

ACEC  
TEXAS

EEA AWARDS BANQUET  
FOUR SEASONS HOTEL  
HOUSTON, TEXAS  
MARCH 26, 2018

# ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE Awards

2018  
CALL  
FOR  
ENTRIES

*Designing the Future of Texas*





## Show Off Your Firm's Best Work

It's time once again for the Annual ACEC Texas Engineering Excellence Awards Competition. Start making your plans right now to select that special project that deserves recognition for your engineering achievements.

## Eligibility

Any firm engaged in the private practice of consulting engineering or surveying is eligible to enter the awards program whether or not the firm is an ACEC Texas member. Once again, ACEC Texas will have the Small Firm category. Those firms with 25 employees or less who enter the competition will be grouped and judged against firms of the same size. Those firms with 25 or more employees who enter the competition will be grouped and judged against firms of the same size. This should encourage smaller sized firms to entering this year's competition. All Rules, Guidelines and Eligibility will equally apply to each project entered in this year's competition based on:

**Original or innovative application of new or existing techniques, future value to the engineering profession, social and economic considerations, complexity and meeting or exceeding owner/client needs.**

## General Criteria

Projects entered in the competition may have been executed anywhere in the world. Research and Studies (Category A) or Surveying and Mapping (Category D), must have been publicly disclosed by the client between November 1, 2015 and October 31, 2017. Construction of projects (Categories B through L - with the exception of D) must have been substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2015 and October 31, 2017.

If your firm receives an award for their project, entries to the ACEC national competition must be submitted in accordance with the rules and guidelines set forth by the ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards Committee.

Engineering or surveying achievements that have won awards in state or national organizations' design awards programs may be entered.

Entries in the ACEC Texas competition must be placed in any one of the eleven categories. The entering firm must select the one category, which 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.

**Non-compliance with the rules will automatically disqualify an entry. Please read the requirements thoroughly.**

ACEC Texas will not be responsible for any damage or loss to entrant's panel or notebook. ACEC Texas reserves the right to determine eligibility and category classification of all entries.

## Definitions of Rating Guidelines

### 1. Original or Innovative Application of New or Existing Techniques:

- 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 different technology, techniques, materials or equipment?

### 2. Future Value to the Engineering Profession:

- Will the entry redefine current engineering thinking?
- Does the entry advance a positive public image of engineering excellence?

### 3. Social, Economic and Sustainable Design Considerations:

- 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?
- Is the public's health, safety or welfare significantly improved as a result of the entrant's, and/or affected environment's, contribution to the project?

### 4. Complexity:

- Did the entry successfully address very 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?

### 5. Exceeding Client/Owner Needs:

- Did the engineer or entrant successfully engage the client/owner in the overall project development process?
- Is it an economical and cost-effective solution?
- How did the final cost relate to the original budget estimate?
- How closely does the entrant's solution meet the total goals of the owner/client?
- Did the entrant meet the client's time schedule?

## Diverse Categories:

Many different categories increase your firm's chances to win. These groupings allow like projects to be judged together. An innovative solution to an environmental problem will no longer have to compete with a commercial building, nor will a research breakthrough have to compete with a major transportation project.

### **CATEGORY A: Studies, Research and Consulting Engineering Services**

Non-design services, including but not limited to:

- New Products, Materials and Technologies
- Basic Research and Studies
- Expert Testimony
- Computer/Software Technology
- Technical Papers

### **CATEGORY B: Building/Technology Systems**

- Mechanical/Electrical
- Computer/Technology
- Communications
- Acoustics
- Software Systems

### **CATEGORY C: Structural Systems**

- Foundations
- Tunnels
- Buildings
- Seismic Design
- Towers
- Bridges
- Sports Facilities

### **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
- Air Quality
- Noise

### **CATEGORY F: Water and Wastewater**

- Water Supply/Distribution/Treatment
- Wastewater Collection/Treatment and Disposal
- Industrial Waste
- Residuals Management

### **CATEGORY G: Water Resources**

- Hydraulics and Hydrology
- Irrigation and Flood Control
- Storm Water Management
- Erosion Control
- Recreational Facilities
- Flood Control, dams

### **CATEGORY H: Transportation**

- Highways
- Railroads
- Airports
- Marine/Ports
- Public Transit
- Freight
- Intermodal Facilities

### **CATEGORY I: Special Projects**

- Safety and Security
- Industrial Processes / Materials Handling
- Corrosion Protection
- Mining, Metallurgy and Mineralogy
- Program and Construction Management
- Land Development

### **CATEGORY K: Energy**

- Transmission & Distribution
- Power Generation
- Renewable Energy
- Cogeneration
- Energy Storage Technologies
- Energy Efficiency – New & Retrofit
- Energy Usage Reduction Programs
- Demand Side Management

### **CATEGORY L: Industrial & Manufacturing Facilities**

- Petrochemical
- Biotech
- Manufacturing
- Heavy Industrial
- Industrial Waste
- Materials Handling
- Mining, Metallurgy & Mineralogy

## Guidelines For Judging:

**20%** Original or innovative application of new or existing techniques

**20%** Future value to the engineering profession

**20%** Social and economic considerations

**20%** Complexity

**20%** Exceeding owner/client needs

### **Winners:**

1st & 2nd Place Winners will be awarded in each category.

The highest overall score will be awarded the **Eminent Conceptor**.

The number of winners at the state level that will be entered in the national competition is determined by the number of entries in the state competition.

## Fast and Easy Rules

1. All entries must be in the ACEC Texas offices by Wednesday, October 11, 2017.
2. All entries shall be submitted in seven (7) copies and shall include the following:
  - a. Title of Project, Name of Client, Name of Firm, indication of which Project Category (A-L) your firm is entering. **More importantly, please specify Small or Large Firm when entering your project.**
  - b. Description of the project on standard letter size pages, no more than five (5) page double-spaced and one sided. Please include the role of the engineer, description of procedures used to solve the problem, how well the project met the needs of the client, construction costs in comparison to estimated costs the clients budget and other information related to the judging guidelines.
  - c. No more than five (5), 8 1/2" x 11" displays, including photos, color copies, sketches, etc.
  - d. Permission from the client to enter the project and, if the entrant is a subconsultant, permission from the prime consultant to enter the project.
  - e. Letter stating willingness to enter at the national level, if selected.
  - f. **Name and email of the person submitting proposal on behalf of the firm. We will need to contact them if your firm wins**
3. A copy of the submission must be provided to the owner and, if the entrant is a subconsultant, to the prime consultant.
3. All 1st place winners must prepare all materials needed to enter the national competition.
4. In accordance with ACEC guidelines, entries in categories A& D must have been publicly disclosed by the client between Nov. 1, 2015 and Oct. 31, 2017. In categories B - L, with the exception of D, entries must have been substantially completed and ready for use between Nov. 1, 2015 and Oct. 31, 2017.
5. All entries become the property of the ACEC Texas offices and will not be returned.
6. Please do not submit entries in hard-sided three-ring binders. Use only soft-sided binders and folders.

## Dates and Deadlines

- Oct. 11, 2017** Deadline for receipt of ACEC Texas entries
- Nov. 13, 2017** Deadline for judges decisions
- Nov. 20, 2017** All winners are notified
- Jan. 4, 2018** ACEC deadline for notebooks and panels
- Mar. 26, 2018** ACEC Texas Engineering Excellence Awards, Four Seasons Hotel - Houston, Texas
- Apr. 18, 2018** ACEC EEA Awards Gala, Washington, D.C.

## The Fine Print Details

1. Each entry must be accompanied by a check for \$550.00, payable to ACEC Texas.
2. Mail all entries to:

**ACEC Texas**  
**1001 Congress Ave., Ste. 200**  
**Austin, Texas 78701**

***Let everyone know  
that your team is a winning team.***

**ENTER TODAY!**

**DEADLINE: October 11, 2017**

ACEC Texas  
1001 Congress Ave., Suite 200  
Austin, Texas 78701

Phone: (512) 474-1474  
Fax: (512) 474-1490  
[www.acectx.org](http://www.acectx.org)

For more information, visit [www.acectx.org](http://www.acectx.org)  
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