

AWARD SUBMITTAL FAQS

HOW WILL THE PEOPLES CHOICE AWARD BE DONE IN 2021?

The second most prestigious award, the People's Choice Award, will be a digital contest award. This will be an opportunity to enhance your firm's digital marketing. Once Engineering Excellence award winners have been chosen, they will be asked to provide digital content to be used by ACEC Georgia and their firm to promote on social media for votes. The winner of the People's Choice Award will be announced at the 2021 Engineering Excellence Awards Cocktail Reception in the spring of 2021.

CAN I SUBMIT IF I AM A SUB-CONSULTANT ON THE PROJECT?

Yes, however you can only represent the work done by your firm on the project. Consider instead submitting a joint entry with your prime consultant to develop a more comprehensive story.

CAN I SUBMIT A LONG-TERM PROJECT THAT EXCEEDS THE TWO-YEAR ELIGIBILITY PERIOD?

A long-term project is welcome, but only the portion of the project "substantially completed and ready for use" during the two-year eligibility period will be considered by the judges.

ARE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES ON THE ENTRY FORM ACCEPTABLE?

Yes, the form was created for electronic signatures by the firm and owner.

WHAT DOES THE "SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE AND READY FOR USE" REQUIREMENT MEAN?

As a generally defined term in a contract, substantially complete and ready for use means that the owner can use the project as intended and only minor punch-list-type work remains to be completed. However, you must decide the best time to submit your project within the two-year eligibility period provided. Consider your client's level of support, quality of project photography, time available to complete the entry and any other issues that may affect your submittal's overall success. You want to tell the best story you can in text and visuals.

HOW DO PROJECT PHOTOS I SUBMIT GET USED?

The photos may be used for any of the following purposes: on the ACEC Georgia website, on ACEC Georgia social media platforms, distributed with a press release to local and national media and/or included in an issue of *Engineering Georgia* magazine. All submitted photographs must be high-resolution (300 dpi sized to 8.5" x 11"). At minimum, six color photographs or graphics must be submitted with each entry. Three of the photographs must be of the completed project and provide the highest level of visual impact for publicity. Three of the photographs should display the planning, startup and/or construction phases of the project.

WHO JUDGES THE PROJECTS?

Georgia project entries are judged on the basis of overall engineering excellence by a panel of independent judges, including engineers, clients, government officials and community leaders, all of whom vary from year to year.

CAN I GO ON TO COMPETE IN THE ACEC NATIONAL COMPETITION?

Only projects receiving an ACEC Georgia State Award are eligible to enter the national competition. Deadline for entry into the national competition is Friday, January 8, 2021. ACEC Georgia Honor and Merit Award winners are not eligible to enter at the national level.

WHAT IS THE ENTRY FEE?

The entry fee is \$300 per entry for ACEC Georgia members; \$700 for non-members. Checks must be payable to ACEC Georgia (mailed to 233 Peachtree Street, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303 - Attn: Engineering Excellence Awards) and received by Monday, November 9, 2020. To pay the entry fee via credit card, go to <https://www.acecga.org/EEApayonline>.

HOW MANY AWARDS WILL BE GIVEN?

A State Award winner will be chosen in each category. These State Award winners will then be eligible to win the Grand Prize Award (announced during the 2021 Engineering Excellence Awards Cocktail Reception) and compete in the national competition. The runner-up in each category will be named an Honor Award winner. The number of Merit Award winners given will be at the judging panel's discretion.

HOW ARE WINNERS NOTIFIED? WHEN CAN PRESS RELEASES BE ISSUED?

After judging is concluded, firms will be notified via email (to the firm representative and marketing contact listed on the official entry form) of their award level by December 8, 2020. There are three award levels: State, Honor and Merit. A Grand Award Winner will be kept confidential and announced during an exclusive cocktail reception. Firms can issue press releases immediately upon notification of winning in December 2020 – please refer to the program as the *ACEC Georgia Engineering Excellence Awards*, as ACEC National has its own awards program.

HOW MANY ENGRAVED AWARDS WILL I RECEIVE?

Each award winner will receive one engraved award. Additional awards can be ordered by emailing awards@acecga.org.

WHEN WILL THE AWARD WINNERS BE RECOGNIZED?

The 2021 Engineering Excellence Awards Cocktail Reception will be held in the Spring of 2021. All Award winners will be able to pick up their engraved crystal Award at this event, State Award winners will be recognized during the event, and the Grand Prize Award and People's Choice Awards will be announced. See additional publicity information for Award winners on page 5.