The 2026 Annual Asian American Luminary Awards Nomination Program

Asian American Luminary Awards (AALA) Judging Committee consisting of 5-8 judges will provide recommendation of awards recipients to the Board largely based on the judging criteria presented in this document. Therefore, it is important that a nominator read this document closely and provide as detailed information about the nominee as possible under each criterion, when applicable. In our experience, a well thought-out and organized nomination is critical for judges to know the candidate and, thus, apply the judging criteria to the candidate in a manner that gives the best chance to the candidate.

AALA Judging Committee will select the award recipients from all technology fields including without limitation, Information technology, Aerospace, Biomedicine / Global Health, Intelligent Technology, Telecommunication, Finance, as well as Community and Public Engagement ("Award Fields") based on the following criteria and weighting factors:

A. General Qualification:

1. Nominee must be of Asian American heritage and have lived in the Washington State for at least 2 years.
2. Nominee must be a US citizen or legal permanent resident contributed to the betterment of the pacific northwest
3. Nominee must be an engineer, scientist, educator, or corporate or government leader who has made exemplary contributions or support to the professions in the Award Fields
4. Once selected, a nominee must be present at the award ceremony to receive the award. The award ceremony will be held as part of the CIE 2026 annual convention on September 27, 2026. Awardees will be requested to provide bios, photos to be presented at the award ceremony.

B. Basic Selection Criteria:

Professional Achievement and Impact (up to 40%):

1. The current or last professional employment including position, the name and location of the company or institution. Responsibilities: e.g. staff supervisions, handling of annual budget. Accountability: e.g. Job functions and challenges.
2. All prior major employment with names and locations, and the candidate's position and principal responsibilities in each prior major employment.
3. If applicable, prominent STEM related projects that the candidate was

principally responsible for, and statements of candidate's role and the significance of each of these projects

4. Services to professional societies and committees including offices held and committee assignments with dates at professional societies and communities, such as AIChE, ASCE, ASME, IEEE, SPE, and CIE, ABET, etc.
5. List of publications, keynote speeches, patents and honor awards in reverse chronological order of dates. Include statements of global impact and exemplary significance of the candidate's professional accomplishments.

Service Descriptions - Community Involvements (up to 30%):

1. Candidate's services to the community and impact to individuals, community and humanity.

2. Committees joined with dates.

3. Statements of significance for all major services rendered to the community. Testimonial from community service beneficiaries is a big plus.

4. Leadership in coping with economical downturn, post COVID-19 or other uncommon circumstances and positive impact within and outside the candidate's regular job.

Additional Information Unique About this Candidate (up to 30%):

Any additional information unique to this candidate that was not covered in professional achievement nor community services areas and information relevant to the specific award category that the nominee is applying for.

C. Specific Award Category Criteria

The 2026 AALA has four award categories. The award criteria for the award categories are defined in the following:

1. Asian American Corporate Leadership Award

This award recognizes individual who has outstanding leadership in developing products or services in the Award Fields. The leadership will be judged on the following criteria:

a. 10+ years of professional experience
b. Contribution in the creation, development and release of new products or

services

c. Impact of the products and technologies created by the candidate on the evolution to the next generation of products or services
d. The commitment to industry collaboration and to setting the model for accelerating the development and deployment of products or services through and with industry consortia activities
e. Collaboration with other companies and/or individuals in achieving great success of new engineering, technology products or services
f. Mentoring of others and engagement in human potential development
g. Demonstration of leadership role model/example of excellence to others

2. Asian American Entrepreneurial Achievement Award

This individual must own at least 10 percent or more of a thriving business with strong financial growth in the Award Fields. Entrepreneurs will be judged on the following criteria:

a. Insightfulness on growth sectors
b. Innovativeness to design or re-design of high-quality products
c. Leadership, managerial skills & earning responsibilities
d. Impactful benefits to the general community
e. Demonstration of role model/example of excellence to other entrepreneurs

3. Asian American Science and Engineering Innovation Award

The individual must be a well-established engineer or scientist having significant contributions in his/her technical field through innovation. Innovation achievement will be judged, with different focus, on the following criteria:

If the candidate is from a university or research institution:

a. Significant and measurable original scholarly or research contributions to his/her field, including without limitation, publications with international circulation, patents, level of funding, honors and awards
b. Demonstration of consistent dedication and commitment to the research and/or teaching in advancement of field of science and engineering
c. International recognition as subject matter expert in his/her field
d. Demonstration of active leadership role in his/her field within organization or internationally
e. Demonstration of a technical role model for his/her organization

If the candidate is from industry (all sizes from startup to corporation):

a. Demonstration of depth and breadth of knowledge in his/her technical areas of

expertise

b. Demonstration of significant impact to his/her company and/or industry
c. Candidate's creative problem-solving skills and innovations. Demonstrate providing practical, robust and appropriate solutions to exceptionally challenging technical problems
d. Demonstration of technical leadership, advising and consulting experiences through recognition in the company/industry as authoritative and being frequently called upon to consult on complex technical issues in his/her technical area
e. Demonstration of sharing technical knowledge, integrity, professionalism, experience, and ethical standards with other employees through teaching, mentoring and knowledge sharing

4. Asian American Service & Leadership Award

The individual must have consistently demonstrated qualities of leadership and community/public engagement/services, creating connections between people and organizations in order to enhance STEM related career paths in the community. Services achievement will be judged on the following criteria:

a. Exemplification of inspirational community/public engagement/services and leadership through teaching, coaching, organizing, and serving
b. Demonstration of a lasting or meaningful contribution to the community/public through services/actions
c. Demonstration of services or actions beyond the call of duty
d. Mentoring of others and engagement in human potential development
e. Demonstration of a service role model/example of excellence to others