



**Awards**  
2026

# How to apply

Information pack

#YEPawards26

## Thanks for your interest

Now in its 12th year, the Young Energy Professionals (YEP) Awards will be celebrating our future leaders at a crucial time for our sector; wherever you look, there is widespread change.

The next generation is working hard to innovate, solve problems and deliver the solutions that support a reliable, clean and affordable energy system. These awards are a moment to take a step back to celebrate success and recognise those working hard across the sector.

- If you're here to nominate someone else, good on you! Thanks for taking the time to give back and support someone.
- If you're here to nominate yourself, we support that! Plenty of people have won awards through self-nomination, so don't be afraid to shine.

The YEP Awards are **free to enter**.

Putting your people forward for YEP awards isn't just a great way to recognise their hard work. It also positions your company as a key player in an innovative, people-centred energy transformation.

If you'd like to explore this aspect in greater detail, sponsoring an award is also a great way to get your brand out there. You can find more information about ceremony tickets and sponsorship opportunities on the [Energy UK website](#).

## Eligibility criteria and entry rules

The awards are an opportunity to give credit to early career professionals with up to 10 years of experience in the energy industry or its supply chain, who have used initiative and shown drive to carry out work that has had an impact on their company and the wider industry.

### The candidate must:

- Have no more than 10 years' experience in energy.
- Work or study in the UK.

### You can apply:

- **On behalf of yourself or someone else.**  
If you are nominating yourself, you must name a referee to be contacted to support your application.
- **If you're a student.**  
Please provide details of a referee who can confirm your status.
- **For more than one category.**  
Please note: judges may consider a different category if they feel your award fits better there.

### You can't apply:

- **For the same award category as 2025.**  
And if you applied in 2025, the content of your application must differ.

## Judging criteria

The judges will be allocating marks based on the level of evidence shown against the below criteria:

- **Delivery:** Was the project executed well? Did the candidate or team work with others to deliver it? Were results delivered on budget and time?
- **Impact:** To what extent did the candidate or team make a difference to their organisation and the wider industry? The valuable outcomes of their work should be included in the application.
- **Innovation:** How well did the candidate perform overall in problem solving, thinking creatively and developing new solutions? Did they overcome any obstacles? Have they challenged the status quo?

We recommend that candidates or teams include additional evidence in their application form, compiled into a single-page PDF document. You can share images, case studies, testimonials, presentations or reports – anything that supports the work undertaken and can be used to support your application.

**Please do not include any confidential or sensitive information in your application.**

**[The judges will be confirmed in the coming weeks on the Energy UK website.](#)**

## How to apply

You can nominate yourself, or someone else, for any of the awards.

### Nominate yourself

### Nominate someone else

## Application questions

- In 100 words, tell us why the candidate or team should win the award you are applying for.
- In 100 words, tell us what problem this person or team has attempted to fix, or what need is driving their work?
- In no more than 500 words, describe a situation where the candidate or team were outstanding. **Please describe the situation, task, action and result and note any obstacles or challenges overcome.**
- In 100 words, what is the overall impact their work has had on your organisation and/or the wider energy industry, or public?

## Key dates

- The deadline for award applications is **Wednesday 5 August**.
- The list of finalists for the YEP Awards will be published on the Energy UK website on **Wednesday 16 September**.
- All those selected as YEP Awards finalists will receive an email confirming their place a few days before the above date.
- Winners will be announced at the ceremony on **Wednesday 11 November** and posted on the Energy UK website the next day.

## Award categories



### Audrey Gallacher Award for Excellence


This award was introduced to commemorate Audrey, Energy UK's former Deputy CEO who sadly passed away in 2022. Audrey did not follow a traditional academic route into the industry, which helped shape the different perspective she brought to her role. This award recognises an individual who has entered the industry through a similar non-traditional pathway either without attending university, or by accessing higher education through routes such as scholarships or employer-supported programmes. It celebrates those who may not have had a conventional academic start but have gone on to achieve significant success in their field.

### Communications & Engagement

This award recognises the candidate who can demonstrate how they've used outstanding communications and engagement skills to benefit their company, and/or the wider energy industry. Have you used creative communications to incite change internally or externally? Has your stakeholder management resulted in better community or political engagement? Have you developed strong relationships to drive meaningful action?

### Customer Champion

This award recognises the candidate who has gone above and beyond for customers. Has your work led to improved customer experiences? Have you made a difference during the energy crisis? Has your project helped keep customer bills down?



## Award categories



### Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Focus


This award recognises the candidate who has gone above and beyond in activities to improve equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in the energy sector. Did you encourage your company to recognise EDI through setting up a dedicated initiative? Have you supported others, and implemented change to improve inclusivity?

### Rising Star

This award recognises the candidate with fewer than two years of experience in the energy industry – or a current student – who is already making a difference. Have you worked on a project and made an impression on your company at this early stage in your career? Have you utilised your academic experience to propose a solution to an energy challenge?

### STEM Trailblazer

This award recognises the candidate who has demonstrated innovation and entrepreneurship in Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) within the energy sector. Have you implemented a new project that's displayed change and created sustained improvement within industry? Have you thought outside the box to solve a problem, bringing others along with you? Have you helped push the boundaries within STEM of what the energy industry can do?



# Award categories



## Supply Chain Innovator

This award recognises the candidate whose focus on or within the supply chain has delivered results. It's open to people working directly within the supply chain, or those working with suppliers, judges will be looking for innovation, impact and delivery. Have you led on a project that has broken barriers and driven change? Have you introduced supply chain strategies that have helped boost your company's goals? Has your work led to a more sustainable approach, or boosted UK opportunities?


## Team of the Year

(two or more people)

This award is for a team that has achieved results in developing and implementing the company's strategic objectives. Has your team pushed the company forward? Have you carried out a project/campaign which enhanced your company? Were you an effective team improving relationships within your company?

## YEP of the Year

This award is for the candidate who has the potential to be a future leader within the industry as a stand-out performer within your business. Are you an exceptional candidate who has made a difference to your company and the wider industry? Have you shown leadership to advance your company? Have you been part of a project that has dramatically advanced your company?



# Awards ceremony

Energy UK hosts the evening, which includes a drinks reception, three-course dinner and keynote speeches from leaders across the energy industry.

## Venue

Hilton London Bankside  
2-8 Great Suffolk St  
London  
SE1 0UG

## Date

Wednesday 11 November

## Time

6pm - 12am

## Dress code

Black tie



# The Young Energy Professionals Forum

The Young Energy Professionals (YEP) Forum promotes and inspires the next generation of energy industry leaders, providing opportunities to connect, develop and recognise success.

We have over **3,000** members representing more than **350** companies – plus students, too.

Membership is free, and gives you access to a calendar of events, from site visits to panel talks and pub quizzes to parliamentary receptions. Discussions cover the whole spectrum of energy and a wide range of topics.

Visit the [YEP Forum website](#) to learn more.

## Follow us



[Young Energy Professionals Forum](#)



[YEPForum@energy-uk.org.uk](mailto:YEPForum@energy-uk.org.uk)

#YEPawards26