



## **The National Society of Black Engineers Golden Torch Awards Criteria for Award Categories**

### **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

#### ***Distinguished Engineer of the Year***

This is NSBE's most prestigious award based on a career of outstanding achievements in an engineering or technical field and exceptional leadership.

#### **Criteria**

- Must demonstrate work that has significantly expanded their industry
- Must demonstrate receipt of awards and accolades
- Must demonstrate social/community contributions
- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must hold a management level or higher position
- Must provide documentation of accomplishments in engineering and the sciences

#### ***Lifetime Achievement in Industry***

Awarded to a seasoned engineering or technical professional who has exhibited technical excellence, leadership and made significant career contributions to his or her specific field over many years.

#### **Criteria**

- Must hold a management level position
- Must demonstrate work that has significantly expanded their industry over several years
- Must have contributed significantly to the engineering profession for at least 15 years
- Must demonstrate social/community contributions, as well as publications and lectures
- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must hold a management-level or higher position

#### ***Lifetime Achievement in Academia***

Awarded to a seasoned academician who has exhibited career technical excellence and leadership in higher education in a career spanning several years.

#### **Criteria**

- Must demonstrate significant impact on technical curriculum
- Must have at least 15 years of significant contribution to the academic engineering development at a particular institution (s)
- Must demonstrate publications/lectures/conference contributions
- Must demonstrate social/community/campus contributions

- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must hold a management level position
- Must have a masters degree or higher
- Must demonstrate participation in an education program designed to benefit African American students on a national or local level
- Must indicate wide scope of commitment to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Must provide documentation of accomplishments in his or her field
- Must be (or have been) a faculty member at an institution of higher learning

***Pioneer of the Year***

Awarded to an individual who has made distinguished contributions to the engineering profession via innovation, patent development, etc.

**Criteria:**

- Must have created/introduced and be able to demonstrate new innovations to engineering/technology
- Must provide copies of published technical articles
- Must demonstrate the significant positive impact his or her innovation has had on industry
- Must demonstrate social contribution made by the nominee
- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must hold a management level or higher position

***Outstanding Woman in Technology***

Based on a career of exceptional accomplishments in an engineering or other technical field and demonstrated leadership abilities

**Criteria:**

- Must demonstrate exceptional leadership and a pioneering spirit in technical field
- Must demonstrate work that has increased the number of women in engineering and technology
- Must demonstrate a high level of achievement in technology
- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must hold a management level or higher position

***Mike Shinn NSBE Distinguished Member (Male/Female) - Awarded \$7,500***

The Mike Shinn NSBE Distinguished Member of the Year Program provides scholastic motivation to achieve and serves as a tool to encourage members to continue to strive for academic excellence, while developing professional and leadership skills through organization and community involvement. Judged on the basis of fulfillment of the mission through participation in NSBE programs and other activities, the members selected for this prestigious honor serve as role models for the entire membership.

**Criteria**

- NSBE Service and Involvement (Chapter, Regional, and/or National)
- NSBE & University Academic Achievement
- Professional Development
- Campus & Community Impact: Community Service and TORCH Activities
- Essay Responses

***Application Criteria***

- All applicants must be paid NSBE members.
- NSBE undergraduate and graduate student members are eligible to apply. (Non-engineering/technical majors are not eligible.)
- Award GPA Minimum Requirements: 3.2 on a 4.0 scale
- NOTE: Former Mike Shinn Distinguished Fellows are ineligible to apply.

### ***Early Career Achievement in Industry***

The Early Career Achievement in Industry Award is presented in recognition of significant and innovative technical contributions in the STEM fields. This award recognizes excellence in industry/government, where contributions must have been made within the first 5 years of completing academic training.

#### **Criteria**

- NSBE Service and Involvement (Chapter, Regional, and/or National)
- Must demonstrate outstanding technical contributions that positively impact industry
- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must indicate scope of commitment to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields
- Must have exhibited community interest by encouraging African Americans to pursue careers in engineering and the sciences

### ***International Member of the Year***

The International Member of the Year Award recognizes outstanding international members for their participation in Society efforts. International members will be recognized for their participation in supporting and promoting NSBE outside of the United States and their efforts in contributing to their Chapter's success overall.

#### **Criteria**

Award recipients will be selected based on a combination of the following criteria:

- NSBE Service and Involvement (Chapter, Regional, and/or National)
- Fulfillment of the NSBE Mission and Vision
- Community Service (within and outside NSBE)
- Recommendation letters (min. 2 letters)

#### **APPLICATION CRITERIA**

- At least one recommendation letter must come from a Chapter Officer
- **Minimum of 2 recommendation letters must be submitted.**

## **ORGANIZATIONAL AWARDS**

### ***Corporate/Education Partnership***

Awarded to a joint program between a corporation and an educational institution or program dedicated to improving access to quality education, employment and technology for African Americans.

#### **Criteria**

- Must demonstrate outstanding contributions to community programs centered on education
- Must demonstrate initiatives focused on increasing youth interest in math, science or engineering
- Must demonstrate significant positive impact on community
- Must demonstrate scope/reach of current program(s)
- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must indicate scope of commitment to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields
- Must have exhibited community interest by encouraging African Americans to pursue careers in engineering and the sciences

### ***Corporate Community Service***

Awarded to a company with a demonstrated investment in the African-American community including neighborhood development, technology and advocacy.

#### **Criteria**

- Must demonstrate outstanding contributions to community programs
- Must demonstrate pioneering initiatives in community leadership
- Must demonstrate significant impact on the community
- Must demonstrate scope/reach of current programs

- Must demonstrate activities supporting the NSBE mission
- Must indicate scope of commitment to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields
- Must have exhibited community interest by encouraging African Americans to pursue careers in engineering and the sciences

***Corporate Diversity Leadership Award***

Awarded to a corporation that has demonstrated commitment to the recruitment, retention and promotion of minorities. Awardees have demonstrated outstanding efforts to create an environment to attract retain and support minority technical professionals.

**Criteria**

- Must demonstrate outstanding contributions to diversity programs
- Must demonstrate pioneering initiatives in community leadership
- Must demonstrate significant positive impact on a diverse community
- Must demonstrate activities supporting NSBE's mission
- Must indicate scope of commitment to the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields

***NSBE Partner of the Year***

The NSBE Partner of the Year is dedicated to the delivery of benefits to Black communities. Nominees help amplify the sustainability and effectiveness of programs that deepen the knowledge of and passion for engineering students and professionals. Through their work, commitments are made to provide tools, services, or resources to underrepresented communities in STEM. Nominees also have systems in place that lead to the equitable recruitment, retention, and advancement of Black engineers, while also providing a budgetary backbone for development efforts.

**Criteria:**

The nominee must demonstrate the criteria below within the following focus areas:

- **Dedication:** Demonstrates positive values and behaviors that influence employees and others to support NSBE's efforts
- **Change Agent:** Influences or stimulates others to effect positive change by supporting and promoting the advancement of Black students and professionals in engineering
- **Social Impact:** Demonstrated investment, in scope and scale, of local communities
- **Outreach:** Supports the Society's mission to *increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally, and positively impact the community*

**PRE-COLLEGE AWARDS**

***Pre-College Program of the Year***

Awarded to an institution or program with demonstrated programmatic success in helping to prepare students for college math, science and/or engineering education.

**Criteria**

- Must demonstrate outstanding contributions to the pre-college effort
- Must demonstrate the positive impact of a program with a focus on math, science or engineering
- Must demonstrate significant positive impact within the community
- Must demonstrate scope/reach of current programs
- Must demonstrate activities supporting the NSBE mission

***Pre-College Initiative Director of the Year***

Awarded to an individual who has an undying commitment to NSBE's Pre-College Initiative (PCI) students and has been a trailblazer in giving them the tools needed to succeed.

**Criteria**

- Must demonstrate outstanding contributions to the pre-college effort
- Must demonstrate implementation of programming for PCI students with a focus on math, technology, science or engineering
- Must demonstrate significant positive impact within the community
- Must demonstrate scope/reach of current programming that is geared toward PCI students
- Must demonstrate activities supporting the NSBE mission
- Must show reach and impact of students under directorial leadership
- Must demonstrate trailblazing efforts within the community to reach students

***Pre-College Students of the Year (2) Male and Female***

High school senior that has shown promise in science, math or engineering. Based on GPA, coursework, school activities, letters of recommendation. This award is accompanied by a scholarship. Verifiable acceptance into engineering/math science program at an accredited college or university is required.

**Criteria**

- Must have an equivalent of 3.0 grade point average or higher (4.0 scale)
- Must demonstrate leadership activities
- Must demonstrate involvement in community
- Must demonstrate participation in pre-college initiative activities
- Must demonstrate interest in engineering, technology, math or science
- Must be a member or participant in a math, science or technology related extracurricular activity
- Must provide documentation of accomplishments

**ACADEMIA AWARDS**

***Graduate Student of the Year***

Awarded to a graduate student based on academic achievement, extracurricular activities, personal accomplishments and demonstrated leadership in engineering or other technical fields.

**Criteria**

- Minimum 3.4 GPA (on a 4.0 scale)
- Must provide details of documented research activities
- Must demonstrate outstanding contributions to their engineering discipline
- Must provide proof of published articles, awards, accolades or other recognition
- Must have demonstrated leadership activities
- Must demonstrate significant contributions to campus and/or community

***Collegiate Chapter Advocate of the Year***

The Collegiate Chapter Advocate of the Year Award is designed to honor individuals who are making significant contributions to collegiate NSBE chapters.

***Note: Advocates do not have to be listed as the Chapter Advisor, as we recognize there are many faculty members and staff who support the organization/chapter members without the official title.***

**Criteria**

- Provided outstanding advisement and support to their University's NSBE chapter throughout the academic year
- Visible and integral part to the success of the chapter
- Contributed to the growth and development of individual students in the chapter
- Considered a role model in terms of club advisement
- Assists students through leadership development

- Contributions to campus and/or surrounding community
- Nominations can/should include a description of how the advocate supports the chapter, student leaders and student organization programs and events.

**Requirements**

- Only nominations from students will be considered.
- Nomination materials should contain examples to describe the extent to which the nominee meets the award criteria.

***Rising Star in Academia***

Nominee must be a collegiate faculty or staffer who has demonstrated a strong commitment to preserving superior research and teaching in STEM education programs and demonstrates relevance and importance to the overall NSBE mission.

**Criteria:**

This award recognizes outstanding untenured early career faculty or staff whose recent work has made significant contributions to their field. This may be indicated by a significant publication(s), a sustained record of tier-one publications, or overhaul of classroom experiences.

- Demonstrates leadership and provides guidance in interacting with the public, staff, faculty and students
- Contributed an above-average dedication to the engineering learning journey, and cultivates the development and growth of students
- Proven themselves to be change agents dedicated to shaping the future of STEM

**NSBE PROFESSIONAL MEMBER AWARDS**

***Professional Member of the Year Criteria***

The Professional Member of the Year Award is the highest award that can be bestowed upon a NSBE Professional member. Nominees demonstrate exceptional service and leadership for their chapter and the Society over the previous fiscal year.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Award recipients will be selected based on a combination of the following criteria:

- NSBE Professional Service and Involvement (Chapter, Regional, and/or National)
- Fulfillment of the NSBE Mission and the Professional Vision
- Community Service (within and outside NSBE)
- Recommendation letters (min. 2 letters)

**APPLICATION CRITERIA**

Nominees should be selected by a person who believes that he/she deserves to be Professional Member of the Year. The person making the nomination may select more than one nominee.

- You may nominate yourself however at least one recommendation letter must come from a Professional Chapter Officer, a Regional or National Professional Executive Board member.
- Minimum of 2 recommendation letters must be submitted.**
- All nominees must be national and local (if applicable) paid NSBE Professional members.
- The application must be submitted online via NSBE GTA Application

***Professional Technologist of the Year Criteria***

**ELIGIBILITY:**

- Nationally paid Professional NSBE member
- Open to those in industry and academia
- You may nominate yourself but a letter of recommendation on your technical achievements from an external party must accompany the application

**Criteria:**

- Significant Scientific or Engineering Achievement
- NSBE Technical Activity (SIG, Chapter, Regional, and/or National project)
- Advancement of the NSBE Mission and Professional Vision