

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

Purpose

Do you know a graduate student who has shown exceptional dedication to the transportation profession, extraordinary enthusiasm for ITE, untiring labor toward transportation research, or unwavering professionalism in an intern position? The Mountain District Outstanding Graduate Student Award recognizes one graduate student each year who has shown exceptional dedication and passion in their research, mentorship, or work experience, or service to ITE.

Your nominee must be a graduate student (full- or part-time) at a school within the Mountain District (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming) and must be a member of ITE. They do not need to be enrolled at a school with an active ITE student chapter.

Submission and Selection Process

If you would like to nominate an outstanding graduate student, submit the following materials via email to the individuals listed below.

1. The nomination form (see next page).
2. A recommendation letter, no more than two pages in length, addressing your nominee's contributions to ITE and the transportation profession. Please refer to the Sample Questions to the right for guidance. The form and letter should be completed by the same person and submitted as a single PDF.
3. An image of your nominee, preferably a recent headshot-style photo, in JPG format.

Submit the nomination materials via email to:

Student and Younger Member Committee Chair:
Victoria Edington (victoria.edington@stantec.com)
Awards Committee Chair: Ati Abad
(atefeh.abad@atkinsrealis.com)

The information should be submitted by **April 3, 2026** (11:59pm Mountain Time).

All entries will be reviewed by members of the Mountain District Student and Younger Member Committee to select a winner. The winner will be notified in advance of the Mountain District Annual Meeting.

Award

The winner will be recognized at the ITE Mountain District Annual Meeting Awards Lunch and will receive a plaque commemorating the award.

Sample Questions

The following questions are provided only as guidance for your recommendation letter.

Academics

- Has your nominee excelled in transportation or other engineering courses?
- Has your nominee served as a teaching or lab assistant, and if so, are they particularly effective in this role?
- Does your nominee participate in activities that promote STEM engagement for K-12 students?

Research

- Has your nominee participated in a research project of significance to the profession?
- Has this student undertaken an ambitious and noteworthy thesis project?
- Has this student's contribution to a research project provided invaluable support and assistance?
- Has your nominee taken the initiative to conduct an independent study project?

Internship / Work Experience

- What hands-on experience opportunities has your nominee undertaken?
- Through recent internships or work experiences, has your nominee already proved to be an invaluable employee?

ITE Service

- If currently serving as an ITE student chapter officer, describe your nominee's exceptional leadership qualities.
- Does your nominee invest a generous amount of time in ITE activities?
- Has your nominee's enthusiasm for ITE affected other students and prompted their decision to join ITE or become more active?
- During the past year, did your nominee attend any ITE gatherings at the International, District, Section, or Chapter level?

STUDENT AWARDS

2026 OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Nominee Information

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

School: _____

Major: _____

Expected Degree and Graduation Date: _____

ITE Member Number: _____

Nominator Information

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please attach a recommendation letter, no more than two pages in length, addressing your nominee's contributions to ITE and the transportation profession.

This form and your recommendation letter should be submitted as a single PDF, along with an image of your nominee, no later than **April 3, 2026** (11:59pm Mountain Time).