AEA Sapper and Miner Award of Distinction

2027 AEA Sapper and Miner Award of Distinction (SMAD) Guidance

The 2027 Sapper and Miner Award of Distinction (SMAD) process will begin on 04 January 2027. The Proposed timeline is:

- 04 January – 29 January 2027 — Receive nominations
- 01 February – 12 February 2027 — Review nominations for completeness
- 15 February – 26 February 2027 — AEA Awards Committee votes and ranks candidates.
- 05 March 2027 — AEA President selects winners.

Award Criteria. The SMAD is considered a lifetime service award (typically defined as 30 years) as a member of the Engineer Regiment, military and civilian, in any component. The award is targeted at individuals whose contributions were in the military engineering "green suit" portion of the Regiment and contributed significantly to the mission categories of mobility, countermobility, survivability, general engineering, or geospatial Army engineer operations. The individual must have had an extraordinary effect on the growth and mission performance of the entire Engineer Regiment, and not just a sub-element thereof. Since this is an AEA award, the person is expected to have a considerable background with AEA as evidenced by AEA membership history, service at the local chapter or at the national level, participation in AEA events, having been previously awarded a de Fleury medal. The individual's connection with and contributions to the Army Engineer Association are a key discriminator for the SMAD. The person nominated may be living or dead. Nominations must be endorsed by an AEA lifetime member in the grade of COL or higher (active or retired).

Submission Requirements. Anyone may submit an individual for consideration for Sapper and Miner Award of Distinction, but the nomination must be endorsed by an AEA lifetime member in the grade of COL or higher. The nomination form can be downloaded from the AEA website. The submission should be made to the AEA Executive Director or the AEA Operations Officer at Fort Leonard Wood. The submission window for a nomination is 04 - 29 January 2027. In addition to the AEA nomination form, a SMAD nomination is expected to have a 1–2-page biography (or curricula vitae) and a 2–4-page narrative that clearly outlines the nominees' accomplishments and explains how the accomplishments contributed to both the Army Engineer mission and to support the Army Engineer Association goals, objectives, and programs. The nomination will clearly state who the recommender is and include their contact information in case additional information is required.

Nominations are submitted to the AEA XD who will consolidate and provide them to the Awards Committee: COL(R) Adam Roth, LTC(R) Tracy Smith, CW4(R) Gus Wright.

The POC for this memo is the undersigned at (573) 528-5757 or xd@armyengineer.com.

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