



ISE® Awards 2021 Nominations Quick Introduction Guide



Thank you for your interest in submitting a nomination for the ISE® Awards. This quick introduction guide will provide you with important deadlines, program history, and brief participation and evaluation criteria. Also note that best practices and tips are available to you on the ISE® Programs website. We want this to be a great experience—whether you are a nominee completing a form or a nominator who is completing this form on behalf of the nominee—and wish you much success. Do not hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions.

Important Dates ISE® Award Nomination Schedule 2021

TO BE DETERMINED.

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ABOUT THE ISE® AWARDS

For more than a decade, the **Information Security Executive® (ISE®) of the Year Award Program Series** has empowered security executives and their project teams to **Connect, Collaborate** and **Celebrate**. Recognized as the industry's most prestigious IT Security award program, it has become the most anticipated award program for security executives and their project teams. Winners have included executives and project teams from leading organizations such as AT&T, Columbia University, Bank of America, Aetna, Charles Schwab, Elavon, PayPal, Comcast, SunTrust, Jabil, and Scottrade.

Our distinguished ISE® Judges are past nominees representing a cross section of industries, including commercial, financial services, government, health care and academic sectors. For this reason, the ISE® Awards represent the best achievements of the year as evaluated by those regarded as the industry's most influential and successful thought leaders. Based on the quality and innovativeness of the application, ISE® Nominees may be invited to participate in the Executive Forum as a speaker, roundtable moderator or presenter of their success story via the ISE® Nominee Showcase.

Coupled with a one- or two-day executive summit, the ISE® Awards are held across the country in major cities including **Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, New York** and **San Francisco**. The ISE® Awards Program Series has reached more than 10,000 executives across a broad range of industries and has been a major influence in executives' careers, knowledge sharing, and the development of peer-to-peer relationships.

ISE® AWARD CATEGORIES

Each regional ISE® Award Program includes three categories of recognition: Executive, Project, and People's Choice. Additionally, the ISE® North America Awards Program includes four areas of industry recognition within both the Executive and Project categories: Academic/Pubic Sector, Commercial, Financial Services, and Health Care.

Executive Category

The ISE® Executive Award recognizes the individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the field of information security in the past 12 months. Awarded to a chief security officer or an executive in an equivalent position, the award honors exemplary achievement and excellence in risk management, data asset protection, governance, regulatory compliance, privacy, and network security.

Project Category

The ISE® Project Award recognizes an information security, risk management, governance or compliance project completed in the past 12-18 months that has had an impact on an organization's risk management and/or information security posture. This award recognizes the project team as well as their hard work.

People's Choice Award

Nominees submitted for an ISE® Executive Award are automatically eligible to receive the ISE® People's Choice Award. Voted by the security industry at-large, the People's Choice Award recognizes the executive nominee who exemplifies the attributes of a leader in the security industry. Votes are tabulated by T.E.N. and the winner is announced at the ISE® Awards Gala. Many ISE® Nominees launch Facebook and LinkedIn campaigns to encourage voting for this award.

ISE® AWARD CRITERIA

Candidates for the ISE® Awards may be nominated by a manager, team member, colleague, peer, technology partner, or themselves. An organization may submit only one nominee per ISE® Program in the Executive Category. An organization may enter up to two projects per ISE® Program in the Project Category (requires separate forms).

Only one form will be accepted per nominee, and only the first form that is received will be considered for nominations. Forms displaying duplicate information will not be considered valid.

Executive Category

- Must hold a title of manager or above (CSO, CISO, CTO, CIO, vice president, director or manager) for IT, networking or security departments.
- Must have primary responsibility for the organization's risk management, data asset protection, regulatory compliance, governance, privacy, and/or information/network security performance.
- Must have direct-report employees and budget responsibility.
- Must maintain primary residence in and be employed by a business or oversee the security infrastructure of a subsidiary that is located **in the designated region**.
- CANNOT have been a nominee for more than three consecutive years representing the same organization. If the executive moves to a different ISE® region or receives a promotion within the same organization, the executive is then eligible to submit a nomination and be considered as a nominee for the next three consecutive years. If the executive has changed company/organization, the executive must have worked at the new organization for at least 12 months prior to submitting a nomination.
- CANNOT participate in the current ISE® Program if a colleague or peer from the same organization is on the Judges Panel within the same region.
- CANNOT be an information security vendor, information security services provider, or contractor.

Project Category

- Must involve the risk management, data asset protection, regulatory compliance, governance, privacy, and/or information/network security performance of the company or organization.
- Must have been completed in the past 12-18 months.
- Must have an Executive Sponsor who attests to the facts submitted in the nomination form. An Executive Sponsor can be a CSO, CISO, CTO, CIO, vice president, or director from IT, networking, or security departments.
- Must have been accomplished by team members where the majority of the team or project deployment is located in **the designated region**.
- CANNOT participate in the current ISE® Program if a colleague or peer from the same organization is on the Judges Panel within the same region.
- CANNOT be an information security vendor, an information security services provider, or a contractor.

COMPONENTS OF THE ISE® NOMINATION PACKAGE

Please email your completed nomination form no later than the assigned deadline to kmartin@ten-inc.com. Only a completed nomination form will be considered by the Judges.

The ISE® Nomination – Executive Category package consists of the following items:

1. Completed nomination form
2. A recent, high-resolution professional headshot photograph (JPG or EPS)

The ISE® Nomination – Project Category package consists of the following items:

1. Completed nomination form
2. Company or organization logo in JPG format

ISE® AWARD SCORING PROCESS

The nomination form serves as the means by which all nominees are evaluated and must be completed in its entirety to be considered by the ISE® Judges. Incomplete applications are ineligible and will not be forwarded to the Judges. The ISE® Judges, an independent body of information security executives, will make the final decision on whether a nominee is qualified to participate in the ISE® Awards Program.

To be successful in the nomination process, an ISE® Nominee should work with their nominator (if applicable) to complete the nomination form to provide accurate and insightful information for the Judges to consider.

Executive Category

The Judges score Executive Nominees based on the following:

1. **Responsibilities** – Breadth and scope of responsibilities and number of users supported.
2. **Alignment** – Ability to align security with the organization goals. Specific examples should be provided so the Judges can assess the impact of the nominee’s information security/risk management/compliance/governance initiatives.
3. **Leadership** – Nominee’s style of internal leadership to accomplish his/her mission. The Judges also look at the nominee’s external leadership and commitment to the improvement of the industry as a whole.
4. **Innovation** – Specific examples that showcase the nominee’s creativity and ingenuity in problem solving.
5. **Technology Partnerships** – Ability to develop strategic relationships with vendors, solution providers, and technology partners. The Judges are also interested in learning about a nominee’s open dialogue toward improving products and services needed in the industry.
6. **Vision for the Future** – Nominee’s insight and ideas for the future and how it will affect security professionals over the next few years and beyond. The answer to this question should be carefully considered, as the Judges want to ensure that the ISE® Nominee will be a role model for the security profession for years to come.

Project Category

The Judges score Project Nominees based on the following:

1. **Project Description** – How complex and involved was the project in terms of its scope, size, length, and breadth.
2. **Business Case – Challenges or Issues to Solve** – Problem to be solved, goals of the project, and execution/implementation of project.
3. **Innovation** – Showcasing the project in terms of creativity and ingenuity in problem solving as well as the technology utilized.
4. **Results/Impact of the Project** – Impact to the organization along with measurable results.

BEST PRACTICE TIPS FOR COMPLETING THE ISE® NOMINATION FORM

- For your executive nomination, focus on the nominee's vision and strategy as well as the future for risk management, data asset protection, and privacy, governance, and information/network security. Judges give a great deal of weight to these questions. For project nominations, focus on the describing the project, including its complexity and innovation. Judges look to see how innovation was applied and weight these questions heavily.
- Include specific and measurable results to bring clarity and scope to the nomination. It helps to include direct feedback from third parties, including comments from bosses, peers, direct reports, vendors and other industry players.
- Pay attention to the time range covered by a specific question. If the question references "in the last 12 months," please do not include examples prior to that timeframe.
- Nominations from the nominee's technology partner (information security products and services providers) are welcome. We ask that when describing the nominee's use of the partner's products and/or services, focus on the nominee's business success through integration of the product or service and strategic value of the partnership, rather than on the product or service.
- Answer each question completely. Judges score each question on a scale of one to five based on the merit and quality of the answer. An omission of a single question will automatically reduce a nominee's score by five points, can potentially erode the credibility of the application as a whole, and/or disqualify the application. It can also be the deciding factor in selecting a nominee as a finalist.
- Please submit only the nomination form. Supplemental materials (articles, web links, blogs, social media profiles, presentations, etc.) are not provided to the judges and will be discarded.
- In advance of completing your nomination form, clearly establish your internal review and approval process as well as the timeframe required for these activities. Some organizations require that nomination forms be reviewed by the public relations department and/or a legal department. This can and will add extra time to the nomination process.

EVENT ATTENDANCE

All nominees will be recognized during the ISE® Awards Gala and are requested to attend the program. All Executive Nominees and Project Executive Sponsors and their teams are invited to attend the ISE® Awards on complimentary passes.*

Tickets and reserved award gala tables are available for an additional cost. For more information, please visit: <https://ten-inc.com/ise/default.asp>.

**Vendors/solution providers and consultants are not eligible for complimentary attendance. Vendors/solution providers and/or consultants must reach out to Deb Jones at djones@ten-inc.com to receive information on how they may attend.*

2021 ISE® PROGRAMS AND LOCATION CRITERIA

[ISE® Southeast Executive Forum and Awards Gala](#)

One-day program recognizing the leading IT and security executives and project teams in **Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.**

[ISE® Central Executive Forum and Awards Gala](#)

One-day program recognizing the leading IT and security executives and project teams in **Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin.**

[ISE® West Executive Forum and Awards Gala](#)

One-day program recognizing the leading IT and security executives and project teams in **Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.**

[ISE® Northeast Executive Forum and Awards Gala](#)

One-day program recognizing the leading IT and security executives and project teams in **Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington DC.**

[ISE® North America Leadership Summit and Awards Gala](#)

Two-day summit recognizing the leading IT and security executives and project teams in the **United States and Canada.**

Thank you for participating in the ISE® Awards. Good luck to you!