 In their final assessment, the jury will be guided by the added value of the thesis in terms of energy efficiency or sustainable energy production. Specific consideration will be given to the relevance of the topic in terms of its application in the corporate world and the practical implementation or usefulness of the conclusions or final results of the thesis. It goes without saying that the soundness of the research and the reliability of the conclusions will be part of the assessment.

In addition to the added value of the thesis in terms of its content, the contestant's presentation skills, persuasiveness and professional expertise will also be taken into account.

Art. 7. Winner

Art. 7.1 One winner will be chosen from among the final contestants. If possible, the winner will be chosen unanimously by all members of the jury. If no consensus can be reached, the contestant who obtains the majority of the votes cast shall win. In the event of a tie, the chairman of the jury shall have the casting vote.

Art. 7.2 The winner will be announced at an official ceremony held in the presence of the press. The winner will be informed in good time so that (s)he can make the necessary arrangements to be present at the official announcement.

Art. 7.2.1 The winner undertakes to be present at the official announcement, except in cases of force majeure.

Art. 7.2.2 The winner shall refrain from making any comments to the outside world regarding the contest and his/her participation in it, for up to one month after the announcement of the winner, except with Encon's approval.

Art. 7.2.3 The winner commits himself/herself to cooperate to the extent possible with all press events and other PR-related activities within the context of this competition.

Art. 7.2.4 Even after the one-month period following the announcement of the winner, the latter shall refrain from commenting on the candidacy, the theses and the results achieved by the other students.

Art. 7.2.5 The winner shall refrain from any action that might directly or indirectly harm Encon or Encon's image in any way.

Art. 8. Prize

The winner will receive a cash prize of €2,500. This sum will be paid into the account of the winning contestant after the announcement of the winner and after the official handing over of the Encon Energy Award.

In addition, if the winner so wishes, (s)he will be offered a contract of indefinite duration as an Energy Technology Project Engineer, including all the benefits (such as a mobile phone, group health insurance plan, etc.) enjoyed by other Encon employees at this function level.

This function includes, by way of example, the following aspects:

- Analyzing the energy consumption of companies, institutions or public authorities.
- Supervising implementation projects and study projects
- Electricity & HVAC engineering projects
- Conducting measurement campaigns using specialized measuring equipment
- Economic feasibility studies
- Technical-commercial support

If the winning thesis is a shared thesis involving more than one student, the cash prize will be divided equally between all students who participated in this shared thesis.

Since only one student can be the final winner of the Encon Energy Award, in the case of a shared thesis and based on the above criteria, the final winner will be selected from among the team that worked on the thesis. It is this ultimate winner who will be offered permanent employment.

Art. 9. Time table

Period ending on 1 July 2019: application via the website or by e-mail for first-session examination term students.

Period ending on 30 September 2019: application via the website or by e-mail for resit examination students.

July 2019 - Sept. 2019: submission of the theses in digital format

30 September 2019: deadline for submission of theses

Period from 1 August 2019 up to and including 2 October 2019: assessment of the theses

End of October 2019: judging for the Encon Energy Award and defence of the theses

Art. 10 Jury members

The members of the jury will be appointed at Encon's invitation.

The decision on admissibility and the first selection will be made by a restricted panel.

Final judging will be done by a jury with a broader composition. In addition to the members mentioned above, external jury members will also be invited to attend. These members will have a special link with the topic, the business community or academia.

Art. 11 Use of information

The use of information obtained from companies or organizations collaborating on the thesis is governed by the general agreements concluded by the school with companies or organisations collaborating on the project. In the absence of such an agreement governing the use and disclosure of this information, the student or the team of students are responsible for securing an agreement that allows such lawfully obtained information to be used in the thesis and for ensuring that this thesis can be made public.

Art. 12. Rules of contest

The rules governing this contest are available on the Encon Energy Award contest pages <https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/energieprijsreglement>

Anyone applying for this competition is assumed to have acquainted themselves with these rules and is assumed to have agreed to all the provisions of these rules. Each applicant also agrees to our privacy statement, which can be found [here](#).

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE ENCON ENERGY AWARD CONTEST?

<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/deelname-energieprijs>

Who can participate?

The conditions for participation are listed below. You can consult the complete rules of the contest [here](https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/energieprijsreglement) (<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/energieprijsreglement> or at page 2).

- **Students who are training to obtain the following degrees are eligible:**
 - Master's degree in Industrial Sciences (Industrial Engineering);
 - Master's degree in Engineering (Civil Engineering);
 - Master's degree in Applied Economics (Business Engineering);
 - Master's degree in Bioscience Engineering.
- **Topic of the thesis:**
A student can only participate by submitting a thesis on a topic that is related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability or (combating) climate change.
- **Period:** 2018-2019 academic year.

The thesis will be defended before the jury of the Encon Energy Award in October.

How can you apply?

If you meet all the conditions, you can participate in the Encon Energy Award by submitting your thesis.

The application form can be found on [this page](https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/encon-energieprijs) (<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/encon-energieprijs> or at the first page of this document). You can fill in all necessary information there.

We also require a brief outline (= abstract) of the objective and content of your thesis. This abstract should not exceed one A4-size page and may be attached as a separate document (Word or PDF).

We need to receive your application for the first-session examination period at the latest on 1 July 2019. Registrations after this deadline will not be accepted. For students who finish their thesis during the resit examination period, applications can be submitted until 30 September 2019.

How will I know if I am allowed to participate?

The admissibility of the topic of each application will be assessed by a review committee.

If this committee decides that the given topic of a thesis is not suitable for participation (because it does not sufficiently meet the topic criteria concerning energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability or climate change - see 'Topic of the thesis' above), the applicant will be informed of this.

Any changes to the content are still allowed up to 14 calendar days after receiving the jury's decision. It is not possible to submit a thesis on a completely new topic.

Your thesis before the jury

After presenting your thesis, you will be required to submit a final version for review.

Three finalists will be selected from all entries. They will have to defend their thesis before a jury composed of leading figures from academia and the business community.

You can find the complete rules of the contest here (<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/energieprijsreglement> or at page 2 of this document). If you have any further questions, you can contact Lorien Bielen at lorien.bielen@encon.be.

BACKGROUND OF THE ENCON ENERGY AWARD

WHY THE ENCON ENERGY AWARD?

<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/achtergrond-encon-energieprijs>

The know-how regarding environmentally friendly production and products can be an important asset for the Belgian economy. This is the main reason that Encon decided to launch its Energy Award contest for engineering students.

Although sectors such as the environment and sustainability are flourishing, they are still in their infancy. This in turn offers a huge advantage: there is still room to develop an advantage over competitors and to acquire the necessary know-how. This expertise can benefit our companies, but it can also become an important export product. This is particularly true for expertise in the field of energy efficiency and the generation of sustainable energy for companies.

It is precisely this expertise and eager-to-learn attitude that Encon wishes to promote with its Energy Award. Engineering students who write a thesis on **energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability** or a topic related to **climate change** can compete for this award. The thesis which offers the highest added value in terms of application in the daily operations of companies will be awarded the Encon Energy Award. The Encon Energy Award contest is open to all engineering students enrolled in Flemish polytechnics and universities. The winner of the Energy Award will be offered a permanent job as a project engineer at Encon.

The Encon Energy Award is an annual event and is **organized for the 9th time** this year. Our aim is to ensure that the Encon Energy Award becomes a fixture whose prestige can only increase.

Appearing before a prestigious jury

Winning the Encon Energy Award not only earns you a cash prize and a nice job, but also a lot of prestige. The importance of this Energy Award becomes clear when you consider the composition of the jury that will be making the final assessment:

- **Kurt Vandegaer**, Director Global Engineering Site Support R&D Investments Bayer CropScience AG
- **Philippe Van Poppel**, Director strategy and innovation EDF Luminus
- **Tine Deheegher**, Manager Vlaanderen Eneco Wind Belgium SA
- **Bert Derudder**, Senior Manager Project Finance Renewable Energy KBC
- **Freddy Vandaele**, Departmental head of policy and project management at the Tienen municipal administration
- In addition to these jury members, **two guest members** will be appointed to the panel this year.

Students who are interested in participating can find all information about the Encon Energy Award on **this website** (<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/deelname-energieprijs> or at page 7). They can also apply **here** (<https://www.encon.be/nl-BE/encon-energieprijs> or send a mail to Lorien.bielen@encon.be) for this contest.