



2026 OPAL (OUTSTANDING PROJECT & LEADERSHIP AWARDS)

“MOVING INTO OUR FUTURE!”

[2026]

[PART A]

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION PAGE

The Tacoma/Olympia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers is proud to Sponsor the Outstanding Projects And Leadership (OPAL) Awards.

This year, the Tacoma/Olympia Section will be announcing and awarding for the Categories listed below:

- Small Projects (Under \$1 million in value)
- Large Projects (Over \$1 million in value)
- Leadership
- Youth Leadership (College Students and Persons 35 Years or younger in age)

As stated in the Nomination Form, the OPAL Projects which have made significant accomplishments, achievements and differences in the community in the following categories: a)Design; b)Construction; c)Government; d)Education; and e)Management.

You are invited to submit a Project for the OPAL Award. The Application is to address and provide descriptions for the Category that the Application is being submitted for review and consideration for the OPAL Award. Below in this document are the criteria that is to be provided and addressed.

The Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by an OPAL Awards Committee, as designated by the Tacoma/Olympia ASCE Section. The Section’s Awards Committee Chair will serve as Chair of the OPAL Awards Committee. The OPAL Awards Committee will evaluate each Application and score accordingly to which bests address the respective categories. Scoring be made on a 1 through 5-point system: 1(Poor); 2(Fair); 3(Average); 4(Good); 5(Excellent). The Applicant with the overall highest score, for the respective categories, will be granted an OPAL Award.

The Schedule for the Outstanding Projects And Leaders (OPAL) Awards is as noted:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| • Deadline for Applications: | Monday, APRIL 13, 2026 |
| • Determination & Announcement of Winners: | TBD |
| • Presentation of Awards: ASCE Tacoma/Olympia Section
Annual Awards Meeting: | TBD |

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CRITERIA TO BE ADDRESSED FOR REVIEW & EVALUATION

A). PROJECTS (Two Categories to be awarded; \$1Million or less; Over \$1Million)

1. **Overview of Project:** Reasons for project; Goals and objectives; Issues addressed.
2. **Budget Management:** Costs for project; How budget was controlled; Was project completed within designated budget.
3. **Resolutions to Disputes:** How project issues were addressed and resolved; Were issues resolved with Win-Win conclusions; Personnel issues which may have arose
4. **Project Schedule/Time Management:** What was schedule for project; Was it completed on time; What things were done to control schedule.
5. **Sustainability:** Sustainability is a term that describes taking care of the environment, economy, and community in a way that allows present and future generations to thrive. A sustainable approach embeds these concepts in day-to-day decisions and aligns interests and actions toward shared community goals. ASCE defines Sustainability as a set of environmental, economic, and social conditions – the “Triple Bottom Line” – in which all of society has the capacity and opportunity to maintain and improve its quality of life indefinitely, without degrading the quantity, quality or the availability of natural, economic, and social resources.
Tell how project meets these goals and objectives.
6. **Benefits to Community (ies) Served:** How did Project provide economic opportunities or growth; environmental improvements; educational opportunities and lessons; outreach to the citizens; Civil engineering achievement(s) of project.

Applications are to be six (6) pages maximum, plus the 4 pages of the OPAL Awards Nomination Form.

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B). LEADERSHIP & YOUTH LEADERSHIP (35 years and younger)

1. **Background of Person:** General background; community and work involvements; personal achievements/accomplishments; job
2. **Budget Management Capability:** Describe a person’s involvement and abilities to manage and be responsible for financial aspects of a business, project, department or division of a business organization, etc. and the significance and impacts their decisions made.
3. **Abilities to Resolve Problems/Issues:** Tell how person interacted with other people, co-workers, those supervised, etc. Tell how person creates and supports partnerships; promotes teamwork; cooperation; creativity in getting people to work together and in unison.
4. **Time Management Skills:** Tell how person ensured the essence of time on projects (school assignments), tasks and operations and other activities; describe the ability of person to get things done on time; tell of any particular techniques’ person used to get others to work in the same timely manner.
5. **Sustainability:** See description above in “Projects”; demonstrate that person supports and contributes to the philosophy of sustainability; tell of any specific actions or accomplishments that support it.
6. **Benefits/Services to Community:** Tell how person makes a positive difference in their community: such as support to education, outreach to students, actions/contributions to activities that help people; activity involvements; promoting the civil engineering profession in a matter that makes people aware and generates the interest in it.

Applications are to be six (6) pages maximum, plus the 4 pages of the OPAL Awards Nomination Form.

**[OUTSTANDING PROJECTS AND LEADERS (OPAL) AWARDS
NOMINATION FORMS TO BE INCLUDED]**