
2026 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INSTRUCTIONS

About the Award:

The ACEC Young Professional of the Year Award honors emerging leaders in the engineering profession who have made meaningful contributions to their firms, clients, and communities. The award highlights excellence, leadership, and service that elevate the profession and benefit society.

Eligibility:

All nominations must be submitted through a Member Organization (MO).

Each MO may submit up to two (2) nominees to the national competition.

The following materials provide the evaluation committee with a clear understanding of the nominee's professional achievements, leadership, and service contributions. Each response should be typed, factual, and focused on illustrating impact and measurable results rather than general descriptions.

Before completing the sections below, please ensure all responses follow the Part 3 submission standards: clearly label each item, respect all word limits, and present specific examples of accomplishments and leadership. All materials will be combined into a single PDF for review, so consistency and clarity are essential.

A. NOMINEE STATEMENT (250 words maximum)

Prompt: *What does this award mean to you, and how does your work reflect the values of the engineering profession?*

This statement should convey the nominee's personal perspective on professional purpose, ethics, and impact.

Evaluation Focus: clarity of thought, alignment with ACEC values, and authenticity of voice.

B. PRINCIPAL STATEMENT (250 words maximum)

Prompt: *Why should this individual be considered for the ACEC Young Professional of the Year Award?*

This must be written on company letterhead and signed by a principal or manager in the nominee's firm.

Evaluation Focus: professional achievement, leadership potential, and the nominee's contributions to the firm and clients.

C. PROFESSIONAL AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Provide the following on a separate document:

1. **Professional Organizations:** list all organizations and societies with the nominee's role and years of involvement.
2. **Community or Volunteer Service:** list key community activities, volunteer roles, or board memberships.
3. **Essay (250 words maximum):**

***Prompt:** Describe your most significant recent professional or volunteer achievement and its impact on your firm, community, or the engineering profession.*

Evaluation Focus: sustained engagement, leadership roles, measurable community benefit.

D. TECHNICAL AND LEADERSHIP QUESTIONS

Provide two short narrative responses (approximately 200 words each).

1. **Technical Question:** Describe a technical problem or issue you helped solve while working within a team. What approach did you take, and what was the outcome?
2. **Leadership Question:** Describe your leadership style and how it influences your current role or professional goals.

Evaluation Focus: problem-solving ability, collaboration, innovation, and leadership approach.

General Requirements

- Submit all supporting documents compiled into **one PDF** labeled correctly
- Each individual document must include the **nominee's name** and the **section title** at the top of the page. (*Example: "First Lastname – Nominee Statement"*)
- Use a minimum 11-point font and standard margins.
- Word limits listed below must be respected; responses may be shorter but not exceed the stated maximum.
- Do not include resumes, photos, or external links.
- Each narrative should address specific examples and measurable results.