

**Overview**

The UCA Young Member Award is presented to a Member who is age 35 or under (not 36 until January 1 in the year following the conference in which the Award is given) and has excelled, in one or more of, the following areas: technical accomplishment; development of innovative ideas, initiatives and approaches; challenging and improving industry practices, lead or contributed significantly to major technically complex operations through contributions to the tunneling and underground construction profession and/or UCA.

The focus of the Young Member Award will be on personal contribution made by the individual in delivery beyond expectations, personal commitment to improving the tunnel and underground construction industry, be a driver for technical and commercial success, be a proponent of tangible differences to the environment they operate in and provide leadership in safety.

The nominee shall have been a member of UCA in good standing for at least two years prior to being nominated.

**Timeline**

The UCA Young Member Award adheres to the following timeline:

Due Date	Task
August 1 <sup>st</sup>	Call for nominations due – Issued by Chair for T&UC
September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Nominations Open
October 31 <sup>st</sup>	Nomination deadline
November 20 <sup>th</sup>	UCA Award Committee to submit recipient name and citation to Awards Coordinator
November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Awards Coordinator will submit to UCA of SME Executive Committee
March T&UC	Award recipients announced
Award will be presented annually at the NAT Conference typically held in June or in odd years at the UCA Fall Conference	

**Nominations**

Nominations should be submitted online by the membership at large to the Awards Committee. The Committee at its discretion, selects a candidate from the nominees for the Executive Committee confirmation.

Current Executive Committee members are ineligible for the award. If assistance is needed with the online application, please contact UCA staff at [awards@smenet.org](mailto:awards@smenet.org) or call UCA Customer Service at 303-948-4200.

**Administration**

The UCA Award Committee and of UCA staff will administer this award under the direction and supervision of the UCA Executive Committee.

**Selection of Recipients**

After nominations have closed, the UCA Awards Committee will be notified that nominations are ready for review. Once notified they will login at [smenet.org](http://smenet.org) and view all nominations and supporting documentation.

The Award Committee will review nominated individuals and select a recipient.

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<b>Award</b>	The UCA Young Member Award is to consist of a suitable plaque engraved with the recipient's name and year of the award. The recipient will also receive a complimentary registration to the event where the award is given and a one year UCA membership.
<b>Presentation of the Award</b>	The award is presented annually at the NAT Conference or at the UCA Fall Conference in odd years when the NAT conference is not held. There may be only one awardee per year
<b>Funding</b>	All expenses incurred in respect of the Award shall be the financial responsibility of general Underground Construction Division funds.
<b>Amendments</b>	These guidelines may be amended by the Award Committee, subject to approval by the UCA Executive Committee. Any such amendments must be reflected in all appropriate award documentation.
<b>Questions</b>	Questions may be directed to: Awards Coordinator, SME Member Services Department Phone: 303-948-4200 E-mail: <a href="mailto:awards@smenet.org">awards@smenet.org</a>