OVERVIEW AND ELIGIBILITY

The Rock Mechanics Award shall be given for distinguished contributions to the advancement of the field of rock mechanics and is open to all regardless of age, nationality, SME membership, or professional field.

There are no limitations regarding nationality or membership in the Society, though preference is given to Society members. All candidates must be living at the time of award presentation.

TIMELINE

The Rock Mechanics 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 Rock Mechanics 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
### ADMINISTRATION

The Rock Mechanics Award is jointly administered by SME’s Coal & Energy and Mining & Exploration Divisions. The Rock Mechanics Award Committee consists of four representatives from each division, each serving a four-year term. The chair of the committee shall rotate between the divisions annually and shall be the appropriate division’s outgoing senior member of the committee.

- 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 Rock Mechanics Award shall be selected by the Award Committee, subject to the approval of the C&E Division Executive Committee, M&E Division Executive Committee, and the SME Board of Directors. No more than one award will be made each year. An achievement in rock mechanics by a team of two or more may be recognized in manner designated by the Award Committee.

### AWARD

If in any year the Award Committee does not find a nominee whose contribution merits the award, or if the available funds are not sufficient to merit the costs of an award, it may recommend that no award be made.

### PRESENTATION OF AWARD

The Rock Mechanics Award is presented during either the Coal & Energy Division Annual Luncheon or the Mining & Exploration Division Annual Luncheon, at the discretion of the recipient. The recipient will receive one complimentary ticket to the appropriate luncheon.

### FUNDING

All expenses incurred with respect to the award will be paid by the M&E Division or the C&E Division or shall come from the income derived from any money paid to the Society as endowment for this award. Any such endowment fund shall be placed by the Society in a Rock Mechanics Award fund.

### AMENDMENTS

These regulations may be amended by the Rock Mechanics Award Committee, subject to approval by the C&E Division Executive Committee, M&E Division Executive Committee, and SME Board of Directors.

### QUESTIONS

Questions may be directed to:
- Awards Coordinator Email: awards@smenet.org
- SME Member Services Department Phone: 303-948-4200