



## Award Submission Rules and Regulations

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, February 14**

### ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY FEES and SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- The AUVSI XCELLENCE Awards are given to recognize new, creative and innovative ways of using unmanned systems to make our world better, safer and more productive. This can include new products, solutions, technology, projects or other advances in unmanned or autonomous systems technology and applications. These are collectively referred to here as “solutions.” Interested applicants should not be limited by these descriptions, but rather should seek to push the boundaries of the possible.
- The AUVSI XCELLENCE Awards are open to any organization or individual. Eligible organizations include businesses, nonprofits, schools, and government agencies. Being an AUVSI member or AUVSI XPONENTIAL 2020 exhibitor is not required.
- All solutions must have been released, launched, implemented, deployed or otherwise put into use on or after May 1, 2018. Beta versions, upgrades or new releases that include significant changes and added features are also welcome.
- Entries must be submitted online via the Awards website, with payment by credit card, check or wire transfer payment of the appropriate fee. If submitting multiple entries or the same solution into several categories, each must have its own completed online entry and payment (if applicable). The deadline for completed online entries is Friday, February 14. Payments by credit card must be made with the online submission by that date. Payments by check or wire transfer must be received by AUVSI no later than February 24, 2020.
- Entry fees are non-refundable. Incomplete entries or those without payment by the dates specified will be disqualified. However, not all categories require an entry fee. A breakdown of fees follows:

	<b>AUVSI Member</b>	<b>Non-Member</b>
Technology and Innovation – All Categories	\$299	\$349
Humanitarian	Free	Free
Public Safety	Free	Free

### MULTIPLE ENTRIES:

- There is no limit on the number of entries permitted. An organization or individual may submit as many entries in as many categories as appropriate.
- Each entry requires a separate online submission and entry fee (if applicable).
- If the same solution is being entered into multiple categories, a separate submission and entry fee is required.

## CATEGORIES:

**TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION**—recognizing those who strive for innovation as they boldly guide our industry into the next phase of technology advancement.

- Hardware — Platform
- Hardware — Component
- Software
- Services
- Commercial/Enterprise Operation or Solution
- XCELLENCE in Innovation

**HUMANITARIAN** — demonstrating the role unmanned and autonomous technology can play in bettering our world, AUVSI seeks to recognize organizations and/or individuals who have made a significant impact using unmanned or autonomous systems to serve in a humanitarian or philanthropic effort.

**PUBLIC SAFETY** — demonstrating unmanned or autonomous systems technology as a critical tool in saving lives, protecting our communities and improving the safety of our first responders, AUVSI recognizes public safety organizations and/or individuals who have made a significant impact using unmanned systems to serve their communities.

## JUDGING

- Entries will be evaluated by a panel of judges consisting of industry experts, analysts and members of the media. The judges will be appointed by AUVSI, in consultation with others as deemed appropriate.
- Judging is scheduled to begin in early March and be completed by late March/early April.
- The panel of judges will evaluate and score your solution based solely on your online entry.
- If your product is embargoed, you may indicate that on the online submission form, as well as the date until which the product is embargoed. We ask our judges to honor all embargoes and not share any information publicly prior to the embargo being lifted, however, AUVSI cannot assume responsibility for the actions of our judges.
- The **TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION** entries will be scored on the following:
  - Innovation and Ingenuity – Is this solution cutting-edge and unique from its competitors? Does it creatively solve a problem or leverage an opportunity in a way not demonstrated in other solutions? Is the idea revolutionary?
  - Functionality and Practicality – How practical and useful is the solution? Does it serve a true need in the marketplace? Are there limitations to the functionality and application of the solution? Consider regulatory, technological, and industry constraints.
  - Value, Impact and Effectiveness – How valuable or impactful is this solution? What reach does the solution have across the market?
  - Ease of Use/Implementation and Scalability – How easy is the solution to use or implement? Does it require specific training, and if so, how much?
  - Bonus Points as determined by the judges
    - Judge's discretion to award extra points for "Wow Factor", timeliness, market criticality, or other factors.

- The **HUMANITARIAN and PUBLIC SAFETY** entries will be scored based on the following:
  - Innovation and Ingenuity – Is this solution or program cutting-edge and unique from its competitors? Does it creatively solve a problem or leverage an opportunity in a way not demonstrated in other programs? Is the idea revolutionary?
  - Functionality and Practicality – How practical and useful is the solution? Has it been applied in a real-world situation? Does it serve to improve the human condition or save and protect lives and territory?
  - Implementation and Scalability – How easy is the solution to use or implement? Could it be easily transferred to a different context (i.e., region, disaster zone)? Does the solution require specific training and if so, how much?
  - Legacy – What is the lasting impact of this solution? Was it a one-off or did the solution create an ongoing program?
  - Impact – What is the impact of this solution on efforts to save lives, improve health and/or relieve hardship and suffering?

## FINALISTS & WINNERS:

- Finalists will be notified prior to AUVSI XPONENTIAL 2020. Not all finalists will be winners.
- Finalists with the highest qualifying scores will be the winners of that category.
- Winners will be determined prior to AUVSI XPONENTIAL 2020 and will be announced during the event.
- Winners will be announced on two separate occasions:
  - Winners in the Technology Innovation categories will be announced at the Awards Ceremony (*subject to change*):
    - Tuesday, May 5, 2020**
    - 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**
    - Learning Lab in the XPO Hall**
  - Winners in the Humanitarian and Public Safety categories will be announced during the Day 3 Keynote Session (*subject to change*):
    - Thursday, May 7, 2020**
    - 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM**
    - Ballroom**
- Winners (1<sup>st</sup> place, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Humanitarian and Public Safety) will receive a prestigious trophy as well as an electronic promotional toolkit containing a press release template, photos and electronic file of the “Xcellence Award Winner” logo which may be used in collateral materials, website, emails, etc. to promote your winning status.
- First Place winners will be invited on stage during each ceremony to accept their award and for a photo opportunity.
- Subject to sponsorships received for the Xcellence Awards program, up to three highest-scoring entries for the Humanitarian and Public Safety categories will win a cash donation. This cash donation will be given to each winner, or to a charitable organization designated by the winner (subject to approval of the organization by AUVSI).

- All winners will be announced through social media and through a press release that will be issued the day of the awards ceremony.

## GENERAL:

- Entry in the competition entitles AUVSI the rights to use company names, any solution descriptions or images for promotional materials created by AUVSI and/or its sponsors.
- Entry in the competition indicates an agreement to abide by these AUVSI XCELLENCE Awards 2020 Rules & Regulations.
- AUVSI and the judges reserve the right to interpret and apply these Rules and Regulations without claim for damage or recourse of any kind. The decisions of AUVSI and the judges are final.

## QUESTIONS:

A list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) regarding the awards program is available for reference. If your question is not addressed, please contact Shannon Whitney, the Awards Administrator, at [swhitney@auvsi.org](mailto:swhitney@auvsi.org) and we will respond as soon as possible.

**Thank you and good luck!**