AWARD PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Young Professional of the Year Award recognizes exceptional young professionals of the AZ Water Association for their significant contributions to the water/wastewater industry and to AZ Water.

BACKGROUND

The AZ Water Association has been recognizing excellence among its young professionals with the Young Professional of the Year Award since 2003.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The selection committee consists of the AZ Water Young Professionals Committee Chair, past award recipients, the AZ Water Awards Program Chair, and the Awards Program Committee Representative. The committee shall consist of at least five members. Additional representation from the AZ Water Board or Awards Program Committee may be added if needed.

Entry forms and additional information for each nominee are distributed to the selection committee for review and ranking. A conference call is scheduled to discuss the rankings and select an award recipient. For nominees who are not selected, the nomination can be resubmitted in subsequent years; however, a person can receive the award only once. Only one award may be given out each year. An award is not necessarily given out every year if a deserving award recipient cannot be selected from the field of nominees.

Once an award recipient has been selected, the selection committee chair contacts the nominator to request a biographical statement. The selected award recipient will be notified by the committee prior to the annual conference.

GENERAL CRITERIA

The following are general criteria for nominees:

1. Complete all fields of the “Young Professional of the Year Entry Form” and upload the required additional information indicated below in the Nomination Process Section.

2. Nominees shall be either 35 years old or younger or have 10 years of experience or less in the water/wastewater industry and shall be a member in good standing of the AZ Water Association.
3. The AZ Water Award Committee reserves the right to determine eligibility of all entries.
4. Entries received after the posted deadline will not be accepted.

**JUDGING**

Entries will be judged on the basis of individual contributions on the basis of the rating guidelines listed herein.

**Rating Guidelines**

Evaluation criteria will include the nominee’s:

1. Contribution to the Water/Wastewater industry
2. Contributions to the AZ Water Association, WEF, and AWWA

**NOMINATION PROCESS**

In order to enter a nominee for the Young Professional of the Year Award, complete all fields of the Young Professional of the Year Entry Form on the Awards Program Committee webpage, provide at least one (1) recommendation letter from the nominee’s employer (include name and position). In addition, upload scanned copies of up to four (4) letters of recommendation from employers, peers, regulating agencies, or others in the water/wastewater industry along with the entry form.

**ENTRY FORMS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED ONLINE ONLY**

**AWARD PRESENTATION**

The award style is determined by the Awards Program Committee. The current award style is a 9” x 7” acrylic curvature sculpture.

The award is presented at the AZ Water Association Annual Conference. Afterwards, a photo is taken of the award recipient with the AZ Water President, which will be displayed throughout the conference on available screens.