ABET

ABET INNOVATION AWARD

NOMINATION KIT



THE ABET AWARDS 2026

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INSTRUCTIONS

This kit is designed to help you nominate a candidate for the ABET Innovation Award.

Before you send in your nomination, make sure to:

1. Read the Criteria carefully and ensure that your nominee has the distinguished qualities to be eligible for this Award.
2. Review and confirm all word limits are adhered to. Nominations that do not adhere to word limits will not be reviewed.
3. Supplemental Materials: Please attach up to 10 pages of evidence/documents that prove the success of this innovation. Failure to adhere to this limit will result in automatic disqualification.
    a. Links will not be accepted as supplemental materials. However, information from links can be submitted as a document that will be considered part of the 10-page limit.
    b. Videos will not be accepted.
4. Complete and sign the Nomination Form. Anyone can nominate; self-nominations are encouraged.
5. Email the completed nomination in PDF format to awards@abet.org by April 20 and keep a copy for your records. No handwritten entries will be accepted.

Deadline: April 20

Nominations are accepted year round, but must be received by email before our April 20 deadline. No exceptions will be granted.

Expect a written notification of receipt from ABET Headquarters. If you do not receive confirmation, please send an email to awards@abet.org.

By the end of September, you should expect notification on the outcome, following formal vote by the ABET Board of Delegates.



ABOUT

ABET Innovation Award

True innovation is hard to define, but easy to identify. This award distinguishes programs or individuals that have brought a significant innovation to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education in areas like: curriculum development, laboratory experiences, teaching methodologies, cross-disciplinary programs, experiential learning – almost anything designed and proven to improve a student's educational experience.

The ABET Innovation Award honors individuals, teams or programs that have broken new ground by developing and implementing innovations that impact ABET-accredited programs.

The recipient will receive a $10,000 award.

Information on past winners can be found at www.abet.org/awards/abet-innovation-award/.

THE CRITERIA

ELIGIBILITY

Persons involved in the current year's ABET Innovation Award evaluation and selection process (e.g., Members of the Awards Committee and Innovation Subcommittee) are not eligible to be nominated, nominate or provide a reference for the Innovation Award.

SELECTION CRITERIA

To be considered for the ABET Innovation Award, the nominated innovation must have direct impact on ABET-Accredited programs and will be judged against these criteria:

1. **FOCUS**

   The nominated innovation is a clear and targeted innovation that addresses a specific situation or issue and demonstrates a significant innovative solution.

2. **SUSTAINABILITY**

   The nominated innovation has been proven to be effective and a process has been established by which it could be sustained and readily adopted by others.

3. **IMPACT ON PROGRAM(S)**

   The nominated innovation has made a tangible difference in the ABET-accredited program(s) and provided an enhanced student experience.

4. **RELEVANCE TO SOCIETY**

   The nominated innovation will aid students in addressing current and emerging technical and societal challenges post graduation.

ABET Innovation Award

Nomination Form

DEADLINE: APRIL 20

I hereby nominate (check one): ☐ individual/team ☐ program/institution

Name(s)

to receive the ABET Innovation Award. I am confident that the following achievements in demonstrating vision and commitment that challenge the status-quo in technical education deserve consideration for the award.

Nominee Contact Name

Nominee Email Address

AWARD CITATION

Write a suitable citation for the award that you are nominating. (30 words maximum)

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Please attach up to 10 pages of evidence/documents that prove the success of this innovation.

Document Title	Summary

Submitted by

Print Name

Date

By checking this box and typing my name, I am electronically signing this document. ☐

This form and detailed supporting documentation and/or endorsements should be emailed to: **awards@abet.org**

ABET Innovation Award

Nomination Form

DEADLINE: APRIL 20

Specifically describe the nature and significance of your nominee's innovation. Please make clear how you have personally observed the impact of this innovation on student learning in an ABET-accredited program or programs. (500 words maximum)

Specifically address how your nominee meets the judging criteria on page 5 (Focus, Sustainability, Impact on Program(s) and Relevance to Society).

Focus (200 words maximum)

Sustainability (200 words maximum)

Impact on Program(s) (200 words maximum)

Relevance to Society (200 words maximum)

SELECTION PROCESS

The President of ABET annually appoints a special committee for review of nominations for this award. The Awards Committee's recommendations are presented to the members of the Board of Delegates for concurrence.

The award is presented at ABET's Annual Awards Celebration. In addition, the individual is recognized in the ABET Annual Report and on the ABET website.

If you need additional information or assistance, please contact ABET headquarters at **(410) 347-7700** or **awards@abet.org**.

The deadline for nominations is April 20. Email nominations to **awards@abet.org**.

The nominator should expect notification on the outcome, following formal vote by the ABET Board of Delegates by the end of September.

ABET INNOVATION AWARD

Recipients

2026
Matthew W. Ohland

2025
Georgia Tech Create-X Program

2024
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Engineering Design Program

2023
Solar Decathlon

2021
Villanova University College of Engineering
Career Compass Program

2020
IT Students Capacity Building Program by ISITE —
Integrated Southern Tagalog Association of IT Education

2019
The Vertically Integrated Project (VIP) Consortium

2018
Formula Hybrid Competition,
Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth

2017
Iron Range Engineering and Twin Cities Engineering,
Minnesota State University, Mankato

2016
Worcester Polytechnic University,
Robotics Engineering Program