2026 TCSE Rising Star in Software Engineering Award Criteria

1. General

TCSE Rising Star Award is presented annually to an academic researcher or an industry professional in the early stages of their post PhD career who has made contributions above and beyond those considered normal for a person at such an early stage. Nomination packages should specifically address contributions to Software Engineering and Software Development.

2. Detailed Criteria for the Award

Ordinarily, a recipient of this award will be either an academic researcher or an industry researcher who completed their PhD no more than 6 years prior to the time of nomination. However, extenuating circumstances, e.g., a documented interruption in employment including but not limited to family related or medical leaves, family leaves or military service, may qualify a nominee who received their PhD earlier to be considered "early in their career." In such circumstances, the nominator should contact the TCSE Award Co-Chairs for a decision about the nominee's eligibility prior to submitting a nomination.

2.1. Criteria for an academic researcher.

The Committee expects an academic researcher who is nominated for the Award to exceed expectations for a person of their experience in at least two among Criteria 2.1.1 to 2.1.3. For a nominee to be considered primarily under criterion 2.1.4, an exceptionally strong case would be needed.

> 2.1.1. The nominee has demonstrated leadership in the Software Engineering community.

> 2.1.2. The nominee has produced and disseminated important research results with impacts on software engineering concepts and practice.

> 2.1.3. The nominee has made significant educational contributions, e.g., design of new courses, curricula, and syllabi, or exceptional mentoring.

> 2.1.4. The nominee has made other outstanding contributions that, in the opinion of the Committee, warrant the Award.

2.2. Criteria for an industry researcher.

The Committee expects an industry researcher who is nominated for the Award to exceed expectations for a person of their experience in at least two among Criteria 2.2.1 to 2.2.3. For a nominee to be considered primarily under criterion 2.2.4, an exceptionally strong case would be needed.

> 2.2.1. The nominee has demonstrated leadership in the Software Engineering community.

> 2.2.2. The nominee has produced and disseminated important research results with impacts on software engineering concepts and practice.

> 2.2.3. The nominee has successfully managed multiple major projects from initiation (including product development) to delivery and beyond.

> 2.2.4. The nominee has made other outstanding contributions that, in the opinion of the Committee, warrant the Award.

Find details about the eligibility and conflict of interest rules, nomination package, and nomination and selection processes here.