JUDGING CRITERIA & GUIDELINE DEFINITIONS

Entries will be judged on the basis of:
• Overall engineering excellence
• The work performed by the entering firm only
• The following rating guidelines:

UNIQUENESS AND/OR INNOVATIVE APPLICATIONS OF NEW OR EXISTING TECHNIQUES (20 percent)
• Does the entry demonstrate the use of a new science or a breakthrough in the general knowledge of engineering?
• Does the entry represent a unique application of new or existing technology, techniques, materials or equipment?

FUTURE VALUE TO THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION AND ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS/ENTHUSIASM OF THE ROLE OF ENGINEERING (20 percent)
• Will the entry redefine current engineering thinking?
• Does the entry increase public awareness/enthusiasm about the role of engineering in their everyday lives?

SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS (20 percent)
• Do the solutions identified produce secondary benefits of value to the community environment?
• Does the entrant’s approach provide society with social, economic, or sustainable development benefits?
• Does the entrant’s contribution to the project improve the health, safety or welfare of the public or affected environment?

COMPLEXITY (20 percent)
• Did the entry successfully address highly complex criteria or unique problems?
• Were extraordinary problems of site, location, hazardous conditions, project requirements, or similar elements present?
• Did the entry require the use of out-of-the-ordinary technology or ingenuity for achievement of the project’s goals?

SUCCESSFUL FULFILLMENT OF CLIENT/OWNER NEEDS (20 percent)
• Did the engineer or entrant successfully engage the client/owner in the overall project development process?
• Was it an economical and cost-effective solution?
• How did the final cost compare to the original budget estimate?
• How closely does the entrant’s solution meet the total goals of the client/owner?
• Did the entrant meet the client’s time schedule?

ELIGIBILITY
Any firm maintaining a Georgia office and engaged in the private practice of consulting engineering is eligible to enter. Projects executed anywhere in the world are eligible; however, the firm’s Georgia office must have had a leadership role in the project (designed in Georgia) to be eligible. Studies, Research and Consulting Engineering Services projects (Category 1) or survey and mapping projects (included in Category 10) must have been publicly disclosed by the client between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2020. Construction of projects (Categories 2-10) must have been substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2020. The completed official entry form must be signed by both the entrant and the client/owner (senior executives/officials) confirming this fact. A company representative may be contacted by phone by judging panel. Engineering projects may be entered in one of the ten categories and entered only once. However, after a project entered in Category 1 has been constructed, it may be entered in a different category in the eligible year. The judges reserve the right to move a project to a different award category than it was submitted in.

2021 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS COCKTAIL RECEPTION
Taking place in the Spring of 2021, this exclusive reception will be for all Award winners and their clients/owners of the winning projects. All 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.

PUBLICITY
• Project featured in Engineering Georgia magazine
• Engraved Crystal Award for all State, Honor and Merit Award Winners
• State Award Winners are eligible to compete for ACEC National Engineering Excellence Awards
• State Award Winners will be recognized during the 2021 Engineering Excellence Awards Cocktail Reception
• All Award winners will receive two complimentary tickets to the 2021 Engineering Excellence Awards Cocktail Reception, taking place in the Spring of 2021. ACEC Georgia will invite the owner/client of the award-winning project to attend this reception as well
• Professional photoshoot of winning firms with their award during a specified time and location of ACEC Georgia’s choosing. Photographs will be available for firm use
• Visibility to clients and engineering professionals at the 2021 Engineering Excellence Awards Cocktail Reception
• Project and firm name recognition in press release distributed to media and trade publications statewide
• Project and firm recognition in ACEC Georgia communications, including social media and website
• Dedicated social media posts for all Engineering Excellence State and Honor Award recipients
• Grand Award Winner project photo framed and displayed for one year in ACEC Georgia’s office

Firm award recipients are encouraged to take advantage of their recognition by issuing their own press releases and related marketing materials. Note: In PR outreach, please refer to this as the ACEC Georgia Engineering Excellence Awards.