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Why does SPE have an awards program?

Peer recognition is an important aspect of every professional organization. SPE members make many outstanding and significant technical, professional, and service contributions to the petroleum industry. The SPE Honors and Awards Program recognizes these significant technical and professional contributions to the worldwide oil and gas industry and to the petroleum engineering profession and exceptional service to the Society and to the greater community.

What are the differences between SPE International and SPE Regional Awards?

There are distinctly different SPE staff contacts, requirements, procedures, nomination forms, and deadlines for each of these SPE award programs:

SPE Regional Awards

- Award committees appointed by the SPE Regional Directors select SPE Regional award recipients.
- Nominations are accepted for SPE members within each region. Nominators do not have to be in the same region.

- Submit Regional nominations to the appropriate Regional Director, or to SPE staff at sections@spe.org .
- The deadline to submit SPE Regional Award nominations is typically 15 February; the Regional Director may extend the deadline.
- Recipients of SPE Regional Young Member, Distinguished Service, and technical awards are automatically put forth for SPE International Award consideration in the year following their selection as a Regional winner, assuming the candidate meets the international criteria.
- Regional Young Member recipients who are past the age criteria for the international Young Member Outstanding Service Award are automatically moved into consideration for the Distinguished Service Award.
- Regional awards are presented at an appropriate Region or section meeting.
- Questions regarding SPE Regional Awards may be directed to
 - sections@spe.org
 - Brian Wiggins
SPE Sections Manager
+1.972.952.9451
 - Caroline Seifert
SPE Sections Assistant
+1.972.952.9457
- Award committees appointed by the SPE President-elect and approved by the SPE International Board of Directors select SPE International award recipients.
- Nominations are accepted directly from the SPE membership and from SPE Regions. It is not necessary for a candidate to have received a Regional award to be considered for an SPE International award.
- Submit International award nominations to SPE staff at awards@spe.org.
- The deadline to submit SPE International Award nominations is February 15. There are no extensions.
- The international Board of Directors must approve all SPE International award recipients.
- SPE International Awards are generally presented at the SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition.
- Questions regarding SPE International Awards may be directed to
 - awards@spe.org
 - Tom Whipple
SPE Professional
Development Manager
+1.972.952.9452
 - Cynthia Thompson
SPE Technical Activities
Administrator
+1.972.952.9370

SPE International Awards

Can I nominate someone for a Regional Award and the corresponding International Award at the same time?

Yes. However, it is recommended that you carefully review the award requirements and the scope of the candidate's significant achievement, and then nominate the candidate only for the more appropriate award.

What are the SPE International awards?

There are 19 International awards in 3 categories:

Membership Designations:

[Honorary Member](#)

[Distinguished Member](#)

Technical Awards:

[Anthony F. Lucas Gold Medal](#)
[John Franklin Carll Award](#)
[Lester C. Uren Award](#)
[Cedric K. Ferguson Medal](#)
[Completions Optimization and Technology Award](#)
[Drilling Engineering Award](#)
[Formation Evaluation Award](#)
[Health, Safety, Social Responsibility and Environment Award](#)
[Management and Information Award](#)
[Production and Operations Award](#)
[Projects, Facilities and Construction Award](#)
[Reservoir Description and Dynamics Award](#)

Professional & Service Awards:

[DeGolyer Distinguished Service Medal](#)
[Distinguished Achievement for Petroleum Engineering Faculty](#)
[Distinguished Service Award](#)
[Public Service Award](#)
[Young Member Outstanding Service Award](#)

What are the SPE Regional awards?

There are 11 Regional awards in 2 categories:

Regional Technical Awards:

[Completions Optimization and Technology](#)
[Drilling Engineering](#)
[Formation Evaluation](#)
[Health, Safety, Security, Environment, and Social Responsibility](#)
[Management and Information](#)
[Production and Operations](#)
[Projects, Facilities, and Construction](#)
[Reservoir Description and Dynamics](#)

Regional Professional & Service Awards:

[Regional Service Award](#)
[Outstanding Young Member](#)
[Distinguished Corporate Support Awards](#)

How do I nominate someone for an International award?

1. Review the [International award criteria](#).
2. Select the appropriate International award
3. Complete an International nomination form
4. Provide justification for the nomination
5. Provide documentation to support the nomination

6. Include all requested information and meet page length limitations
7. Solicit support for the nomination from colleagues
8. Submit the nomination to awards@spe.org by the February 15 deadline

How do I nominate someone for a Regional award?

1. Review the [Regional award criteria](#).
2. Select the appropriate Regional award
3. Complete a Regional nomination form
4. Provide justification for the nomination
5. Provide documentation to support the nomination
6. Include all requested information
7. Solicit support for the nomination from colleagues
8. Submit the nomination to the appropriate Regional Director or to sections@spe.org by the deadline.

Does someone have to win a Regional award before being considered for an International award?

No. It is not necessary for a candidate to have received a Regional award to be considered for an SPE International award.

What do award committees look for in a SPE International Award nomination?

1. A nomination form complete with all requested information
2. A an explanation of why you feel the candidate should be recognized for the award, including specific examples that support the award requirements
3. A brief biography, resume or condensed CV of no more than three pages
4. A list of any worldwide, national, local, company, academic, or public service contributions not covered in the biographical profile
5. An optional list of the 5 publications that best represent the candidate's body of work
6. Individually composed letters of recommendation from colleagues in support of the nomination that include specific examples that support the award requirements

Concise, well-written nominations backed up by brief yet complete support documentation accompanied by personal letters from colleagues who endorse the nomination will help award committees to adjudicate effectively. Excessive document repetition, lengthy CVs, lack of specific examples that support the award requirements, lists of every published document, and incomplete nomination forms may cause the award committee to reject a nomination.

Do award nominees have to be members of SPE?

All but three International awards require the candidate to be an SPE member in good standing. The three exceptions that do not require SPE membership are:

- Honorary Member
- Anthony F Lucas Gold Medal

- John Franklin Carll Award

In the case of the Cedric K. Ferguson Medal, the candidate author must be an SPE member in good standing at both the time of peer approval and when the award is presented.

Are there any age limits on SPE award nominations?

- A Young Member Outstanding Service Award candidate must be an SPE member in good standing under the age of 36 during the year the award will be presented.
- The Ferguson Medal is presented to an author under the age of 36 during the year the award is presented, and who is a member in good standing both at the time of peer approval and when the award is presented.
- The Lester C. Uren Award requires the candidate to have been under 45 years of age when the work being recognized by the award was completed.

There are no other age requirements for SPE International Awards.

Can someone serve on a committee and still be an award nominee?

- Members of the International Board of Directors are not eligible for International Awards for the duration of and for 2 years after the expiration of their term of service, with the exception of the SPE president, who automatically becomes a Distinguished Member upon the completion of his or her term.
- International award committee members are not eligible for the award they are judging for the duration of and for 2 years after the expiration of their term of service.

How long does someone remain a candidate for an International award?

Once nominated, a candidate remains on the active consideration list for 3 years unless they receive the award or they no longer meet the award criteria. For example, a candidate for the Young Member Outstanding Service Award may become too old for consideration during the 3-year cycle. In this case, the candidate may be nominated for the Distinguished Service Award.

The 3-year active consideration cycle begins the year a candidate is first nominated for the International award. A nomination currently on the active consideration list can be updated each year by sending current material to awards@spe.org. After a nomination expires at the end of the 3-year cycle, the candidate can be renominated for the same International award if they still meet the award criteria.

Can I review my award nomination?

SPE International Award nomination materials are confidential. The nominator can have access to the nomination form and support letter they provided; they cannot have access to the other nomination forms or support letters in the packet.

Nominees cannot have access to the nomination packet. SPE staff will not release information about the nomination packet.

How many times can someone receive an award?

An individual may receive each International Award only once, with one exception. SPE members in good standing may receive the Ferguson Certificate more than once. It is presented to coauthors of papers selected for the Ferguson Medal who are members in good standing over the age of 35.

What is the deadline for International award nominations?

SPE staff must receive all International Award nominations and support materials by 15 February. There are no extensions.

What is the deadline for Regional award nominations?

The deadline to submit SPE Regional Award nominations is typically 15 February; the Regional Director may extend the deadline.

Where do I send International Award nominations?

International Award nominations can be:

- E-mailed to awards@spe.org
- Faxed to +1.972.952.9435, to the attention of SPE International Awards
- Mailed to SPE International Awards
Society of Petroleum Engineers, Inc.
P. O. Box 833836
Richardson, TX 75083-3836 U.S.A.
- Shipped to SPE International Awards
Society of Petroleum Engineers, Inc.
222 Palisades Creek Dr.
Richardson, TX 75080, USA

How are award committee members selected?

SPE International Award committees consist of six or more SPE members serving 3-year terms. The SPE President-elect annually appoints two committee members to each award committee. These appointments are subject to the approval of the SPE International Board of Directors. Committee members have an interest in the discipline of the award, and are distributed geographically as widely as possible.

What are the length-of-membership honors?

SPE recognizes members who maintain their membership for 25 years or more. No nominations are necessary. The three length of membership distinctions are:

- **25-year Club Member** – Individuals with least 25 years of membership in SPE become 25-year Club Members. This select group of members is welcomed to visit with peers in the *25-year and Century Club Room* during the SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition. A member reaching this distinction also receives a 25-year membership certificate.
- **Senior Member** – After 30 years of continuous membership with SPE and upon reaching the age of 65, a member is automatically considered a senior member. Senior members receive a 50% reduction in membership fees. A member who is retired at age 60 may submit a written request for senior member standing to SPE Customer Service.
- **Legion of Honor** – After 50 years of continuous membership in SPE, a member is automatically inducted into the Legion of Honor. Legion of Honor members are exempt from SPE dues for life. They also receive a certificate in honor of their achievement, free registration for all SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibitions, and recognition in the Journal of Petroleum Technology.

Can I nominate a colleague for the Ferguson Medal?

No, it is not necessary to nominate candidates for the Ferguson Medal. All peer reviewed and approved papers published in SPE technical journals with authors or coauthors who are under the age of 36 at the time of peer approval are automatically considered candidates for the Ferguson Medal.

When will I find out the names of the award recipients?

International Award recipients will be announced after the SPE International Board of Directors approves them at the June Board meeting. The list of International Award recipients will be posted on SPE.org and published in the Journal of Petroleum Technology.

What do award recipients receive?

International award recipients are presented with a certificate, plaque, or medal commemorating their achievement. They receive complimentary registration for the Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition and tickets to the event at which the award will be presented in the presence of their professional peers – either the Annual Banquet or President's Luncheon.