



ASCINA

Austrian Scientists & Scholars
in North America



New!

ASCINA Tech Innovation Award 2026

Powered by TU Wien

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Turn Your Research into Real-World Impact

The ASCINA Tech Innovation Award supports innovators who are transforming cutting-edge research into tangible technological solutions with real market and societal impact.

Launched by ASCINA and powered by TU Wien, this award is designed for researchers, founders, and builders ready to take their ideas beyond the lab and into the world.



WHAT THIS AWARD IS ABOUT

This is not a traditional academic prize. Instead of focusing on publications or citations, the ASCINA Tech Innovation Award recognizes:

- ✓ Applied innovation over pure discovery
- ✓ Real-world impact over theoretical contribution
- ✓ Execution and scalability over early-stage research

If you are working on technology that is already validated and moving toward real-world use—this award is for you.



WHO SHOULD APPLY

We are looking for individuals or teams who:

- ✓ Are currently active in North America (or have been within the past five years)
- ✓ Are Austrian or have a strong connection to Austria (through education, background, or professional work)
- ✓ Are developing technologies at Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 4–7 (validated concept to working prototype in a real-world setting)

Most importantly, you should be building something that has clear potential to scale and create meaningful impact.



WHAT YOU CAN GAIN

Financial Support



€7,000 award to help you further develop, validate, or scale your innovation

Strategic Advantages



Access to a transatlantic network of industry leaders, investors, and founders



An IP crash course to strengthen your commercialization strategy



Visibility at the ASCINA Conference and selected events



HOW YOU'LL BE EVALUATED

Applications are reviewed by an interdisciplinary jury with expertise in academia, industry, and venture ecosystems.

You will be evaluated based on:



Innovation – How advanced and differentiated is your technology? (30%)



Impact & Scalability – What's the real-world potential? (30%)



Execution – How far along are you, and how well has it been validated? (25%)



Transatlantic Connection – How does your work connect ecosystems across Europe and North America? (15%)



APPLICATION PROCESS

1

Submit your application
• Project description
• Short pitch video

2

Jury review & selection
Focus on scalability, execution, and next steps



TIMELINE



Apply by:
June 28 2026



Award ceremony:
Fall 2026



WHY APPLY?

This award is built for innovators who want to go beyond research and create real change.

It's an opportunity to:

- ✓ Accelerate your technology
- ✓ Expand your network across continents
- ✓ Gain recognition in a global innovation ecosystem



The ASCINA Tech Innovation Award is about turning ideas into impact.

If you are building something that deserves to exist in the real world— not just in a paper—we encourage you to apply.



Submit your application
via this [google form!](#)

For questions, please email: office@ascinat.at