

2026
ORIGINS PhD

Awards

- each endowed with 2.000 €
- two most outstanding PhD theses in the fields of ORIGINS science
- graded between 15 July 2025 and 30 November 2026
- closing date: 30 Nov 2026

Call for ORIGINS PhD Awards 2026 now open:

Once a year, the Excellence Cluster ORIGINS honours **two outstanding PhD theses** submitted in the fields of **ORIGINS science**. In the spirit of the ORIGINS grand narrative, an interdisciplinary thesis topic addressing one of the important milestones of the cluster and connecting various research disciplines will be preferred. The winners will be invited to present their work during the Science Week 2027, Mar 15 - 18.

Candidates have to be nominated by their supervisors; supervisors and nominees must be members of one of the partner institutes of the Excellence Cluster ORIGINS: LMU, TUM, MPA, MPE, MPP, MPIB, IPP, ESO or LRZ. Supervisors have to submit a maximum two-page statement on behalf of their nominees. Candidates are asked to provide their PhD theses and official documentation of their final grades as PDF files.

An eligible thesis must have been **submitted, reviewed and graded at TUM or LMU** between **15 July 2025** and **30 November 2026**. The closing date will be 30 Nov 2026. The entries will be evaluated by an independent committee of the Excellence Cluster ORIGINS.

Nominations for the awards should be directed to:
Excellence Cluster ORIGINS

Dr. Odele Straub
Boltzmannstr. 2
85748 Garching
odele.straub@origins-cluster.de



ORIGINS
EXCELLENCE CLUSTER

From the Origin of the Universe to the First Building Blocks of Life