



2023 Individual Awards FAQ

Be sure to review the Individual Awards Training Webinar located on [the awards website](#) for complete information like nomination checklist, notifications, nominator responsibilities, submission guidance, disqualification criteria, how to complete an application and tips for applying.

Where do I find the links to apply for an award?

All of the links to specific awards applications are located in the Awards Packet [found on our website](#).

You can scroll to page 10 and click on the specific Award you would like to submit a nomination and it will direct you to the information and link to apply.

Will I receive notification from Smarter Select if I'm nominated?

Yes, if the nominator entered your name and email in an application you would receive an email to complete your contact and demographic information.

Can one individual be nominated for more than one award?

Yes, a nominee can be submitted for one more than one award with the understanding that the nominee can receive a maximum of one award.

- Exception: The Patent Recognition Award may be received in conjunction with any other SWE award.

How long are the supporting letters allowed to be?

There is no limit for the supporting letters.

I have a patent that is pending and do not have a patent number yet. Would I still qualify for the Patent Recognition Award?

You need a formal patent number and to move beyond "pending" in order to qualify for the Patent Recognition Award.

Can SWE provide a list of members that are employed with our company for the awards that require membership?

We cannot provide a list of members but you could send a list of names and emails and we can try to find them. Or contact the nominee and ask them for their membership ID.

Does a nominee get disqualified if they are over the years suggested in the award description?

Yes, a nominee will get disqualified if they are over (or under) the years of experience required for the award.

How do I calculate Years of Experience?

A:

What counts as one year of experience?	What does not count as towards years of experience?
Each year of full-time work in the fields of engineering, engineering technology, or science related to engineering	Internships, co-ops, or graduate assistantship (research or teaching assistant) while in school
Each year of part-time work in the fields of engineering, engineering technology, or science related to engineering	Periods of unemployment
Each advanced technical degree (*) obtained while <u>not</u> working full time or part time	All other degrees (**)

Table 1: Years of Experience Calculation

- (*) The following are considered "Advanced Technical Degrees" and should be counted in the years of experience calculation if obtained while not working full-time or part-time:
 - Master's Degrees in engineering, engineering technology, or science related to engineering (count as 1 year)
 - Dual Bachelor's / Master's Degrees in engineering, engineering technology, or science related to engineering (count as 1 year)
 - Doctorate degrees in engineering, engineering technology, or science related to engineering (**count as 2 years – Updated in FY22**)
- (**) The following are not considered "Advanced Technical Degrees" and should not be counted in the years of experience calculation:
 - Bachelor's Degrees in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, or similar field of study
 - Master of Business Administration (MBA) or similar non-technical master's degrees
 - Doctorate in Business or similar non-technical doctorate degrees
 - Any degrees obtained while working full time or part time in the fields of engineering, engineering technology, or science related to engineering



Please contact awards@swe.org if you have any questions about calculating years of experience.

Experience Type	Guideline	Start Date	End Date	Years of Experience
Internship or Co-Op or Graduate Assistantship	Internship does <u>not</u> count as part time experience.	May 2005	August 2005	0
Full Time Experience	Each year of full-time work will count as one year of experience.	June 2006	December 2009	3 years 6 months
Part Time Experience	Candidate obtained the master's degree while going to work part-time. Count the part-time years of working.	January 2010	December 2011	2 years
Advanced Technical Degree obtained while working part time	Candidate obtained the master's degree while going to work part-time. Do not count the master's degree.	January 2010	December 2011	0
Full Time Experience	Each year of full-time work will count as one year of experience.	January 2012	June 2012	5 months
Unemployment Period	Periods of unemployment are <u>not</u> counted toward years of experience.	June 2012	January 2013	0
Full Time Experience	Each year of full-time work will count as one year of experience.	January 2013	March 31, 2022	9 years 2 months
Total				15 years 1 month

According to the rounding rule in the Years of Experience section (page 4-5), the total Years of Experience would be 15 years.

