



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Illinois

2022 Engineering Excellence Awards Official Rules for Submittals

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois (ACEC Illinois) Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) program annually recognizes consulting engineering firms for projects that demonstrate an exceptional degree of innovation, complexity, achievement, and value. Although the ACEC Illinois EEA program generally follows entry guidelines established for the ACEC National EEA program, ACEC Illinois' rules are different; therefore, please review ACEC Illinois Official Rules thoroughly.

Projects being entered must be substantially completed and ready for use from November 1, 2019 – October 31, 2021.

IMPORTANT DATES

November 1, 2021	Deadline to submit online required material
November 3, 2021	Virtual EEA Prescreening with EEA Committee
November 17-19, 2021	Virtual EEA Judging

ENTRY FEES

ACEC Illinois Member Firm: \$550 (by November 1, 2021)

Non-member Firm: \$1000 (by November 1, 2021)

*Please request credit card payment by emailing: info@acecil.org

If you are wanting to invite guests please fill out the last sheet and email to: bethany@acecil.org

ACEC Illinois members are considered members if their 2020-2021 dues have been paid prior to October 29, 2021. Please contact info@acecil.org with questions.

(Note: Each entered project requires a separate entry fee. Each entry fee is non-refundable and nontransferable, regardless of whether entry material is submitted for a project.)

ELIGIBILITY

Any Illinois engineering or surveying firm is eligible to enter the EEA program, regardless of whether the firm is an ACEC Illinois member. Projects entered into the ACEC Illinois competition may have been executed anywhere in the world; however, to be eligible, at least 50 percent of the project work must have been done by the entering firm's Illinois office. Construction of projects entered into the 2022 competition must have been substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2019 – October 31, 2021. Noncompliance with the Official Rules may disqualify an entry. ACEC Illinois will not be responsible for any damages to or loss of entered materials. The ACEC Illinois Awards Committee reserves the right to determine the eligibility for all entries. Entries must meet the judges' rating guidelines found in the Official Rules.

AWARD DESCRIPTIONS

All submissions are considered ACEC-IL Award Winners (Honors, Special Achievement or Merit Awards). The panel of judges will select all awards at their discretion. A Lincoln's Grand Conceptor Award will be selected from the Honor Award winners. The Lincoln's Grand Conceptor Award will be announced at the Gala as the top ACEC-IL winner selected by the judges, whose decisions on all awards are final. This award recognizes an engineering achievement which demonstrates a high degree of merit, is original and innovative, adds future value to the engineering profession & public perception, has economic & sustainable design considerations, demonstrates complexity and exceeds owner/client needs. Awards will be presented to the clients/owners and entering firms submitting the winning entries.

12 Judges Choice Awards

- 1 winner from each category, announced at the 2022 EEA Gala

1 Outstanding Graphics Award

- one overall winner chosen from all submittals, by the judges, will be announced the evening of the EEA Gala.

JUDGING

Entries are judged for overall engineering excellence based on work performed by only the entering engineering firm and according to the rating guidelines listed. For the state competition, as well as the national competition, each project is judged and rated on its own merit, regardless of what the national category classification is for the project. Each year, a diverse panel of judges is convened and typically consists of leadership of allied organizations, public and private sector, industry professionals, educational, and media personnel. Each of these distinguished judges evaluates entries using a standard rating process to determine award winners. The Illinois judging is based on review of all the contents submitted.

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 new or existing technology, techniques, materials, or equipment?

2. FUTURE VALUE TO THE ENGINEERING PROFESSION AND PERCEPTION BY THE PUBLIC

- 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?
- Does the entrant's contribution to the project improve the health, safety or welfare of the public or affected environment?

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?
- Does the entry require the use of out-of-the-ordinary technology or ingenuity for achievement of project's goals?

5. EXCEEDING 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 final cost relate to 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?

DELIVERABLES

Once your firm decides to enter the ACEC Illinois 2022 EEA competition, you will prepare the submittal material. The following section describes, in detail, the main parts.

Electronic Project Display

Each firm will have one slide that will be displayed on screens throughout the Gala: **PowerPoint Project Display**

- DO NOT make any changes to Font's or Size of Text Boxes
- Insert ONE project image in middle of screen and size to fit between black lines.
- INCLUDE PART C HERE: Entrant's contribution to the project in the notes portion of the PowerPoint
- Please keep file size under 2 MG.

Submittal Note: *this will need to be submitted as a PowerPoint file and a PDF file PROJECT DISPLAY HERE*

Online Submittal Material

The following provides details of the text that is required to be submitted.

(NOTE: no QR Codes or embedded links are permitted in any portion of the award submittal. Judges may not seek any additional information or conduct research; therefore, only the information submitted is used in judging process.)

1. Executive Summary (one page max)

This is the overview of project. Describe the problem and solution; project title and entry category must appear at the top of the page.

Specifications: 8.5" x 11", 1" side margins; single-spaced text; 12 pt. minimum size font; PDF format.

Project Description (Up to three pages)

Tell the story of the project. Address items a, b, c, d, and e as listed below; *project title, entry category, and page number must appear at the top of each page.*

Entrants may use text, photos, graphics, or charts as needed.

Specifications:

8.5" x 11"; 1" side margins; single-spaced text; minimum 12 pt. font size.

Text must include:

- a. Role of entrant's firm in the project
- b. Role of other consultants participating in the project
- c. Entrant's contribution to the project (i.e., address each of the five areas under "Rating Guideline Definitions" section)
- d. Total project budgeted cost, total project actual cost, entrant's portion of the budgeted cost, entrant's portion of the actual cost, scheduled and actual dates of completion

e. Closing summary of project in layman’s terms about why this project is worthy of special recognition (minimum 100 words, maximum 500). Explain all factors that comprise the project’s uniqueness and complexity, such as innovative engineering, challenges faced and overall social impact. Remember: Please do not leave unanswered questions for the judges (e.g., “Why did you go over budget?”, “What happened to the waste stream that the project produced?”) in your project description.

RESOURCE MATERIAL

List of Key Participants & Clients

A one-page list of key participants and clients involved in the project. Include 1” side margins and use minimum 12 pt. font size. Include name, physical mailing address, firm/organization name and e-mail address for each. Include contractors, subcontractors, other engineering firms, architects and other designers. Ensure the document is saved as “PROJECT NAME_Key Participants” and include the entrant’s company name and project title at top of page.

Client Letter (one page max)

Letter addressed to ACEC Illinois on letterhead describing the relationship of the client/owner and entrant in the development of the project and how it exceeded the client/owner’s needs.

Specifications: PDF format

Photos, Captions & Graphics

Six different photos or graphics with captions describing the subject matter.

Each must adhere to these guidelines:

- landscape orientation
- **Photo release form** that allows ACEC Illinois to use for electronic and print material. Photo release must be signed by firm. (electronic signature is accepted) (**PHOTO RELEASE FORM SUBMIT HERE**)
- Include any credit that must be used (ie – Photo Credit to Lincoln Smith, Unfound Door).

FINAL LAYOUT:

Cover page

Entry Form

Executive Summary (1 page)

Project Description (3 pages)

List of Key Participants & Clients

Client Letter (1 page)

Six Photos with Captions (1 photo per page)

Photo Release Form

File Type: PDF

File Name: Project Name

Submit Final Project File: [HERE](#)

Submit PowerPoint: [Electronic Project Display](#) & Photo Release Form: [HERE](#)

Guest Ticket Payment

Please email or mail this form to the following:

Email: bethany@acecil.org

Mail: ACEC Illinois, 5221 S. 6th St. Rd., Springfield, IL 62703

Please fill out the below for the agency guests you intend to invite to the 2022 Engineering Excellence Awards Gala on Thursday, February 17 in the Chicago suburbs.

Include: Guest Full Name, Agency Name, Email Address

Guest:

\$295 Ticket

Guest:

\$295 Ticket

Guest:

\$295 Ticket

Guest:

\$295 Ticket

Guest:

\$295 Ticket

TOTAL:

Payment Options:

Submitting a check to: ACEC Illinois, 5221 S 6th St. Rd. Springfield, IL 62703

Request link for credit card payment. Please email to: