REHVA
Federation of European Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Associations

REHVA Student Competition 2026

In accordance with its mission to support professional development, REHVA announces the
REHVA STUDENT COMPETITION on 20 April

Eurovent Certita Certification, leader in the field of HVAC-R certification, is proud to sponsor the upcoming REHVA Student Competition. This initiative reflects our commitment to fostering the talents of today's students who represent the engineers of tomorrow.

EUROVENT CERTIFIED PERFORMANCE www.eurovent-certification.com

Student Competition Rules

1. REHVA awards prizes every year for outstanding student work from its Member Associations.

2. Eligible student work (hereinafter referred to as "submission") includes work based on **Bachelor Theses, Master Theses, or other work of equivalent level**. Submissions based on Doctoral Theses are not eligible.

3. Submission topics may be freely chosen but need to relate to REHVA activities, including but not limited to heating/ventilation/air conditioning/refrigeration, indoor environmental quality, energy efficiency and energy management, sustainability, building services, etc. In case of doubt regarding the topic eligibility, do not hesitate to contact REHVA at info@rehva.eu. Working methods applied may include experimental, analytical, numerical, design-related and other methodologies.

4. Submissions may be the result of work carried out by an individual student or a team of maximum two students.

5. REHVA Member Associations may submit a **maximum of one entry per country** and **are responsible for assuring that the submission complies with all competition rules**.

6. Submission deadline for the scientific papers is **Friday 20 March 2026**. The submission should be sent electronically (no hard copies needed) to the Chair of the Education and Training Committee, Prof. Risto Kosonen at risto.kosonen@aalto.fi with a copy to info@rehva.eu.
Submissions should be made in the format of scientific papers (see the template attached), with a maximum of 6 pages, and should include the:

   - Submission title
   - Full name(s) of the student(s)
   - Full name(s) of the supervisor(s)
   - Affiliation(s) of the author(s), including the name(s) and full address(es) of the respective institute(s)

- E-mail address(es) of the student(s) and supervisor(s)
- Year when the work on which the submission is based **has been formally assessed and approved at the home university/institute.**
  Please note that the work on which the submission is based needs to have been formally assessed and approved within the closest 12-month period preceding the competition date. Under exceptional circumstances, and on a case-to-case basis, submissions based on work completed and formally assessed and approved up to 24 months prior to the competition date may be considered by the REHVA Student Competition Jury (RSCJ). An extended timeline may only be considered under the condition that the submitting country did not enter any submissions in the preceding REHVA Student Competition.

7. All submitted documentation and presentations must be in English and will be included in a publication disseminated by REHVA and distributed to the Jury members before the competition.

8. The students will present their work at the REHVA Student Competition session to be held in Nice, France on Monday 20 April 2026. All students shall prepare:

   - A twelve-minute oral presentation of their work (not exceeding 12 slides). A three-minute Q&A session will follow after the presentation. The presentation shall be sent electronically to info@rehva.eu **no later than Monday 13 April 2026.**
   - A high-resolution, A1-sized technical poster (oriented vertically) of the electronic version. The electronic version shall be sent to info@rehva.eu **no later than Monday 13 April 2026.** This poster must be printed and brought to the event.

9. After the completion of all presentations, the Jury will convene to deliberate and select the winning submissions. The Jury may award prizes to a maximum of three submissions. An additional prize will be awarded for best poster.

10. The winners will be announced to all students after the Jury's meeting.

11. All students will receive a certificate of participation. The prizes will be awarded to winners on Tuesday 21 April (time TDB). There, the winner of the first prize will present their work (max 15 min).

12. Related travel and accommodation costs for the students will be covered by their Member Associations and, eventually by the students or other sponsors, as applicable.

13. **The REHVA Student Competition Jury (**RSCJ) shall consist of a minimum of three Jury Members. The RSCJ Chair is appointed each year by the REHVA Board. Members of the RSCJ may include Members of the REHVA Education and Training Committee or other specialists suggested by Member Associations and nominated by the REHVA Board. Jury Members shall not have any conflicts of interest (e.g., Jury Members cannot be involved as supervisors or advisors for any submission). No more than one RSCJ Member may be appointed per country. If several members of the RSCJ are proposed by the same country, the RSCJ Chair will select one candidate to represent that country. RSCJ Member nominations need to be submitted to the REHVA Office (info@rehva.eu) by email by **Friday 20 March 2026.**

Awarding criteria

The Jury will evaluate the submissions based on the following criteria:

- The eligibility and relevance of the project topic
- The clarity of the work objectives
- The applicability of the methods used
- The validity and reliability of findings
- The innovative character of the work conducted
- The clarity and accuracy of written and oral presentation
- The graphical quality of the summary and the presentation
- The candidate's ability to constructively discuss technical issues
- The scientific level of the submission
- For the Best Poster award, the evaluation will focus on the scientific level of the submission, and the graphical quality of the Poster.

Each Jury member will submit to the Jury Chair a list of candidates in order of ranking (from first to last).

Brussels, 20 November 2025



Prof Risto Kosonen
REHVA Education and Training Committee Chair