



NATIONAL
SOCIETY OF
PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS

NSPE Award

Application Deadline: March 1, 2026

Questions? Email awards@nspe.org

Guidelines

This is the highest award bestowed on an individual by NSPE. It is presented to an engineer who has made outstanding contributions to the engineering profession, the public welfare, and humankind.

Although NSPE would like to present this award each year, it is more important that the successful nominee be of such a high caliber, similar to previous honorees like Dr. David B. Steinman, P.E. (founder of NSPE), former NSPE Executive Director Paul H. Robbins, P.E., and President Herbert Hoover, that it is not mandatory for this award to be presented each year. NSPE membership is not required.

Nomination Process/Method of Selection

Nominations may be made by any member in good standing. Subordinate entities of NSPE (e.g. Interest Groups, Committees, Task Forces, etc.) or affiliated entities (e.g. Education Foundation) are encouraged to promulgate nominations of qualified candidates.

The NSPE Honor Awards Committee makes the selection of the recipient based on the following criteria:

- Memberships in professional, technical, and other organizations, including offices held
- Achievements and Service to the Engineering Profession
- Service to the community and humanitarian activities, including key positions held, significant achievements for public welfare, and other pertinent information
- Honors, awards, and other laudatory recognition from any source
- Special advisory appointments

Criteria and requirements are detailed on the following pages.

Nomination Format

Complete nomination packets shall not exceed twelve 8-1/2" by 11" pages (this includes the attached Nomination Form as the cover page with nominee's signature along with recommendations/endorsements). This form and all accompanying sheets – other than copies of supporting documentation – must be legibly typed. Supporting pages shall identify to which of the five (5) criteria categories each applies.

Deadline and Submission

Nomination packets must be submitted through our online portal at apply.nspe.org no later than **March 1** in the year for which the nomination applies. Nominations will not be carried forward to a subsequent year.

Award Presentation

The award will be presented at NSPECon (usually conducted in August).

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Minimum Requirements

An engineer of recognized standing, who is a licensed Professional Engineer, is eligible for nomination provided the person is a citizen of the United States. NSPE membership is not required. Current officers and directors of NSPE are not eligible for nomination.

The nominee's professional integrity must be beyond question. The nominee's professional reputation should be recognizable at the national level. The achievements of the nominee should be of a high impact or trendsetting. Preference will be given to nominees who have consistently promoted the social and professional interests of engineering.

Each submission must include a minimum of two endorsement letters, one of which must be outside the state in which the nominee resides. One endorsement letter can be from a subordinate or affiliate entity of NSPE. These endorsements shall be on the letterhead of the State Society and provide rationale for the endorsement. State Societies are not limited to the number of nominees that may be endorsed.

Evaluation Criteria

The Honor Awards Task Committee members will evaluate the nominee based on these five criteria categories and score each with a maximum number of points based on the following table.

Criteria Category

Maximum Points

Memberships in professional, technical, and other organizations, including offices held	15 points
Achievement and Service to the Engineering Profession	40 points
Service to the community and humanitarian activities	15 points
Honors, awards, and other laudatory recognition from any source	15 points
Special advisory assignments	15 points
Total for all categories	100 points



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Nomination Form

Candidate Name: _____

Signature: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Licensure Status (only one registration needed):

State: _____ **License Number:** _____

NSPE Affiliation (optional):

Membership Number (if applicable): _____ **State Society (if applicable):** _____

Chapter (if applicable): _____

Please submit the application and all necessary materials by March 1 through our online portal at apply.nspe.org and make sure that the following are included:

1. Completed nomination form
2. Total of two (2) endorsements letters, as described above.

Information about the Nominator

If the nominator is being sponsored by a State Society of an NSPE body, the Nominator should be one of the officers of the entity.

Name: _____

Member #: _____

Signature: _____

Phone: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Date: _____

Basis for Nomination

Multiple pages per category are permitted. Supporting documentation must be attached separately and are included in the total page count.

A. Memberships in professional, technical, and other organizations, including offices held.

This category should include current memberships in any organizations related to the Engineering Profession at the international, national, state, and local levels; Offices held currently or in the past with such organizations should be listed along with significant achievements while in such positions. *(4,000-character limit in text box below)*

Basis for Nomination

Multiple pages per category are permitted. Supporting documentation must be attached separately and are included in the total page count.

B. Achievement and Service to the Engineering Profession.

This category will be evaluated on the basis of a broad range of achievements in both technical and organizational ways that have advanced the well-being of the global population or portions thereof. Enhancement of the reputation of the Engineering Profession with stakeholders outside the Profession, e.g. the Public, governmental entities, and the educational community, should be documented with specific examples to enhance the evaluators' appreciation of the nominee's worthiness.

In judging the worthiness of a nominee for this most prestigious recognition awarded by NSPE, evaluators are looking for items that differentiate the nominee and reinforce the proposition that the nominee has had a long-term and significantly favorable impact on the Engineering Profession, society, and/or the global economy. *(4,000-character limit in text box below)*

Basis for Nomination

Multiple pages per category are permitted. Supporting documentation must be attached separately and are included in the total page count.

C. Service to the community and humanitarian activities, including key positions held, significant achievements for the public welfare, and other pertinent information.

This category addresses areas of achievement that are not directly related to the Engineering Profession. Include affiliations, positions held, and notable achievements with an explanation of each's significance in the particular activity. *(4,000-character limit in text box below)*

Basis for Nomination

Multiple pages per category are permitted. Supporting documentation must be attached separately and are included in the total page count.

D. Honors, awards, and other laudatory recognition from any source.

Recognition from any source that acknowledges the achievements of the nominee should be presented. Particular emphasis will be placed on such recognition on the international or national level. The reputation of the source of the honor will also be considered. *(4,000-character limit in text box below)*

Basis for Nomination

Multiple pages per category are permitted. Supporting documentation must be attached separately and are included in the total page count.

E. Special advisory assignments.

Individuals who have demonstrated highly developed technical, professional, and leadership skills are frequently asked to undertake these types of special assignments. Cite the specific activity, how the nominee became involved, and the impact of the nominee's contributions. Emphasis should be made of engagements that go beyond the borders of the United States. *(4,000-character limit in text box below)*