

Outstanding Contribution Award

This award is to recognise an outstanding contribution to their organisation where the nominee has exceeded expectations.

What will the judges be looking for?

The judges will be looking for an exceptional contribution to the output or mission of an organisation. This might be the nominee's employer or a client they have worked for, but the organisation should be working in defence of the nation. The nominee will have gone over and above the expectations of their specific role even where their day job is a remarkable achievement.

They may have demonstrated more than one example of going above and beyond at different times during their career – the nomination can relate to a single or multiple contributions at any stage of the individual's career, there is no minimum experience needed for this award.

See also

The **Outstanding Contribution Award** shares similarities with the **Inspirational Award** as both categories relate to individuals who have exceeded all expectations. The key element of the **Inspirational Award is the role model aspect – inspiring others**; the key element of the **Outstanding Contribution Award is an exceptional contribution to the output or mission of their organisation**.

For early career professionals, also consider the **Emerging Talent category which is for women who consistently demonstrate exceptionally high performance in their role**.

The **Outstanding Contribution Award** shares similarities with the **Unsung Heroines category**. The key difference is that the **Unsung Heroine award improves the lot of people** working in defence of the nation, whereas the effect of the work under the **Outstanding Contribution** category is to **improve the output** of organisations, as they work to meet their vision or mission in support of the defence of the nation.

Finalists from earlier years

Last years' finalists were from the Army, Navy, and MoD Civil Service – and the reasons behind their nominations range from leading the Invictus Games Choir, to leading critical Forensic Chemistry analysis in military aviation, to making a significant contribution to changes to the Royal Military Police, the Army Servicewomen's Network and the Army.

Who can be entered?

This category is open to individual women only. As the award is sponsored by [BAE Systems](#), women employed by BAE Systems may not be entered for the category but may, of course, be nominated for any of the other categories.

How do I nominate?

Nominating someone is simple, just click [here](#), but we advise that you read this first!

To nominate, follow these easy steps:

- Provide the contact details of the woman you are nominating, please note the need to confirm that you have her agreement to share her details
- Tell us briefly why you think they deserve to be nominated (the citation part of the nomination form)
- Provide your own contact details.

The citation part of the nomination form is broken down into three elements:

1. An overview of why you are nominating this woman (maximum of 200 words)
2. An explanation of how this woman has demonstrated the criteria for this award category (maximum of 200 words)
3. Examples of the results this woman has achieved as supporting evidence (maximum of 200 words)

Hints and tips

Put yourself in the judges' shoes. They read lots of citations so **capture their attention early, be concise and provide context**. It may be obvious to you why an achievement is so worthy of recognition, but our judges may not have the same background or experience as you so please explain the significance.

Providing context to the citation (i.e. sphere of work, day to day tasks, key challenges, etc.), and tangible evidence of the outcome or effect that this had on others will strengthen the nomination hugely. Our judges may not be familiar with all parts of the defence enterprise so avoid or, at the very least, explain acronyms.

There is a word limit of 200 words per section. Even if the form allows you to enter more, the citation will be shortened if it exceeds this limit which could mean that it ends mid-sentence.

If you are not sure your nomination fits the criteria for the category, please contact us on WIDAwards@paconsulting.com.

Supporting Documentation

If you wish to provide supporting documentation, please add as a file at the bottom of the citation. Any links should be contained within a document. Please bear in mind that given the number of citations we receive, the judges will not routinely look at additional material, using it only to separate those who are close to being shortlisted and again at the finalists and winners judging stages. It follows that you should take time to carefully complete the citation and not rely on the strength of any supporting documentation which may not be used by the judges.

Nominations window

Nominations open on 25th April and close at midday on Friday 8th June 2018. We are unable to take any nominations or supporting documentation outside of those dates.