

Guidelines for New ARMA Distinguished Service Award
Jan 24, 2020

A new **ARMA Distinguished Service Award** is described in this document. Similar awards are made by other societies include SPE ([Distinguished Service Award](#)), AAPG ([Distinguished Service Award](#)), GSA ([Distinguished Service Award](#)).

Purpose and Scope: The award is to recognize significant contributions that ARMA members have made to the services offered by ARMA. These services include, but not limited to,

- Activities supporting the ARMA annual symposium, international conferences, workshops, forums, and other meetings that promote rock mechanics and geomechanics technologies and applications;
- Education efforts by senior ARMA members, including Fellows;
- ARMA technical committees;
- Publications such as ARMA letter, newsletters, OnePetro, peer-reviews, etc.; and,
- Any other volunteer services to help ARMA achieve its mission.

Candidates: The award shall consider contributions by ARMA members and support staff, excluding the current board and selection committee members. It will annually recognize contributions from a candidate within each of the following types (total up to three candidates):

- Significant contributions from a **senior** member or support staff¹;
- Significant contributions from a **junior** member or contractor; and
- Significant contributions from a **student** member.

Selection Criteria: Award recipients must have been members or contractors of ARMA during the nomination period.

The award shall recognize significant contributions of volunteer or contractor services within one year of their completion. The contribution should involve dedicated time and effort to provide meaningful and qualitative impact to the success of ARMA events and activities. The award committee shall consider following criteria:

1. Basis of Contribution – Difficulty of tasks involved, amount of time and effort required, quality of service;
2. Value of Contribution – Value in terms of meaningful impact on the ARMA Mission, significance to ARMA members and to general public.

¹ A senior member has 10 or more years of professional experience since the highest college degree; a senior contractor has 10 or more years of experience working with ARMA.

Nomination Process:

ARMA shall collect award nominations at all times via its website. Anyone can provide a nomination via the ARMA website or email the Selection Chair.

The annual nomination cycle shall close two (2) months prior to the annual ARMA conference. Each award nomination must present the following information:

- a. Full name and contact information of nominator
- b. Nominee name, contact information, and a resume/CV for the nominee
- c. Abstract of the nominee's service contribution (up to 250 words).

The nomination process follows the procedures in-place for the other technical ARMA awards (section 4 of the 2019 document²).

Selection Process: The selection process shall involve a dedicated ARMA service awards committee.

The committee will be composed of 1) a Board officer (e.g. Vice President), 2) a Selection Chair from senior ARMA members, 3) members representing different disciplines such as Petroleum, Mining, and Civil, 4) an early career member, and 5) a student. The committee members need to have been actively involved in ARMA activities. The Chair will assemble the package of service award recipients for the Board to approve at the Board meeting in January each year. The other terms of the committee members follow the general guidelines for the ARMA Awards committee.

Nature of Award: All awardees will receive a plaque or certificate, prepared by the Executive Director before the Symposium. They would additionally receive a year of complementary ARMA membership, or, in the case of awardees being permanent members a gift card of equal to or less than \$100. Student awardee would additionally receive a complementary registration³ for the symposium at which the award would be presented.

This award would be distinct from the other ARMA awards, particularly the Outstanding Contributions Award that "recognizes [an] individual whose career achievements have provided outstanding contributions to the profession of rock mechanics and rock engineering." Because the Outstanding Contributions Award focuses on service to the larger profession, including organizational roles in the rock mechanics and rock engineering community, the ARMA Distinguished Service Award would recognize contributions (not necessarily technical in nature)

² American Rock Mechanics Association's Awards Selection Committee, Awards Criteria and Operating Procedures, 2019, 6 p.

³ No other financial support for the student awardee would be provided, including travel, lodging, per diem, honorarium, or similar expenses. No change in presentation type (podium vs. poster) would be considered or made to awardees as a result of receiving this award.

specifically to ARMA, rather than to the broader communities that it serves. It would be also distinct from the Presidential Citation, which is in sole domain of the President.

The award would be **conferred** at the subsequent annual symposium.