

MEDAL FOR DISTINCTION IN ENGINEERING EDUCATION

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- Purpose** The Medal for Distinction in Engineering Education recognizes an exemplary contribution to the teaching and learning of the engineering profession at Canadian universities. This award has the objective of encouraging excellence in the current teaching of engineering.
- Eligibility criteria** The nominee must meet the following requirements:
- Be a full-time or part-time faculty member at a Canadian university
 - Be registered in good standing as a professional engineer (P.Eng., or ing.) in any province or territory in Canada
 - Have not previously received this award
 - Have not been a member of Engineers Canada’s Board and ex-staff members of Engineers Canada until a period of at least four years has elapsed from the completion date of their term of office.
- Selection criteria** The criteria for this award are weighted heavily toward personal teaching effectiveness. They invite evidence of distinguished contributions by the nominee to the learning environment for engineering students. The criteria also invite evidence of a leadership role by the nominee in the improvement of engineering education beyond the nominee’s own courses, including the improvement of pedagogy and service to students and peers. Finally, they invite evidence of outreach and continuing education activity directed toward the improvement of engineering education.
- Procedures**
- Nominations may be proposed by any group of three persons or more, with at least one person being a professional engineer and one being a current engineering student) having direct knowledge of the nominee’s contribution, including but not limited to:
 - ❖ Members or administrators of the Faculty of Engineering;
 - ❖ Engineering students;
 - ❖ Alumni; and
 - ❖ Colleagues.
 - All nominations must be accompanied by confirmation of registration from the President of the provincial/territorial engineering licensing body in which the university is situated.

- Each engineering licensing body is entitled to submit a maximum of three nominations. They may be submitted in either English or French and Engineers Canada will arrange for translation as required.
- To ensure that all parties are aware of the nomination, that the nominee is eligible as set out above and, that the information presented is accurate, the nomination form must be signed by the nominee and nominators.
- The original nomination form must be forwarded to the provincial/territorial engineering licensing body for the President's signature and then forwarded to Engineers Canada.
- All nominations must be submitted to the Awards Committee of Engineers Canada.

Independent Evidence of Impact of Teaching (40 points)

This section should not exceed three 8 ½ x 11 pages. Here are some examples of teaching effectiveness:

- ❖ Communication skills, especially effective styles, mastery of English/French language, humour, etc
- ❖ Innovative teaching methods including innovation in lab design and application
- ❖ Effective use of technology for teaching
- ❖ Effective and engaging teaching strategies
- ❖ Innovative assessment methods
- ❖ Sustained development of excellence in exemplary students
- ❖ Mentorship and special assistance for troubled students
- ❖ Support for physically challenged students with alternative teaching methods
- ❖ Special course development efforts
- ❖ Special classroom, laboratory and field location instruction
- ❖ Mastery by students of content, ideas or sophisticated processes beyond the normal program expectations
- ❖ Outstanding evaluations of teaching by students over several years (preferably with normative data)
- ❖ Student, faculty and alumni testimonials and peer references.

Independent Evidence of Contributions to Education (10 points)

This section should not exceed two 8 ½ x 11 pages, 12 pt font. Here are some examples of contributions to education:

Improvement of pedagogy

- ❖ Innovative or new teaching methods
- ❖ Adaptation and effective use of new or evolving technology for teaching
- ❖ Continuous improvement in instructional techniques

- ❖ Assistance in developing new techniques for student evaluation and testing
- ❖ Publication and sharing of research on teaching methods (only the most recent five years will be considered)
- ❖ Conduct of seminars, workshops, conferences or other events for colleagues on teaching/learning topics
- ❖ Work with teaching/learning committees or centres
- ❖ Research on teaching/learning problems that goes beyond the normal discipline-focused research conducted by the faculty member
- ❖ Curriculum development at the program, faculty and university levels

Independent Evidence of Contribution to Outreach (10 points)

This section should not exceed two 8 ½ x 11 pages, 12 pt font. Here are some examples of outreach:

- ❖ Writing of textbooks, codes of practice or guidelines for use of practitioners
- ❖ Assistance in development or delivery of continuing education programs for practicing engineers
- ❖ Assistance in developing interdisciplinary programs
- ❖ Assistance in engineering associations in managing or assessing continuing education requirements
- ❖ Assistance to other organizations in interpreting technical or engineering matters
- ❖ Participation in boards of review or similar bodies
- ❖ Assistance in accreditation and engineering qualification activities.

Independent Evidence of Service to Students (40 points)

This section should not exceed two 8 ½ x 11 inch pages, 12 pt font. Here are some examples:

Service to students

- ❖ Leadership and special assistance to enhance academic and personal development of students both within and out of the classroom

Leadership

- ❖ Development of mentorship and other programs outside of the classroom setting to support the undergraduate student
- ❖ Assistance in development and delivery of valued-added co-operative education programs, internship programs and, professional mentorship programs
- ❖ Promote awareness of professional associations (PEO, APEGBC, APEGGA, etc.) to students

Special assistance

- ❖ Support of local engineering student chapters (Engineering Student Societies, IEEE student chapters, Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering student chapters, etc.)
- ❖ Support of participation in design competitions (Canadian Engineering Competition, SAE International, etc.)
- ❖ Support of student events and outreach initiatives including summer engineering camps, women in engineering programs, National Engineering Month and, charity events
- ❖ Support of student engineering conferences and competitions through conduct of seminars, workshops, fundraising and organization
- ❖ Support of independent projects.

Any other evidence that might be useful to the Awards Committee.

Deadlines

- **September 2011:** Engineers Canada forwards the call for nominations to the provincial/territorial engineering licensing body that regulate the practice of engineering in Canada, the National Council of Deans of Engineering and Applied Science, the Canadian Federation of Engineering Students, as well as to other potentially interested parties.
- **December 1, 2011:** The nomination form should be submitted to the provincial/territorial engineering licensing body requesting confirmation of registration by its President.
- **January 6, 2012 (4 p.m. EST):** The President of the provincial/territorial engineering licensing body must submit the complete nomination package to Engineers Canada.

Selection process

- Recipients will be selected by the Awards Committee of Engineers Canada.
- The Awards Committee has the authority, after reviewing all nominations, to determine whether or not an award will be given.
- The Awards Committee may select more than one recipient in any year.
- Recipients will be notified by telephone and in writing.

Announcement

- The Medal for Distinction in Engineering Education will be presented by Engineers Canada during its annual Awards Gala to be held in Niagara Falls on Saturday, June 2, 2012.
- Award recipients agree to standard publicity notification arranged by Engineers Canada.

Revised: February 1999, Awards Committee
February 2000, Awards Committee
May 2002, Board of Directors
October 2006, Awards Committee
May 2008, Awards Committee
October 2009, Board of Directors