WESTERN DISTRICT

ite

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA SECTION

2026 ITE SF BAY AREA SECTION AWARDS PROGRAM

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OVERVIEW

ITE San Francisco Bay Area (ITE SF Bay Area) Section's Annual Awards Program honors outstanding achievements in transportation and distinguished service to ITE. The awards bestow local recognition upon the recipients and increase the public's awareness of the role and responsibilities of the transportation professional or the organization's contributions to the industry. The recipients chosen at the Section level will be automatically nominated for the 2027 awards at the Western District level to represent our Section's incredible membership and elevate the Bay Area's prominence in the industry.

Goal of the Program

1. Honor individuals and entities doing excellent work to advance the industry.
2. Elevate the presence of the San Francisco Bay Area Section at the Western District and International level.

Timeline

MILESTONE	DATE
Award Applications Open	October 5th, 2026
Application Deadline	**November 16th, 2026**
Awards Announcement Date	November 30th, 2026
ITE SF Bay Area Awards Ceremony and Celebration	Thursday, December 3rd, 2026 5 PM - 8 PM Location: 345 California Street San Francisco, CA 94104

Awards

The awards offered by the ITE SF Bay Area Section include:

1. Transportation Achievement Awards (multiple may be awarded)
2. Transportation Educator Award
3. Young Member of the Year Award

The awards will consist of:

- A trophy or plaque, given at the ITE SF Bay Area "Awards Ceremony and Winter Social" in December
- Recognition in the ITE SF Bay Area's Newsletter and LinkedIn page
- One free ticket to the "Awards Ceremony and Winter Social" for the individual accepting the award, and
- {Only recipients of the Transportation Educator and Young Member of the Year Awards] One free guest ticket to the "Awards Ceremony and Winter Social".

All recipients will be nominated by the ITE SF Bay Area Section to the Western District Awards. Applicants not selected at the Section level are still eligible to apply at the District level.

Application Requirements

Only nominations submitted via the Nomination Form by the deadline will be considered.

Each of the three awards offered through the ITE SF Bay Section Awards Program has specific requirements. Please read the full details of the award you are applying for/nominating someone to carefully.

Award Committee

The Award Committee evaluating the applications submitted consist of the currently elected ITE SF Bay Area Board members (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary).

AWARD DETAILS

The following are the awards currently offered at the San Francisco Bay Area Section level.

Transportation Achievement Awards

ITE's Transportation Achievement Awards are presented annually to recognize excellence in advancing transportation to meet human needs. These awards are open to a variety of entities, including governmental bodies including Tribes, consulting firms, private corporations, and other industry organizations. **Up to three awards may be presented, one in each of the following categories:**

1. Complete Streets;
2. Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO);
3. Traffic Engineering;
4. Planning;
5. Safety; and
6. Individual

The Transportation Achievement Awards recognize an organization/entity/individual for one or more of the following accomplishments that occurred (predominantly) in the current year (e.g. if you are applying for an award in 2026, most of the work should have occurred between January 2026 and the time of the application deadline):

1. Development of an innovative concept in the areas of Complete Streets, TSMO, Traffic Engineering, Planning, or Safety.
2. Implementation of a challenging transportation program through perseverance in its development and promotion.
3. A program or completed project having a significant effect on transportation.
4. A multi-faceted transportation program or project, combining many innovative and/or well-applied concepts. The project must be complete or significantly underway by April 1st, 2026.
5. An initiative that promotes a major advancement in the efficiency and/or economy of transportation.

6. Projects that advance safety for *all* the travelling public, including pedestrians, cyclists, and users of alternate means of transport.
7. Innovative and effective application of elements such as roundabouts or speed humps.

Eligibility

The awards celebrate organizations and individuals that demonstrate innovative concepts, perseverance in implementing challenging transportation programs, or contributions that significantly impact transportation safety and efficiency. Submissions should highlight initiatives that advance multimodal transportation, improve public safety, and promote sustainable transportation solutions for all. Only ITE members are eligible for the Individual category.

Category #6– Individual: One individual ITE member can be nominated to be considered for the new 6th category, which recognizes a person who has demonstrated excellence in one of the areas of transportation. *This is not meant to be a lifetime achievement-type award.* The criteria for individuals mirrors the other categories. Therefore, this person would have individually done something in the current year that fits one or more of these criteria:

- Developed an innovative concept in the areas of Complete Streets, TSMO, Traffic Engineering, Planning, or Safety.
- Implemented a challenging transportation program through perseverance in its development and promotion.
- Led a program or completed an innovative project having a significant effect on transportation.
- Developed or led an initiative that promotes a major advancement in the efficiency and/or economy of transportation.
- Created/Developed/Led a successful project or initiative that advances safety for all the travelling public, including pedestrians, cyclists, and users of alternate means of transport.
- Pioneered/Developed/Led innovative and effective applications of a transportation element such as roundabouts or speed humps

Required Submission Materials

All nominations for ITE SF Bay Area Transportation Achievement Awards must be submitted via the Nomination Form.

The submittal should be in PDF format and limited to a total of **five (5) pages** (including graphics) that describe the project/program/initiative and indicate how it meets the criteria for the award. The submission should assist the awards committee in evaluating the project against the judging criteria. Multiple categories may be selected when entering a submission; however, entrants may only be recognized in **one** category.

There should be only one submission per organization/entity/individual per category. ITE members should submit nominations to the Section by the deadline

Judging Criteria

Nominations are evaluated by the Award Committee based on the following criteria:

30 points – Application of innovative ideas

30 points – Exhibits a commitment to the advancement of the profession

30 points – Strong applicability to the industry

10 points – Well-balanced scope and format

International Awards Program

https://www.ite.org/membership/awards1/transportation-achievement-awards2/

Transportation Educator Award

Purpose

The purpose of this award is to recognize an educator (typically a professor) who has made an outstanding contribution to the transportation profession by relating academic studies to the actual practice of transportation. ITE is pleased to celebrate transportation educators who help their students advance their professional development, enhance their opportunities to network with practicing transportation professionals, and become active participants in the profession.

Eligibility

- The nominee must be or have been employed by an accredited college/ university to teach undergraduate and/ or graduate courses in transportation.
- The nominee must have provided students with the opportunity to relate their coursework in transportation with the actual practice of transportation. The following list includes examples of such programs:
    1. Visits to agencies and firms
    2. Guest lecturers
    3. Participation in meetings of transportation associations
    4. Exposure to current transportation policy issues
    5. Encouraging and helping to identify opportunities for part time and/or summer employment
    6. Undertaking community service projects to address current transportation issues
- The nominee should have provided students with knowledge, skills, and values, which as professionals will allow them to anticipate needs and harness innovative, cost-effective technologies to solve future problems.

Required Submission Materials

All nominations for ITE SF Bay Area's Transportation Educator Award must be submitted via the Nomination Form.

The nomination should include the following required documentation:

- A two-page (minimum) statement addressing how the nominee meets the eligibility criteria using specific examples as support.
- The nominee's CV or comprehensive resume.
- Any additional documentation is optional.
- Nominations must be submitted electronically as one PDF by the deadline.

Judging Criteria

Nominations are evaluated by the Award Committee based on the following criteria:

25 points – Significance of student exposure to transportation experience

25 points – Demonstrated impact is shown from individual's involvement

25 points – Exhibits a commitment to the advancement of the profession

25 points – Applies innovative ideas to profession/volunteer role

International Awards Program

https://www.ite.org/membership/awards1/wilbur-s-smith-distinguished-transportation-educator-award2/

Young Member of the Year Award

Purpose

ITE recognizes that to advance and promote the transportation industry, we must cultivate and recognize the up-and-coming talent and future generation among our ranks. To that end, ITE SF Bay Area promotes this award to help identify and recognize the best and brightest transportation professionals 35 years old or younger who have demonstrated leadership and innovation within the transportation industry.

Eligibility for Consideration

Nominees must meet the following eligibility requirements to qualify for selection as the Young Member of the Year:

- Must be an active ITE member
- Must be 35 years old or younger on January 1 of the following award year (e.g. if applying in 2026, must be 35 years old or younger on January 1, 2027)
- Must submit all the required nomination materials outlined below via the link provided
- Must not have been previously named ITE District's Rising Star.

Nomination/Application Process

Nominations may be submitted by employers, peers, or the nominees themselves. The information and materials collected as part of the nomination package are designed to provide insight into the nominee's technical and professional experience, leadership abilities, involvement with ITE and affiliated councils and committees, and breadth of volunteer experience.

Required Submission Materials

All nominations for Young Member of the Year Award must be submitted via the Nomination Form.

The following are the required nomination materials:

a. A current resume or CV for the person being nominated that includes local and national ITE involvement as well as leadership and volunteer experience in any other professional organizations

b. One (1) recommendation from a current or past supervisor (200-word max)
c. Three (3) examples of specific project experience with a description of the individual's role in each project (150-word max/each)

Judging Criteria

Nominations are evaluated by the Award Committee based on the following criteria:

25 points – Scope of Work/Project Experience/Involvement with ITE

25 points – Exhibits Leadership Skill

25 points – Demonstrated impact is shown from individual's involvement

15 points – Exhibits a commitment to the advancement of the profession

10 points – Applies innovative ideas to profession/volunteer role

International Awards Program

https://www.ite.org/membership/awards1/young-member-of-the-year-award1/

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. **Can I nominate multiple people and/or projects?**

   Yes! If you have multiple projects or people you believe deserve recognition, please submit them.

2. **How can I make my nomination more competitive?**

   The rubric for each award outlines exactly how the Award Committee will be evaluating the applications. In your submissions, make sure you're responding to the criteria as specifically as you can!

3. **If I know the potential finalist can't make the "Awards Ceremony and Winter Social", can I still nominate them?**

   Absolutely. Though we regret not being able to host the finalist, they will still be recognized at the event. ITE will still provide a free ticket, and they will need to designate a person to receive the award in their place.

4. **Can I volunteer to help with the "Awards Ceremony and Winter Social"?**

   We will be offering discounts to the event for volunteers. We just ask that they get to the event 30 minutes in advance. Please reach out to the email below.

If you have any other questions about the awards or application requirements, please reach out to sfbayite@itedsc.org.