The Ben F. Dickerson III Award (Dickerson Award) was instituted by the Mining and Exploration Division of SME in 1987, and is presented in recognition of professionalism and contributions to the mining industry.

Ben F. Dickerson III was a member of AIME from 1962 until his death in 1987. He served on the Board of Directors and was chair of the M&E Division. He will be remembered for his numerous “ROCK IN THE BOX” columns which he began writing in 1980, and also for the humor, wit and satire of his “News and Rumor from the Bush” articles featured in *Skillings* magazine.

He believed in professionalism and encouraged his employees to participate in professional societies in order to grow in their profession. Besides AIME, he was a member of SEG, GSA (Society of Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits), SIMM, AIPG, Colorado Mining Association, Northwest Mining Association, Mining Club of the Southwest, Mining Club of New York, and the Arizona Geological Society, to name just a few. He abhorred ignorance and apathy. His curiosity was boundless; he never stopped asking “Why?”

Although possible candidates may not possess all of these characteristics, the award should be presented to an individual who displays the honesty, integrity and sense of professionalism which Ben so highly regarded.

The Ben F. Dickerson III Award typically adheres to the following timeline:

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

Nominations for the Ben F. Dickerson III Award require the following information:

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).


7. Appropriate award citation.

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](http://smenet.org/awards-recognition).

# ADMINISTRATION

The Ben F. Dickerson III Award is administered by the Mining & Exploration Division (M&E Division) of the Society, under the direction of the SME Board of Directors. The Award Committee shall consist of seven members, including the following:

- Assistant vice chairperson of program planning, who will act as chair
- Past chairperson
- Chairperson-elect
- Three at large members, appointed to a three-year term by the division chair (the three-year terms shall be staggered so that one new member is appointed each year).

The 7th member shall be the most recent award recipient, who shall serve until the next award is presented.

- 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.

# SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Recipients of the Dickerson Award shall be selected by a majority vote by the Award Committee, subject to the approval of the SME Board of Directors. The award need not be presented in any given year if a suitable candidate is not agreed upon.

# AWARD

The Dickerson Award consists of a custom statuette designed by Gary Prazen. A plaque engraved with the name of the award, recipient’s name, and year of award will be affixed to the base of the statue.

# PRESENTATION OF AWARD

The Dickerson Award will be presented at the Mining & Exploration Division’s Annual Luncheon, held in conjunction with the SME Annual Conference & Expo.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>FUNDING</strong></th>
<th>All expenses incurred with respect to the Dickerson Award shall be the financial responsibility of the M&amp;E Division.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>AMENDMENTS</strong></td>
<td>These regulations may be amended by the Dickerson Award Committee, subject to approval by the M&amp;E Division Executive Committee and SME Board of Directors. Any such amendments must be reflected in all appropriate award documentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>QUESTIONS</strong></td>
<td>Questions may be directed to:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Awards Coordinator Email: <a href="mailto:awards@smenet.org">awards@smenet.org</a> or SME Member Services Department Phone: 303-948-4200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>