

# Society of Women Engineers

---

FY23 Call For Nominations  
WE Local SWENext Awards

## **STUDENT**

*SWENext Local Innovator*

*SWENext STEM in Action*

The logo for SWENEXT features the letters 'swe' in a dark blue, lowercase, sans-serif font on the left. To its right, the word 'NEXT' is written in a larger, bold, uppercase, sans-serif font. The 'N' and 'E' are light blue, while the 'X' is a vibrant yellow-green. The 'T' is light blue. The 'swe' and 'NEXT' are positioned such that they appear to be part of a single graphic element.The logo for LOCAL features the word 'LOCAL' in a bold, uppercase, sans-serif font. The 'O' is replaced by a teal circle containing the lowercase letters 'swe' in a white, cursive font. The 'L' and 'A' are purple, while the 'L' and 'C' are dark purple.

# General Information

The Society of Women Engineers strives to recognize the successes of SWENext students and SWENext Clubs that do exceptional work in developing a community for students to explore engineering and other STEM fields. The SWENext mission is to:

- Empower females under the age of 18 to prepare for careers in engineering and technology.
- Provide programming to help females under the age of 18 to develop leadership skills and self-confidence to succeed in a career in engineering and technology.
- Expand the image of the engineering and technology professions as a positive force in improving the quality of life.
- Demonstrate the value of diversity and inclusion.
- Provide programming to empower females under the age of 18 to become advocates for peers and younger girls.

Inside this packet you will find information on the awards offered by the Society of Women Engineers for SWENext students who are working to further the SWENext mission. An 'Application Checklist' is included that details the requirements needed to fully complete an application package. Please contact [awards@swe.org](mailto:awards@swe.org) if you have any questions. Note: you may apply for more than one award.

## **How to Complete the Application:**

- Fill out the appropriate 'Application' online:
- **Submit the application online by September 30.**
- **Packages MUST BE RECEIVED by 11:59 PM, Central Time.**
- No exceptions will be made for late packages.

## **Important Information:**

- All applications are to be submitted electronically through the application tool.
  - If sent to any other address, packages cannot be forwarded for you. It is your responsibility to submit applications per these guidelines.
- **Incomplete** applications that **do not meet the award requirements** will be disqualified.

## **Notifications:**

- Recipients will be notified via email in November.
- Recipients do not need to be present to receive the award.

# SWENext Local Innovator Award

## Objective:

- The SWENext Local Innovator Award recognizes the outstanding SWENexters who are shaping the future of SWE by developing an engineering identity in themselves and others in their local STEM community. Award recipients exemplify intellectual curiosity, enthusiasm, and leadership in their local STEM community. These students demonstrate a commitment to bettering the lives of individuals in STEM, are volunteering in local STEM outreach initiatives, and are planning to pursue a career in engineering or computer science.
- Up to 8 recipients and up to 8 Honorable Mentions across the US WE Locals.

## Eligibility:

At least 1 year of SWENext membership; Students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade during the current academic year

## Application Checklist:

The following information constitutes a complete nomination:

- A completed application submitted online: <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/82957-Society-Of-Women-Engineers>
- A completed application form:
  - SWENext member info
  - Parent/Legal Guardian information
  - Essay 1: How are you a STEM leader at your school or in your local community? How do your leadership roles connect to your passion for engineering and STEM? (200 words max)
  - Essay 2: Describe your involvement with SWENext. Have you participated in a SWENext Club, at a SWENext event, a talk, maybe a design challenge, or maybe an online webinar? What steps have you taken to become more involved in the your local SWE community? (200 words max)
  - We want to see the work you do in action. Create a video that is less than 3 minutes long. Note: a video longer than 3 minutes will DISQUALIFY your application.
    - **Helpful video resources:**
      - <https://www.powtoon.com/> (Create animated videos and presentations)
      - <http://igamemom.com/explain-everything-screencast-digital-storytelling-presentation/> (Design and video production app for tablets)
      - <http://tinytake.com> (Create videos on your computer screen and with your webcam)
      - Many public libraries have computer access and rentable filming equipment. Check your local public library for details.
    - Quality is not the ultimate deciding factor but please use the resources available to you to submit your best work.
    - **Your video submission should highlight:**
      - Introduction and background info on applicant
      - Statement of applicant's engineering field of interest
      - Applicant's general passion and excitement for engineering
      - Explanation of how the applicant is developing a STEM identity
      - Explanation of how the applicant is developing a STEM identity in others
      - Applicant's involvement in SWENext
      - Applicant's community work
      - Applicant's leadership role(s) in STEM
      - Applicant's future accomplishment plans
      - Please upload a copy of the video to a file sharing service like Google drive, YouTube, or Dropbox and provide a sharable link below. Note: If uploading to Google drive, make sure the sharing permissions are set to "viewable for anyone with a link."

# SWENext STEM in Action Award

## **Objective:**

- SWENexters must identify STEM community interactions and engagements with the community through volunteering, SWE and SWENext participation, and/or well-designed events promoting STEM and supporting the SWE mission.
- *Up to 25 recipients total for all US WE Locals.*

## **Eligibility:**

- Students in 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> grade during the current academic year

## **Application Checklist:**

The following information constitutes a complete nomination:

- A completed application submitted online: <https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/82958-Society-Of-Women-Engineers>
- A completed application form:
  - SWENext student information
  - Parent/Legal Guardian information
  - One essay (300 words max)
    - How are you preparing yourself for a career in engineering or computer science?
    - Your essay should reference examples of what STEM activities you have participated in, how many STEM activities have you led, what research have you done, etc. You should also address if you are a member of a SWENext Club, if you are or have ever been a SWENext Club Officer or a leader of an engineering club/organization.