AIHA Named Awards & Honors Policy

Approved July 2018; Revised June 2021

The AIHA Named Awards and Honors recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments and contributions of occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS) professionals of all career stages, who have demonstrated a commitment to preserving, advancing, and ensuring occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS) in the workplace and communities around the world.

EDWARD J. BAIER TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award recognizes an individual or individuals whose technical accomplishments have made substantial, leading-edge contributions to the field of OEHS through technical expertise, innovations, research, scientific advancements, and interaction with or influence on other scientific disciplines.

- Nominations can be for an individual or a group of individuals from a company, academic institution, allied organization, or association.
- Nominees do not have to be AIHA members.

PRESIDENTS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO AIHA AWARD

This award is the highest tribute paid to an AIHA member for distinguished and exemplary service in the advancement of the OEHS profession and the unique technical and professional contributions made in the support and advancement of the mission and vision of AIHA national.

- Recipient(s) are selected by the AIHA President.
- Nominees must be an AIHA member.

DONALD E. CUMMINGS MEMORIAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING OEHS PRACTICE

This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the knowledge and practice of the OEHS profession through demonstrated practical application of OEHS knowledge, advances in the practice of total work health, expanding the profession through active collaboration via alliances and partnerships, and the creation of tools applicable beyond the OEHS profession.

- Nominees must be an AIHA member.
KUSNETZ AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY AN EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONAL

Recognizes an individual who exhibits high ethical standards and technical abilities, has provided for the highest standards of health and safety protection for employees for whom he or she is responsible, and shows promise of leadership in the IH profession. 
Sponsored by Mrs. Florence Kusnetz.

- Nominees must be certified by the Board for Global EHS Credentialing (BGC)
- Under the age of 40 on May 1 of the year in which the award is presented.
- Employed in any sector EXCEPT governmental for most of his/her professional career.

ALICE HAMILTON AWARD FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

This award distinguishes an individual who recognized and addressed the diverse needs of the work force by developing and advancing the practice of social welfare and responsibility through public service, community service, and non-traditional social reform, thereby making a major impact on, and the improvement of, public welfare.

- Nominees do not have to be an AIHA member.

YANT AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

This award recognizes outstanding contributions in OEHS or allied fields through academic research, teaching/education, professional practice, solving key OEHS issues, and service to professional societies and/or international stature.

- Nominees must reside outside the United States.
- Nominees do not have to be an AIHA member.

AIHA FELLOWS

Recognizes full members in good standing with 15 years of continuous Full AIHA membership and recognized contributions to industrial hygiene or related disciplines, either through research, leadership, publications, education, or service to AIHA. The Fellows designation is limited to no more than five percent of the AIHA membership. Fellows who do not maintain their AIHA membership will continue to be considered as Fellows, can use the FAIHA designation, but will not be counted towards the five percent to allow capacity for new Fellows.
HONORARY MEMBER DESIGNATION

An individual who has made extraordinary contributions to industrial hygiene, occupational and environmental health and safety, or the Association, but is not directly affiliated with the industrial hygiene or OEHS profession may be considered for Honorary Membership.

- Honorary members are not entitled to vote on association-related issues, hold office, or serve as a committee chair, but may serve as a non-voting member of committees.
- Honorary members shall be exempt from dues. Current AIHA members may request honorary membership for an individual who meets the criteria via an online submission form.
- AIHA will review all applications to ensure the criteria is met and all supplemental materials have been furnished (including CV). If the criteria are not met, the nominator will be notified via letter by the Board President.
- Those meeting the criteria will be submitted for Board review and final approval. Upon approval by the Board, the nominator and recipient will be notified via letter by the Board President.

WHO CAN SUBMIT A NOMINATION?

- AIHA members in good standing.
- If an individual is to be considered for more than one award, a separate nomination must be submitted for each award.
- Nominations must be submitted via the online portal (available during open nomination period).
- Current members of the AIHA Board, as well as the Named Awards and Honors Selection Committee are excluded as nominators and/or as candidates for any award under its purview.

Nomination Eligibility

- Please see criteria for each award; in some cases, only AIHA members can be nominated.
- Nominations not selected during the first year of consideration may be kept on file for reconsideration for an additional three (3) years. Nominators may be asked to update the nomination form, CV, or supplemental material.
- If the nomination is unsuccessful after three (3) years, the nomination is no longer eligible for further consideration until a new nomination form and supporting documentation are submitted.
NOMINATORS

- Nominators should inform the nominee(s) that they are submitting their name for an award.
- Do not rely on name recognition! Please keep in mind that members of the selection committee may not be familiar with the nominee, so nominations are only as good as the information provided to the committee.
- Nominators can significantly improve the selection process by accurately completing the online nomination form and providing all required documents (e.g., CV and supplemental information).
- It is crucial that nominators consider the criteria for each award prior to submitting a nomination to ensure that the nominee’s membership status, residency status, and achievements align with the criteria.
- If you are nominating an individual or a team for more than one award, submit a separate nomination and documentation.
- Nominators will be recognized during the awards presentation at the Mark of Excellence as well as the award website.
- Email questions to lmutdosch@aiha.org.

NAMED AWARDS AND HONORS SELECTION COMMITTEE

The committee is comprised of the AIHA Past President (who serves as Chair), a recent past Board member (who serves as Vice Chair), and four (4) selected at-large member seats to be filled by an open-call process. The selection committee members shall be Full members of the Association. The AIHA Board shall then be tasked with reviewing the candidates and selecting committee members. All individuals shall serve a one (1)-year term and carry voting rights. AIHA’s President and CEO shall serve in an ex-officio capacity.

The selection committee is responsible for selecting the most qualified recipient(s) for each award and presenting the slate of awardees to the AIHA Board for approval. If the selection committee determines that the nominee(s) for an award do not meet the criteria, there is no mandate to award it in that year.

The Chair of the selection committee will inform award recipients and nominators via phone. For those nominations that are not selected, a letter will be issued to the nominator and nominee.

SELECTION COMMITTEE requirements:

- Is limited to Full members of the Association in good standing.
- Will not research unsupported claims or enhance the nomination package in any way.
- Reserves the right to consider any nomination for awards other than the award suggested when, in its opinion, the support and justification may more appropriately apply to other awards.
- Reserves the right to not present an award when suitable selection(s) cannot be made.
Members are not eligible for a named award during their term of Selection Committee service. When agreeing to serve on the Selection Committee, you should understand that if you were to be nominated, the nomination would be disqualified. Persons preparing nominations should be advised that Selection Committee members are not eligible.

Selection Committee Members:
- Shall not be directly involved in nominations prior to submittal. You can answer general questions about what a nomination should include, but you should not pre-review or comment on draft nominations.
- Will attend the mandatory town hall prior to the nomination review (every effort will be made to find consensus on a suitable date).
- Will self-identify any relationships/affiliations that might be perceived as a source of potential bias and inform the committee chair of any Conflicts of Interest (COIs) before any candidates have been discussed.
- If COIs are identified, member(s) shall recuse themselves from discussions related to the corresponding nomination(s).
- Will maintain strict confidentiality with nomination materials as well as internal/group discussions. Information about committee deliberations shall not be shared with anyone outside the committee. Selections shall not be discussed outside Committee deliberations (congratulatory notes, etc.) until notified that the formal notification process is complete.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Each year, recipients are recognized at the Mark of Excellence presentation at AIHce. All physical awards are shipped directly to the recipient and not on stage.

HONORARIUMS

Individual recipients will receive a $1,000 honorarium. In addition, the recipient will receive a complimentary registration to AIHce EXP (hybrid or face-to-face), and a plaque/crystal award.

For group-based recipients, a $1,000 honorarium will be split evenly among the group, as well as a plaque for each member of the team. The team lead will receive a complimentary registration to AIHce EXP (hybrid or face-to-face).