



# SEMI Best Student Thesis Award 2026

## Call for proposals

### WE WANT YOU!

You conduct a **Bachelor, Master or Semester thesis** at a Swiss University or University of Applied Sciences in the field of semiconductor technologies?

The Swissmem industry sector «semiconductor» SEMI offers for the second time the **SEMI-Award for outstanding Bachelor or Master thesis'** in the field of semiconductor technologies.



### SEMI Best Thesis Award 2026

The award offers a first price of **CHF 1'500.-**, a second price of **CHF 750.-** and a third price of **CHF 500.-**.

The call is aimed at prospective graduates of Swiss Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences who submit their written thesis of outstanding quality and impact **between September 2025 and August 2026** on an **industry-relevant** topic in the field of semiconductor technologies.

The Swissmem SEMI industry sector is looking forward to receiving your application and wishes you every success with your thesis!

**Take this opportunity – since: Innovation must be awarded!**



Cemal Aydogan  
President – SEMI



Dr. Adriaan Spierings  
Secretary General – SEMI

### General information

The basic requirement for admission to the award is a strong connection to industry. The solutions and results developed should allow for potential implementation in industry. Topics can address aspects along the entire semiconductor value chain:



Topics in the field of new business models or enabling new application fields made possible by advanced semiconductor technologies or products are also welcome.

# “Best Thesis Award 2026 – Semiconductors”

Swissmem Semiconductor (SEMI) industry sector

## Registration

Please register by **September, 18<sup>th</sup> 2026** at the latest by using the QR code to get to the award and registration website. For registration you need the following information:

- Full thesis, incl. Abstract\*
- Management Summary and description of the industry relevance: max. 1 page
- Name of the university of applied sciences/university, institution
- Thesis supervisor (*incl. salutation & title*)
- Evaluation documents and final grade incl. signature of supervisor
- Applicant’s contact details incl. private e-mail / tel. \*\*
- Applicant’s short CV



*\* If a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) is necessary, please inform the organizer!*

## Expert panel

The expert panel consists of representatives from the Swiss research ecosystem as well as industry representatives from Swissmem’s SAMG industry sector.

- Tobias Keller (Hitachi Energy Systems)
- André Grede (Comet Group)
- Maurus Tschirky (Ecatec AG)
- Prof. Samuel Huber (FH-Ost)
- Prof. Michael Pichler (FHNW)

## Evaluation criteria

The jury evaluates the thesis submitted on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Innovative content, new ideas, solution approach (independent comprehensibility of the thesis)
2. Scientific content, derivations, quality of research/sources, own contribution
3. Quality of written work submitted, succinctness, explanation of complex issues
4. Potential for industrialization (linking theory and practice)
5. Final grade for thesis
  - Criteria 1 & 4: Weighting 2x
  - Criteria 2 & 3: Weighting 1x
  - Criterion 5: Weighting ½x

## Award ceremony

The “*Best Thesis Award in Semiconductors*” will be presented at the SEMI Annual General Meeting most probably end of November 2026. All members of Swissmem’s SEMI industry sector, as well as the participants and supervisors, will be invited to this event. The finalists will present their thesis to the event attendees (*max. 10 min*).

## Organizer

**Swissmem Semiconductor industry sector (SEMI)**

Dr. Adriaan Spierings / Head of SEMI

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## Disclaimer

All documentation submitted will only be made available to the Jury members and treated confidential. The presentation will be made available to the members and other interested parties.

At no point is the expert panel obliged to give reasons for its decisions on the eligibility and evaluation of theses. The panel’s decision is final. Audio, image and video recordings may be made during the event. These will be processed, stored and publicly disseminated.