

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology
2025 Army Acquisition Executive's (AAE) Excellence in Leadership Awards

Please read the following information carefully before completing and submitting this application.

Category: Outstanding Grants or Agreements Professional of the Year Award

Background: The 2025 AAE's Excellence in Leadership Award for the Outstanding Grants/Cooperative Agreements/Other Transaction Agreements (OTA) Professional recognizes the professional whose outstanding contributions and achievements support the Army Contracting Enterprise and merits special recognition.

Eligibility:

1. Any contracting/agreements professional within the AAW or professionals in the Grants Management Series (1109 occupational series) who support the Army Contracting/Agreements Enterprise.
2. Nominee contributions must have been made between 1 June 2024 – 31 May 2025.
3. If a member of the AAW, the following requirements must be met:
 - a. Occupy an acquisition workforce designated position.
 - b. Is current, or within the grace period, in their Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) Contracting functional area certification and achieved the required 80 continuous learning points during the prior two-year continuous learning cycle (1 Oct 2022 - 30 Sep 2024).

Evaluation Criteria:

Nominees for this award must have made a significant contribution during the eligibility period to be considered for this award. This award recognizes the past performance of a Contracting or Grants Professional who has clearly demonstrated exceptional grants and/or agreements mission accomplishment, selfless service to the United States, extraordinary and uncompromising professionalism, and true commitment to the personal and professional growth of others within the command.

Nominations will be considered based on demonstrated excellence and contribution to acquisition mission success in the following areas:

1. **Specific achievements** during the eligibility period. Given that many achievements result from one's efforts and contributions cumulatively over a period of time, achievements that take place over more than the 12-month window may be reported, but the culmination of the work must be within the window. Quantifiable descriptions of

achievements are particularly desired. What impact did their action have on the unit or command?

2. **Value of the nominee's contributions** during the award period to the grants and/or agreements mission of one's organization in supporting one or more of the ASA(ALT)'s priorities:
 - a. Program Execution and Performance
 - b. Embrace New Approaches to Improve Software Acquisition
 - c. Security of Acquisition Efforts (Cyber, Supply Chain)
 - d. Ensure Testing and Evaluation Provides Valuable Feedback
 - e. Improve Coordination with Congress
3. **Demonstration of leadership**, including, by example, mentoring, and best practices to enhance the success of one's team and the greater acquisition/assistance community in achieving acquisition outcome success.
4. **Outstanding Grants/Cooperative Agreements/Other Transaction Agreements (OTA) Professional Award criteria:** recognizes an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievements as a Grants or Agreements professional; demonstrated ability to identify and overcome challenges; continuously sought self-development and leadership opportunities; achieved innovation through initiative; and performed in a manner that resulted in positive impacts to the mission or the organization.

Nomination Deadline and Submission:

1. The deadline for nomination submissions is July 25, 2025. **Submissions will not be accepted after 11:59 p.m. ET, July 25, 2025.**
2. Only one nomination may be submitted from each organization.
3. Completed nomination packets must be submitted to the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (USAASC) Army Director, Acquisition Career Management (DACM) Office through the Web-based call for nominations application at:
<https://asc.army.mil/web/aae-awards/>

Nomination Packet Requirements and Format:

A completed nomination submission package will include the following:

1. Signed endorsement memo (one per nomination).
 - a. The senior ranking civilian employee or military official will provide an endorsement letter to describe the nomination. If an AAW member, the letter MUST indicate that the nominee is current, or within the grace period, in his or her DAWIA Contracting functional area certification and continuous learning points.
 - b. Each nomination must have its own endorsement memo addressed to Director, Acquisition Career Management, 9900 Belvoir Rd, Bldg. 201, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060.

2. Completed nomination form with the following components:
 - a. Narrative
 - Separate sections describing the contributions for each of the four evaluation criteria (specific achievements; value of the nominee's contributions; demonstration of leadership; and Outstanding Grants/Cooperative Agreements/Other Transaction Agreements (OTA) Professional Award).
 - Should not exceed **two** pages.
 - The format will be single-spaced text, Arial, 12-point font, single-sided 8 ½" x 11" page, 1" margins.
 - b. Citation
 - A short summary of accomplishments (not to exceed 200 words). This should be at the end of the nomination form, and does not count against the two-page limit.

Miscellaneous Details:

1. The nominating point of contact (POC) and/or the organization's award POC will receive an automated email to confirm receipt of a completed submission. Contact the awards coordinator if the POC does not receive a confirmation email within one day after the submission.
2. An appointed panel of judges will select the award winners.
3. The awards will be presented by the AAE at the annual Army Acquisition Awards ceremony in January 2026.

Awards Coordinator:

Questions regarding the 2025 Army Acquisition Executive's Excellence in Leadership Awards or the application and nomination submission process should be addressed to the awards coordinator, Ms. Rachel Longarzo, at rachel.m.longarzo.civ@army.mil

Additional information can be found on the award website at: <https://asc.army.mil/web/aae-awards/>.