

2026



VCU Parking and Transportation
Professional Recognition Award
2025 Organization of the Year

IPMI Professional Recognition Awards Submission Guide





Table of Contents

About the IPMI	
Professional Recognition Awards	3
Award Categories	3-4
Evaluations and Judging	5
Recognition and Benefits	5
Entry Requirements and Criteria by Category	6-9
FAQs	10



About the IPMI PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION AWARDS

Professional Recognition Awards recognize the contributions of parking, transportation, and mobility industry organizations and professionals—our industry's best. Entries may be self- or peer-nominated. **Nominees must be IPMI members in good standing**, and there is no fee to submit a nomination.

Award Portal Opens:
September 15, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

Award Portal Closes:
October 29, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.

Incomplete submissions will not be judged or considered for an award.



2026 PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION AWARD CATEGORIES

Professional Excellence Awards

Professional Excellence Awards recognize excellence for all staff, from the front-line to management. Awards recognize outstanding performance in a specific area of expertise:

- Customer Service
- Finance
- Frontline
- Human Resources
- Innovation
- Leadership
- Marketing
- Management
- Operations

Emerging Leader of the Year

IPMI honors an emerging leader each year to promote and recognize the best and brightest young professionals in the industry. This award recognizes an up-and-coming young professional who demonstrates outstanding leadership and accomplishments. To be eligible to receive this award, nominees must be 40 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2025.



Josh Stone, PTMP
Professional Recognition Awards
2025 Emerging Leader of the Year



Organization of the Year

IPMI recognizes an organization that demonstrates comprehensive operational excellence across a wide range of areas, including organizational culture, customer service, innovation, and more.

University of California, Riverside
Transportation Services
2025 Organization of the Year

Industry Professional of the Year

This award recognizes industry veterans who exhibit exemplary leadership, service, and industry contribution in the performance of their duties and as a member of the communities they serve. To be eligible to receive this award, nominees must have served in a parking, transportation and/or mobility position for 10 years or more.



Brett Wood, PTMP
Professional Recognition Awards
2025 Industry Professional of the Year

Evaluations and Judging

Submissions are evaluated and ranked by the IPMI Professional Recognition Awards judges.

Our volunteer judges are fielded from professionals in the parking, transportation, and mobility industry from every sector, bringing a wealth of experience and diverse perspectives to the evaluation process.

Recognition

Professional Recognition Award winners will receive recognition and visibility across all IPMI communications and platforms, as well as at the 2026 IPMI Conference & Expo.

Professional Recognition Awards Acknowledgment and Benefits

- Invitation to accept your award in-person, on-stage during the Awards & Recognition General Session at the annual IPMI Conference & Expo.
- One Professional Recognition Award trophy to display your achievement.
- A dedicated Professional Recognition Award magazine feature in *Parking & Mobility*.
- High visibility in IPMI's press release, including a featured post on the IPMI website.
- Promotion on IPMI social media.
- Official press release template to share the news with your media list.
- Custom dated Professional Recognition Award logo and graphics for websites, emails, social media, and more.



Professional Excellence Awards

This award recognizes excellence and outstanding performance for all staff, from the front-line to management, in a specific area of expertise.

NOTE: Completion of all sections is required. Each section has a 250-word limit.

Specify an Area of Expertise

Customer Service, Finance, Frontline, Human Resources, Innovation, Leadership, Marketing, Management, Operations, Technology, or select your own specific area of expertise!

Narrative Requirements

- ☐ **Summary:** Describe the nominee and role within the organization. (20%)
- ☐ **Community and Industry Contributions:** Describe nominee's contribution to the parking, transportation, and mobility industry. (20%)
- ☐ **Organization Culture, Leadership, and Staffing:** Describe the nominee's professional reputation and relationship with staff, patrons, and colleagues. (20%)
- ☐ **Strategic Planning and Technology Application:** Demonstrate the nominee's application of creative solutions, innovation, and best practices. (20%)
- ☐ **Examples of Nominee's Specific Expertise:** Provide at least three specific examples of the nominee's professional contributions related to the category selected. (20%)

Required Supporting Documentation

- ☐ Resume including list of accomplishments/awards (.pdf format)
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a supervisor (.pdf)
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a peer (.pdf)
- ☐ One professional headshot (high resolution, 300 dpi, photo credit required)
- ☐ Organization logo in two formats (300 dpi, .jpg/.tif, and .png transparent background)
- ☐ Three images to showcase nominee personally and/or professionally with captions (photo credits required)
- ☐ Social media handles for LinkedIn, X, Facebook, and Instagram
- ☐ Videos may also be submitted via YouTube link with appropriate video credit.

Aaron Nuque, PECP
2025 Professional Excellence Award Winner, Leadership



Emerging Leader of the Year

IPMI honors an emerging leader each year to promote and recognize the best and brightest young professionals in the industry. This award recognizes an up-and-coming young professional who demonstrates outstanding leadership and accomplishments.

NOTE: Completion of all sections is required. Each section has a 250-word limit.

Requirements

- ☐ **Summary:** Describe the nominee and role within the organization demonstrating excellence in a parking, transportation, and/or mobility position at the time of the nomination, demonstrating a minimum of two years and exceptional leadership. (20%)
- ☐ **Organization Culture, Leadership, and Staffing:** Describe the nominee's professional reputation and relationship with staff, patrons, and colleagues. (20%)
- ☐ **Strategic Planning and Technology Application:** Demonstrate the nominee's application of creative solutions, innovation, and best practices. (20%)
- ☐ **Examples of Nominee's Specific Expertise:** Provide at least three specific examples of the nominee's professional contributions related to the category selected. (20%)
- ☐ **Community and Industry Contributions:** (20%)
 - Describe nominee's contribution to the parking, transportation, and mobility industry through service and leadership in community engagement and professional development.
 - Demonstrate service and contributions to IPMI and/or its affiliates, including but not limited to volunteer positions and contribution through authorship, speaking opportunities, and/or special projects and initiatives.
 - Demonstrate service and contributions outside of the industry. This may include civic and charitable organizations, and leadership or service in associations or groups outside of the industry.

Required Supporting Documentation

- ☐ Resume including list of extraordinary accomplishments and awards (.pdf)
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a supervisor (.pdf)
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a peer or subordinate (.pdf)
- ☐ Headshot (high resolution, 300 dpi, photo credit required)
- ☐ Organization logo in two formats (300 dpi, .jpg/.tif, and .png transparent background)
- ☐ Three images to showcase the individual personally and/or professionally, with captions (photo credits required).
- ☐ Social media handles for LinkedIn, X, Facebook, and Instagram
- ☐ Videos may also be submitted via YouTube link with appropriate video credit.
- ☐ Copy of government-issued photo identification demonstrating the nominee is 40 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2025.

Organization of the Year

This award recognizes an organization that demonstrates comprehensive operational excellence across a wide range of areas, including organizational culture, customer service, innovation, and more.

NOTE: Completion of all sections is required. Each section has a 250-word limit.

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Nominee has demonstrated commitment to advancing unique and innovative ideas and creativity across the organization.
- ☐ Nominee demonstrates documented standards of excellence in customer service, operations, finance, human resources, professional development, marketing, and more.

Nomination Requirements

- ☐ **Organization Overview:** Provide a list or summary of programs and services, as well as statistics and figures that describe the volume, size, efficiency, and services provided by the organization. (20%)
- ☐ **Programs and Services:** Description of three or more programs and services, including program goals and outcomes and benchmarking and other data to document program success. Share how a program/service has been successful, and/or describe a difficult challenge and how the organization addressed that challenge. (20%)
- ☐ **Strategic Planning and Technology**
Application: Describe how your organization plans and responds to changes in the parking, transportation, and mobility sector, including how technology is being applied to drive the organization's success. Include a brief description of a specific cutting-edge program or service implemented in the last two years (January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2024). Discuss the outcome of this new program or service and how it affected the organization and/or its customers. (20%)
- ☐ **Organization Culture, Leadership, and Staffing:** Describe the organization's mission and/or guiding principles, and how these values

are demonstrated and exhibited by staff and leadership. Include short profiles and details about three of your team members who illustrate the organization's values. (20%)

- ☐ **Community and Industry Contributions:**

Describe the organization's role and participation in the context of the industry as well as the community that it served. Include contributions and partnerships with IPMI, its affiliates, and the greater community, including participation in the Accredited Parking Organization (APO) and PTMP certification programs, volunteer contributions supported by the organization including but not limited to participation in state and regional associations, other civic or charity organizations, authorship, speaking opportunities, and/or special projects and initiatives (20%).

Required Supporting Documentation

- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a peer organization (.pdf)
- ☐ List of organization's awards
- ☐ Financial report and/or annual report, operating statements, or similar documentation to showcase the organization's financial stability, opportunities for growth, and future planning (to January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2024)
- ☐ Organization logo in two formats (300 dpi, .jpg/.tif, and .png transparent background)
- ☐ Six to 10 images to showcase the organization, with captions (photo credits required)
- ☐ Social media handles for LinkedIn, X, Facebook, and Instagram
- ☐ Videos may also be submitted via YouTube link with appropriate video credit.

Industry Professional of the Year

This award recognizes industry veterans who exhibit exemplary leadership, service, and industry contribution in the performance of their duties and as a member of the communities they serve.

NOTE: Completion of all sections is required. Each section has a 250-word limit.

Eligibility Requirements

- ☐ Served in a parking, transportation and/or mobility position for 10 years or more.
- ☐ Served in a leadership or volunteer position for IPMI or affiliated state and regional association in the past five years.
- ☐ Demonstrates civic engagement and/or volunteerism outside of the parking, transportation, and mobility industry in the past five years.

Nomination Requirements

- ☐ **Summary:** Describe the nominee and role within the organization demonstrating excellence in parking, transportation, and/or mobility positions at the time of the nomination (minimum of 10 years' industry service). (20%)
- ☐ **Organization Culture, Leadership, and Staffing:** Describe the nominee's professional reputation and relationship with staff, patrons, and colleagues. (20%)
- ☐ **Strategic Planning and Technology Application:** Demonstrate the nominee's application of creative solutions, innovation, and best practices. (20%)
- ☐ **Expertise and Impact:** Describe extraordinary contribution to the parking, transportation, and mobility industry, include details describing industry impacts and outcomes. (20%)
- ☐ **Community and Industry Contributions:** Describe contribution to the parking, transportation, and mobility industry through service and leadership in community engagement and professional development. Demonstrate service and contributions to IPMI and/or its affiliates, including but not limited to

volunteer positions and contribution through authorship, speaking opportunities, and/or special projects and initiatives. Demonstrate service and contributions outside of the industry. This may include civic and charitable organizations, and leadership or service in associations or groups outside of industry. (20%)

Required Supporting Documentation

- ☐ Resume including list of extraordinary accomplishments/awards (.pdf)
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a supervisor (.pdf)
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a peer (.pdf)
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a subordinate (.pdf)
- ☐ One professional headshot (high resolution, 300 dpi, photo credit required)
- ☐ Organization logo in two formats (300 dpi, .jpg/.tif, and .png transparent background)
- ☐ Three images to showcase the individual personally and/or professionally, with captions (photo credits required)
- ☐ Social media handles for LinkedIn, X, Facebook, and Instagram
- ☐ Videos may also be submitted via YouTube link with appropriate video credit.

Frequently Asked Questions

If my entry is the only one in a category, will I win by default?

If your entry reaches the established threshold after judging, then yes! With this threshold in place, IPMI ensures that high-caliber entries will be recognized.

Can I resubmit a previous entry?

Yes. If the project wasn't chosen for an award, you may update the entry and resubmit if it meets the eligibility requirements.

Are there eligibility requirements for Emerging Leader of the Year or Industry Professional of the Year nominees?

Yes. Emerging Leader of the Year nominees must be 40 years of age or younger as of December 31, 2025. Industry Professional of the Year nominees must have served in a parking, transportation and/or mobility position for 10 years or more and in a leadership or volunteer position for IPMI or affiliated state and regional association in the past five years. Additional eligibility guidelines are included in the criteria for each award.

Can I submit two people from my organization for the same award?

We suggest that you only enter one person from your organization in a category. If entered in the same one, these people will compete against each other. You may be able to submit one in a similar category; review the descriptions to determine eligibility. Aside from the Organization of the Year award, Professional Recognition Awards are individual awards that recognize one person. Submissions that nominate two people in the same entry will not be considered.

Could there be more than one person or organization awarded in each category?

If multiple entries achieve the highest threshold, multiple people or organizations may be recognized.

How long is the narrative for each submittal?

Submissions in all four categories allow 250 words per section for a maximum of 1,250 words.



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