

2026 TCSE Lifetime Achievement Award Criteria

1. General

TCSE Lifetime Achievement Award is presented annually to an individual who has contributed a lifetime of outstanding and sustained contributions to the Software Engineering community. These contributions have had a practical impact on the way Software Engineering is currently practiced or taught. Nomination packages should specifically address the nominee's lifetime of contributions to Software Engineering and Software Development and the impact of these contributions on current Software Engineering and Software Development practice or education.

2. Detailed Criteria for the Award

The Committee expects a recipient of the Award to excel in at least four among Criteria 2.1 to 2.6 below. Additionally, the contributions that qualify them for the Award should span several decades. For a nominee to be considered primarily under criterion 2.7, an exceptionally strong case would be needed.

2.1. The nominee has been a transformational leader in at least one area of Software Engineering research, e.g., has made a series of breakthroughs that have fundamentally changed the area.

2.2. The nominee has performed foundational research in at least one area of Software Engineering, which others have adopted and built on to achieve greater effects.

2.3. The nominee has created foundational products with lasting value to software engineers.

2.4. The nominee has inspired others through their example in having demonstrated the value that rigorous software engineering practices bring to technology challenges.

2.5. The nominee has made outstanding contributions to software engineering education and teaching, e.g., through innovations in curriculum, pedagogy, and/or outreach.

2.6. The nominee has an outstanding record of mentoring students and/or practitioners, imparting the importance of following good software engineering practices when developing complex software.

2.7. The nominee has made other outstanding contributions that, in the opinion of the Committee, warrant the award.

Nominators should provide information or URLs to information that support claims made in the nomination, and check that the URLs are valid.

Find details about the eligibility and conflict of interest rules, nomination package, and nomination and selection processes [here](#).