



ACCLAIM AWARD RUBRIC

Young Alumni Award

Think of this category as a rising star award. This award recognizes recent graduates (35 years old or younger) who have already made notable achievements in their profession or community. If your nominee has rapidly excelled in their career, demonstrated leadership, or made an impact early in their post-graduation journey, this category highlights emerging talent and promise.

(Applicants must be 35 years or younger to be considered for the award.)

Applicant Name: _____

Question 1: Provide a detailed description of the professional and educational contributions and accomplishments achieved by the nominee. Highlight specific achievements, recognition, and influence in their field or industry that showcase their key contributions to success.

Criteria	Excellent (4)	Proficient (3)	Basic (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
Clarity & Depth of Achievements	Provides a clear, comprehensive description of professional and educational accomplishments with specific, impactful examples.	Describes key accomplishments with some specific examples but may lack depth in one area.	Mentions achievements but lacks specific examples or detail.	Vague or minimal description of achievements, lacking clarity and examples.
Significance of Contributions	Demonstrates a profound impact on their field through innovation, leadership, or major contributions.	Shows a strong impact with notable contributions and leadership in their field.	Contributions are present but may not be clearly linked to a significant impact.	Little to no evidence of meaningful contributions to their field.
Recognition & Influence	Recognized at a regional, national, or international level for achievements (awards, publications, leadership roles, etc.).	Recognized within their professional or academic community with some notable achievements.	Some recognition, but mostly limited to a small or local scale.	Little to no recognition or external validation of accomplishments.
Advancement of Field or Industry	Has made pioneering contributions that have advanced their field or industry.	Has contributed meaningfully to growth or improvement in their field.	Some contributions, but with limited long-term impact or influence.	No clear impact on the advancement of their field.

Total: ___/16

Question 2: Outline and describe the unique and outstanding contributions and distinct achievements the nominee has demonstrated that have had long-term and sustainable impacts on the community and society. Highlight specific initiatives, projects, or actions that showcase their commitment to making a positive impact.

Criteria	Excellent (4)	Proficient (3)	Basic (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
Clarity & Depth of Contributions	Provides a clear, comprehensive description of unique and outstanding contributions with specific, compelling examples.	Describes contributions with some specific examples, but lacks depth in certain areas.	Mentions contributions but lacks specific examples or clear details.	Vague or minimal description of contributions with little supporting detail.
Impact on Community or Society	Demonstrates a profound and lasting positive impact at a regional, national, or global level.	Shows strong impact, affecting a notable group or community in a meaningful way.	Some impact is evident, but it is limited in scope or sustainability.	Little to no demonstrated impact on the broader community or society.
Innovation & Uniqueness of Contributions	Contributions are highly innovative, distinct, and address critical societal needs in new or meaningful ways.	Contributions show some uniqueness and creativity in addressing community or societal needs.	Contributions are beneficial but not particularly innovative or unique.	Contributions lack originality or distinct impact.
Sustainability & Long-Term Influence	Demonstrates lasting change with continued relevance and influence in the community or society.	Shows potential for lasting impact, though sustainability may not be fully established.	Some impact is present, but it appears temporary or limited in longevity.	No clear evidence of long-term or sustainable influence.

Total: ___/16

Question 3: Reflect on the unique strengths and qualities that have significantly contributed to the nominee's success. Explain how these traits, along with their ability to overcome challenges and barriers, make them deserving of this award.

Criteria	Excellent (4)	Proficient (3)	Basic (2)	Needs Improvement (1)
Clarity & Depth of Strengths and Qualities	Clearly describes nominee's unique strengths and qualities with specific, compelling examples that illustrate their impact.	Describes nominee's strengths with some examples, but lacks depth in certain areas.	Mentions strengths but lacks specific examples or detailed explanation.	Vague or minimal description of nominee's qualities with little supporting detail.
Challenges & Barriers Overcome	Provides a detailed and inspiring account of significant challenges overcome, demonstrating resilience and perseverance.	Mentions challenges and barriers with some explanation of how they were overcome.	Acknowledges challenges but provides little detail on how they were addressed.	Little to no mention of challenges, or lacks explanation of overcoming them.
Connection Between Strengths & Success	Clearly and convincingly connects nominee's strengths to their success, demonstrating a direct link between qualities and achievements.	Shows a connection between strengths and success, but may lack clarity or strong examples.	Some connection is made, but it is weak or not well-supported.	Fails to make a clear connection between nominee's strengths and their success.
Justification for Award Worthiness	Provides a compelling, well-supported argument for why the nominee deserves this award based on their strengths and achievements.	Makes a strong case for the nominee, but may lack depth or specific examples.	Provides some reasoning, but the argument is weak or not fully developed.	Minimal justification for why the nominee is deserving of the award.

Total: __/16

Overall Application Scoring (1-4)

The applicant has well developed application with outstanding answers that provide plentiful details and examples, is well- thought out and well written.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

References (1-4)

Evidenced by strong documentation, letters of recommendation are superior and relevant.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Overall Impression (1-4)

Do you feel the applicant should win this award?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Total: __/12

Additional Comments:

Overall Total: __/60

Percentage: ___%