



INSTITUT KIMIA MALAYSIA

MALAYSIAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY

(Inaugurated on 8 April 1967, incorporated under Chemist Act 1975 on 1 November 1977)

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President: Datuk ChM Dr Soon Ting Kueh

10th April 2026

Dear Laboratory Managers,

2026 IKM LABORATORY EXCELLENCE AWARD

1. Application for the 2026 IKM Laboratory Excellence Award is now open to chemical laboratories with registered chemist(s).
2. The award is to recognize any laboratory which operates a quality management system that meets the standard of **ISO/IEC 17025:2017**, as well as laboratory safety and health standards in accordance with **ISO 45001:2018**.
3. Application for the Award is on a voluntary basis.
4. The IKM Laboratory Excellence Award is awarded on a yearly basis.
5. The application fee is RM1,500.00 which is not refundable. The Application and Self-Declaration Form (Form A) can be downloaded from the IKM website:

<https://forms.gle/j2BLseHA6E83PwVr5>
6. All applications must reach IKM Secretariat latest **by 5.00 pm on 15th June 2026**. Laboratory assessment is expected to be carried out from **6th July 2026 until 20th September 2026**. The award criteria are attached.

Please include **the steps taken (if any) to address the comments by assessors during the 2025 assessment of your laboratory** when submitting your application.

Thank you.

ChM Dr Li Hui Ling
Chairperson
2026 IKM Laboratory Excellence Award Committee

IKM LABORATORY EXCELLENCE AWARD

In 1986 the Institute introduced the IKM Laboratory Accreditation Award for chemical laboratories. Later in 1994 it was renamed as the IKM Quality Award. The award was to accord recognition to laboratories that have achieved competency in the practice of analytical work. The award was then renamed as IKM Laboratory Excellence Award in 2001.

Quality Management System

- Reinforces the laboratory's commitment to providing high-quality and competent testing services in line with local regulations.
- Requires implementation of a quality management system compliant with ISO/IEC 17025:2017.
- Laboratories must have:
 - A structured management system with clearly defined responsibilities.
 - Competent, trained personnel for accurate testing and quality monitoring.
 - Suitable, well-maintained, and calibrated equipment for reliable results.
 - Standardized and validated procedures to ensure consistency and accuracy.
 - Proper control over test samples and necessary resources aligned with the scope of work.
 - Environmentally conscious practices such as efficient resource use and responsible waste management.
- A robust quality assurance/control program must be in place to monitor performance and ensure the validity of test results.

Safety & Health Practices

- Highlights the importance of safety and health practices in laboratory operations in accordance with ISO 45001:2018.
- Laboratories must ensure:
 - All staff are trained and responsible for safety procedures and emergency response.
 - Laboratory layout and design support safe and efficient workflows.
 - Equipment is used safely, with routine checks and maintenance to prevent hazards.
 - Clear procedures are in place for hazard communication and chemical safety.
 - Safe handling, labelling, storage, and disposal of hazardous chemicals and waste.
 - Full compliance with local health, safety, and environmental regulations.
 - Efforts are made to reduce environmental impact through sustainable and eco-friendly practices.

Details of the requirements are outlined in the Google Form - Form A: **Application and Self-Declaration Form**.

Laboratories that meet the specified criteria will be awarded a certificate. In addition, a plaque will be presented to laboratories that have been continuously awarded the IKM Laboratory Excellence Award or the IKM Quality Award for a specified number of years.

The plaques will be awarded under the following four categories:

- **IKM Laboratory Excellence Silver Award** – 10 years
- **IKM Laboratory Excellence Gold Award** – 15 years
- **IKM Laboratory Excellence Platinum Award** – 20 years
- **IKM Laboratory Excellence Diamond Award** – 25 years

All awards will be presented during the annual Malam Kimia night.

IKM PRESIDENT LABORATORY AWARD

The **IKM President Laboratory Award** is granted once every three years to laboratories that have demonstrated outstanding achievements in advancing professionalism and practices in chemistry. The first IKM President Laboratory Award was presented in 2014, followed by the second in 2017, the third in 2020, and the fourth in 2023. The fifth IKM President Laboratory Award will be presented in 2026.

To be eligible for the **IKM President Laboratory Award**, laboratories must meet the criteria outlined in the **IKM President Award Criteria**. Specifically, laboratories that have been awarded the **IKM Laboratory Excellence Award** for three consecutive years and have demonstrated significant improvements and achievements will be nominated by the assessors for the IKM President Award in 2026.