

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology 2026 Army Acquisition Executive's (AAE) Excellence in Leadership Awards

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

Category: Science and Technology (S&T) Team Technology Transition Achievement Award

Background: The 2026 AAE's Excellence in Leadership Award for S&T Team Technology Transition Achievement Award recognizes the team whose outstanding contributions, innovative thinking, willingness to take calculated risks, and achievements merit special recognition.

Eligibility:

1. Nominee contributions must have been made between 1 June 2025 – 31 May 2026.
2. **Any science and technology (S&T) team is eligible as long as they:**
 - a. Meet the specific criteria of the award for which they are nominated.
 - b. Occupy science or engineering workforce designated positions at an Army Science and Technology Reinvention Laboratory (STRL). These STRLs include ARI; ASIC; DEVCOM: AC, ARL, AvMC, C5ISR, CBC, GVSC, SC; ERDC; MRDC, SMDTC, and T2COM HQ.

Evaluation Criteria:

Nominated teams must have made a significant contribution during the eligibility period to be considered for this award. This award recognizes the past performance of a team which has clearly demonstrated exceptional mission accomplishment, selfless service to the United States, a willingness to champion new ideas and calculated risks, and extraordinary and uncompromising professionalism in the S&T field.

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

1. **Specific achievements** Specific achievements during the eligibility period. Given that many achievements result from a team'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 mission? Did earlier and more purposeful teaming of CPE/PM offices with the Army S&T community occur? Did the team challenge the status quo, champion a novel approach, or take a calculated risk that resulted in a significant leap forward?
 - a. A transition occurs when the technology/project deliverables developed under S&T Advanced Technology Development (6.3), Technology Maturation Initiative (TMI) (6.4), or Manufacturing Technology (ManTech) (6.7) projects complete

development and demonstration and are incorporated (both funding and program control) into current or planned program(s) of record, by the CPE/PM.

2. **Value of the nominee's contributions** during the award period to the mission of one's organization.
3. **S&T team technology transition specific criteria:**
 - a. The candidate team should represent the best of the S&T community members who have contributed to the advancement of S&T initiatives through innovative concepts and calculated risk-taking.
 - b. The candidate team should have provided qualitative and effective scientific or engineering contribution resulting in the successful accomplishment of transitioning tangible technologies that ultimately provided increased capability to the warfighter. This includes developing, demonstrating, delivering, and integrating technology into systems, or use as a standalone product.

Nomination Deadline and Submission:

1. The deadline for nomination submissions is July 27, 2026. **Submissions will not be accepted after 11:59 p.m. ET, July 27, 2026.**
2. Only one nomination may be submitted from each STRL.
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/acquisition-awards/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.
 - b. Each nomination must have its own endorsement memo addressed to Director, Acquisition Career Management, 9900 Belvoir Rd, Bld 201, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060.
2. Completed nomination form with the following components:
 - a. Narrative
 - Separate sections describing the contributions for each of the three evaluation criteria (specific achievements; value of the nominee's contributions; and Science and Technology Professional specific criteria).
 - 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 early 2027.

Awards Coordinator:

Questions regarding the 2026 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/acquisition-awards/aae-awards/>.