

OVERVIEW AND ELIGIBILITY

The William Lawrence Saunders Award (Saunders Award) recognizes distinguished achievement in mining other than coal.

There are no limitations regarding nationality or membership in the AIME Member Societies, but preference is given to members. If a committee member is nominated, they will either find a replacement committee member so that they can resign for the year or remove their nomination until their term is up. Candidate must be living or passed away prior to May 1st of the nomination year.

No AIME Major Award winner is eligible to be nominated for another AIME Major Award until 9 years have elapsed, and the nomination support package shall conspicuously reference work in a new field or significant new accomplishments in the field for which the original award was made. (The AIME Major Awards are the Charles F. Rand Memorial Gold Medal, Robert Earl McConnell Award, James Douglas Gold Medal, Hal Williams Hardinge Award, Erskine Ramsay Medal, Robert H. Richards Award, William Lawrence Saunders Gold Medal, Benjamin F. Fairless Award and Anthony F. Lucas Gold Medal.)

AIME Board members are exempt from receiving AIME awards.

TIMELINE

The William Lawrence Saunders Award typically adheres to the following timeline:

Date	Task
April 1	Call for nominations
June 1	Nomination deadline
June 30	Committee chair provides qualified applications to members of committee
July 15	First round of voting complete; committee chair schedules conference call to discuss results (if needed)
July 25	Second round of voting complete (if needed)
August 1	Recipient name and citation provided to awards coordinator
September 15	Recipient is notified
SME Annual Conference & Expo	Award is presented

<p>NOMINATIONS</p>	<p>Nominations for the William Lawrence Saunders Award require the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed nomination form including demographic and contact information for both the nominee and the principal nominator. 2. Required: One letter of support detailing the nominee's qualification for the award. Should address qualities that are mentioned in the guidelines. Should focus on quality over quantity introducing the candidate to the committee (1 page). 3. Not required: Up to four additional letters emphasizing the candidates qualifications for the award. (quality over quantity) (1 page each). 4. Nominee's biography (2 page maximum). 5. Nominee's CV/resume (abbreviated version – 3 page maximum). 6. List of papers/publications (abbreviated version – 3 page maximum). 7. Appropriate award citation. <p>All nominations submitted will be considered active nominations for a period of three years. Nominations must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines provided on the award nomination form, which may be downloaded here: smenet.org/awards-recognition</p>
<p>CRITERIA</p>	<p>The Saunders Award is administered by the Mining & Exploration Division of the Society, under the direction of the SME Board of Directors.</p> <p>The Saunders Award Committee shall consist of nine members of the Society. Two members are to be appointed annually by the SME president upon the recommendation of the Mining & Exploration Division Nominating Committee. These appointments shall be subject to the approval of the SME Board of Directors. Tenure of office of committee shall be four years. The president of the Society shall be an ex officio member without vote of the Award Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of three nominations need to be received and evaluated for each award in order to select a winner. • Current members of the SME Board of Directors, SME Division Executive Committees, Award Committees, or Foundation Board of Trustees are NOT eligible for any awards that they are responsible for approving during their term, with the exception of "past chair" recognitions. • No person is eligible to receive more than one SME or SME/AIME award in a single year.
<p>SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS</p>	<p>Recipients of the Saunders Award shall be selected by a majority vote by the Award Committee, subject to the approval of the Mining & Exploration Division Executive Committee and the SME Board of Directors. The award need not be presented in any given year if a suitable candidate is not agreed upon.</p>
<p>AWARD</p>	<p>The award consists of a medal bearing the likeness of William Lawrence Saunders along with a suitable plaque or certificate that is engraved or embossed with the name of the award, the recipient's name, award citation, and year of award.</p>