



ACEC/MW ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS CRITERIA AND ENTRY SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

OBJECTIVE

To recognize those engineering achievements demonstrating the highest degree of skill and ingenuity while providing a significant benefit to the public welfare and practice of consulting engineering.

ELIGIBILITY

Any engineering or surveying firm is eligible to enter the awards program, whether or not the firm is a member of ACEC.

GENERAL CRITERIA

1. Both member and non-member firm entries must be submitted through an ACEC state organization (ACEC/MW) to be eligible for the National Competition.
2. Engineering or surveying projects that have won awards in state or national organizations' programs are encouraged to be entered.
3. Projects entered in the competition may have been executed anywhere in the world. Research and Studies (Category A) or Surveying and Mapping projects (Category D) must have been publicly disclosed by the client between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2021. Construction of projects (Categories B through L – with the exception of D) must have been substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2021. See "categories" section for full listing of all eligible categories.
4. Entries in the ACEC/MW competition may be placed in any one of the 12 categories. ***The entering firm must select the one category that is most appropriate. A project may be entered only once in any category.*** However, after a project entered in Category A has been constructed, it may be entered in a different category – B through L – in the year when eligible.
5. The ACEC/MW Engineering Excellence Awards Committee reserves the right to determine the eligibility and category classification for all entries.

JUDGING

Entries will be judged on the basis of overall engineering excellence in each of the 12 categories; on the basis of the work performed by the entering firm only; and according to the rating guidelines listed. Winners will be notified.

AWARDS

The top project entries will receive an ACEC/MW Grand Award; additional Honor Awards will be given to qualifying projects. Firms winning ACEC/MW Engineering Excellence (EEA) Grand and Honor awards are eligible to enter their projects in the ACEC National EEA competition.



JUDGING CRITERIA

A panel selected by the Awards Committee of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Metropolitan Washington will perform the Engineering Excellence Awards judging.

ACEC/MW rating guidelines for judging are as follows:

1. Uniqueness and/or Innovative Applications of New or Existing Techniques	20%
2. Future Value to the Engineering Profession and enhanced public awareness/enthusiasm of the role of engineering	20%
3. Social, Economic and Sustainable Development Considerations	20%
4. Complexity	20%
5. Successful Fulfillment of Client/Owner Needs	20%

RATING GUIDELINE DEFINITIONS

1. **Uniqueness and/or Innovative Applications of New or Existing Techniques:**
 1. Does the entrant's contribution to the project demonstrate the use of a new science or a breakthrough in the general knowledge of engineering?
 2. Does the entrant's contribution to the project represent a unique application of new or existing technology, techniques, materials or equipment?

2. **Future Value to the Engineering Profession and enhanced public awareness/enthusiasm of the role of engineering:**
 1. Will the entrant's contribution to the project redefine current engineering thinking?
 2. Does the entrant's project increase public awareness/ enthusiasm about the role of engineering in their everyday lives?

3. **Social, Economic and Sustainable Development Considerations:**
 1. Do the solutions identified produce secondary benefits of value to the community environment?
 2. Does the entrant's approach provide society with social, economic, or sustainable development benefits?
 3. Does the entrant's contribution to the project improve the health, safety or welfare of the public or affected environment?

4. **Complexity:**
 1. Did the entrant's efforts successfully address highly complex criteria or unique problems?
 2. Were extraordinary problems of site, location, hazardous conditions, project requirements, or similar elements present?
 3. Did the entrant's solutions require the use of out-of-the ordinary technology or ingenuity for achievement of the project's goals?

5. **Successful Fulfillment of Client/Owner Needs:**
 1. Did the entrant successfully engage the client/owner in the overall project development process?
 2. Was it an economical and cost-effective solution?
 3. How did the final cost compare to the original budget estimate?
 4. How closely does the entrant's solution meet the total goals of the client/owner?
 5. Did the entrant meet the client's time schedule/Social/Economic and Sustainable Design Considerations



PROJECT CATEGORIES

CATEGORY A: Studies, Research and Consulting

Non-design services, projects not involving the preparation of construction documents consisting of but not limited to the following types of projects:

- New products, materials and technologies
- Expert testimony
- Basic research and studies
- Computer/software technology
- Technical papers
- Public outreach/involvement
- Water conservation
- Security plans
- Project feasibility, economic, or risk studies
- Value engineering

CATEGORY B: Building/Technology Systems

- Mechanical/electrical/plumbing
- Computer/technology
- Communications
- Acoustics
- Software systems
- Sustainability or carbon neutrality
- Efficiency certification standards, e.g. LEED
- Energy efficiency - new and retrofit
- Secure facilities (military, research, correctional)

CATEGORY C: Structural Systems

- Foundations
- Tunnels
- Buildings
- Seismic design
- Towers
- Bridges
- Stadiums

CATEGORY D: Surveying and Mapping Technology

- Geometrics, ALTA, land title and rights surveys
- Control, GPS, monitoring or construction surveying
- Survey mapping, GIS/LIS, photogrammetry

CATEGORY E: Environmental

- Hazardous waste
- Solid waste
- Restoration/reclamation/remediation
- Air quality
- Noise
- Recycling
- Waste pond management
- Carbon sequestration and trading
- Mitigation



CATEGORY F: Waste and Storm Water

Wastewater collection/ treatment and disposal
Residuals management and reuse
Graywater systems
CSO's
Mine tailings
Agricultural
Storm water management
Erosion control

CATEGORY G: Water Resources

Hydraulics, hydrology
Surface and groundwater supply development
Treatment
Transmission, distribution & storage
Watershed management
Water use reduction
Flood risk management
Climate adaptation
Coastal and eco-system restoration
Locks/dams/water control structures
Irrigation

CATEGORY H: Transportation

Highways
Rail
Airports
Marine/ports
Public transit
Intermodal facilities

CATEGORY I: Special Projects

Safety and security
Corrosion protection/cathodic protection
Program and construction management
Land development
Trenchless technologies
Recreational facilities
Subsurface engineering

CATEGORY J: Small Projects

Total project construction budget does not exceed
\$2.5 million
(At the entrant's discretion, except for entries in
Category A, projects under
\$2.5 million are not limited to this category.)

CATEGORY K: Energy

Transmission and distribution
Power generation
Renewable energy



Cogeneration
Energy storage technologies
Energy usage reduction programs
Demand side management

CATEGORY L: Industrial and Manufacturing Processes and Facilities

Petrochemical
Biotech
Manufacturing
Heavy industry
Industrial waste
Materials handling
Mining, metallurgy, mineralogy

RATING GUIDELINES DEFINITIONS

Rating guidelines are defined as follows:

1. **Uniqueness and/or Innovative Applications of New or Existing Techniques:**
 1. Does the entrant's contribution to the project demonstrate the use of a new science or a breakthrough in the general knowledge of engineering?
 2. Does the entrant's contribution to the project represent a unique application of new or existing technology, techniques, materials or equipment?

2. **Future Value to the Engineering Profession and enhanced public awareness/enthusiasm of the role of engineering:**
 1. Will the entrant's contribution to the project redefine current engineering thinking?
 2. Does the entrant's project increase public awareness/ enthusiasm about the role of engineering in their everyday lives?

3. **Social, Economic and Sustainable Development Considerations:**
 1. Do the solutions identified produce secondary benefits of value to the community environment?
 2. Does the entrant's approach provide society with social, economic, or sustainable development benefits?
 3. Does the entrant's contribution to the project improve the health, safety or welfare of the public or affected environment?

4. **Complexity:**
 1. Did the entrant's efforts successfully address highly complex criteria or unique problems?
 2. Were extraordinary problems of site, location, hazardous conditions, project requirements, or similar elements present?
 3. Did the entrant's solutions require the use of out-of-the ordinary technology or ingenuity for achievement of the project's goals?

5. **Successful Fulfillment of Client/Owner Needs:**
 1. Did the entrant successfully engage the client/owner in the overall project development process?
 2. Was it an economical and cost-effective solution?
 3. How did the final cost compare to the original budget estimate?
 4. How closely does the entrant's solution meet the total goals of the client/owner?
 5. Did the entrant meet the client's time schedule/Social/Economic and Sustainable Design Considerations



ACEC/MW EEA COMPETITION TIMELINE

September 10, 2021	Deadline for INTENTION TO SUBMIT form to ACEC/MW
September 27, 2021	Deadline for Official ACEC/MW EEA ENTRY Form and supporting materials for ACEC/MW EEA Competition
October 22, 2021	ACEC/MW sends notification letters of winners to EEA participants
December 1, 2021	Deadline for physical EEA Project Display Panel to be Delivered to ACEC/MW Deadline for Video Submissions by Honor and Grand Award Winners to ACEC/MW
December 8, 2021	ACEC/MW EEA Awards Gala, <i>Sheraton Pentagon City</i>
January 7, 2022	Deadline for submitting all materials for ACEC EEA National Competition
February 18-20, 2022	National Competition Judging
May 24, 2022	EEA National Awards Presentation and Gala, <i>Washington, DC</i>

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING AN ACEC/MW EEA ENTRY

Please note: The ACEC/MW EEA entry requirements are slightly different from the ACEC national competition.

Requirements for submitting for the ACEC/MW EEA competition are as follows:

1. Return the **INTENTION TO SUBMIT** form, nonrefundable entry fee, and digital images of two or three project photos or graphics by COB September 10, 2021 to:

Anna Seekins
 Association Administrator
 American Council of Engineering Companies of Metropolitan Washington
 43330 Junction Plaza, Suite 164
 Ashburn, VA 20147
 202 644 8260(P) 888 511 3530(F)
staff@acecmw.org

Entry Fee:

ACEC/MW EEA Competition Entry Fees are non-refundable.

ACEC/MW Members: \$325.00 **Non-Members:** \$975.00

2. Submit your **COMPLETE AND FINAL ENTRY** to the ACEC/MW office by September 27, 2021. Entry materials should include the completed **ELECTRONIC COPIES only of:**

- **Official ACEC/MW EEA Entry Form**
- **Additional Award Order Form:** Please complete this form and indicate whether you wish to purchase additional award trophies.
- **Executive Summary:**
 - One page, single-sided maximum length, 12 pt. minimum font
 - Project title and entry category must appear at the top of the page
 - Describe the problem and solution
- **Project Description:** Six page, single-sided maximum length, 12 pt. minimum font. Tell the story of the project. Address items a, b, c, and d as listed below. Project title, entry category, and page number must appear at the top of each page. Entrants may use text, photos, graphics, or charts as needed.



ACEC
Metropolitan Washington

- a. Describe the role of the entrant's firm in the project
- b. Explain the role of other consultants participating in the project
- c. Brief description of the entrant's contribution to the project addressing each of the following:
 - Uniqueness and/or innovative application of new or existing techniques
 - Future value to the engineering profession and enhanced public awareness/enthusiasm of the role of engineering
 - Social, economic, and sustainable design considerations
 - Complexity
 - Successful fulfillment of client/owner needs. Include budgeted cost, actual cost, schedule and actual date of completion information.
 - *Include total project construction budget cost, total project construction actual cost, entrant's portion of the total project construction budget cost, entrant's portion of the total project construction actual cost, and project scheduled and actual dates of completion (as indicated on the Electronic Project Submission Form). Reminder: These costs are not Engineering Fees.*
- d. **SUMMARY:** Describe in layman's terms why this project is worthy of special recognition (word count between 100 - 500 words). Explain all factors that exhibit the project's uniqueness and complexity, such as innovative engineering, challenges faced and overall social impact. **NOTE:** This summary may provide the basis for all ACEC/MW's publicity on the project.

NON-DESIGN PROJECTS: In addition to the requirements above, non-design project entries should be supplemented by a report with results of findings, graphs, drawings, etc.

- **Photographic Display Panel: NEW THIS YEAR** – Submit a small-size JPEG **electronic copy** of your Project Display Panel with your Official Entry on September 27, 2021. See ACEC National's website (acec.org) for Panel requirements (but note: ACEC/MW does NOT use Velcro to display our panels; please provide a panel that can stand on an easel).

3. Photographic Display Panel: Submit the physical EEA Photographic Display Panel to ACEC/MW by **December 1, 2021**. Please coordinate the drop-off with Anna Seekins (staff@acecmw.org). See ACEC National's website (acec.org) for Panel requirements. But **NOTE:** ACEC/MW does NOT use Velcro to display our panels; please provide a panel that can stand on an easel.

4. Project Video: A video is required for HONOR and GRAND Award winners ONLY. This is in addition to the Photographic Display Panel. **Due to ACEC/MW by December 1, 2021.** Video Requirements:

- Create a video highlighting your project
- Approximately 30 seconds long, max 45 seconds
- Showcase your project and design team
- Need not be fancy; can be a series of PowerPoint slides with music or voiceover
- **How to Submit Video:**
 - You may email your file to staff@acecmw.org by COB on December 1, 2021.
 - If it is too large to email, please submit by sending us a link to your firm's online share drive. If your firm does not have a share drive, please email Anna Seekins (staff@acecmw.org) for instructions for uploading to ACEC/MW's share drive.