



To: Chairman of a Member Society of the Peninsula Engineers Council  
From: Dr. Benjamin Simmons, Chair, Doug Ensor Award Committee  
Re: Guidelines to Member Societies for Nominating a Candidate for the 2026 Doug Ensor Award  
Date: September 10, 2025

You are invited to submit one (1) nomination for the Doug Ensor Award (Young Engineer of the Year) for 2026.

The Award, instituted in 1998 by the Peninsula Engineers Council (PEC), is given in recognition of an individual's contribution to the profession for significant technical accomplishments and community involvement. The Award is intended to acknowledge the individual in the early phases of his/her career and will be presented at the PEC Annual Awards Banquet during National Engineer's Week in 2026.

To be considered for the award, the candidate must:

- be less than 35 years of age (born after November 1, 1990);
- have less than 15 years of professional experience;
- be actively practicing in the engineering field either in technical analysis, management, research, operations, maintenance, sales, or teaching; and
- have worked or been a resident of the Peninsula area for at least two years as of November 1, 2025. (*The Peninsula area of Virginia is defined as the cities of Hampton, Poquoson, Newport News, and Williamsburg and the counties of James City and York.*)

Professional licensing is not a requirement, nor is membership in a professional engineering society. The candidate's accomplishments should be clearly outstanding relative to those of his/her peers. Equal weighting will be given in five areas to be considered by the Awards Selection Committee, which include:

- technical accomplishments,
- leadership,
- service to professional societies,
- community service, and
- content of the candidate's letters of recommendation.

The nomination package must contain:

- up to a two page biographical sketch outlining the candidate's record of achievement in the areas of accomplishment noted above,
- no more than three letters of recommendation, and
- a recent photograph that may be used for publicity purposes.

A candidate's nomination package must be sent electronically by close of business on November 17, 2025 to the Doug Ensor Award Committee Chair. Incomplete nominations, as determined by the Awards Selection Committee, or nominations received after the deadline will be rejected. The Committee will make its decision and present its recommendation to the full PEC during its December meeting for Council approval.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (757) 864-1519 or [benjamin.m.simmons@nasa.gov](mailto:benjamin.m.simmons@nasa.gov).

Thank you,

Dr. Benjamin Simmons  
Chair, Doug Ensor Award Committee  
NASA Langley Research Center

<p>Email Packages (no larger than 10 MB) to: <a href="mailto:benjamin.m.simmons@nasa.gov">benjamin.m.simmons@nasa.gov</a> A confirmation e-mail will be sent upon receiving the package. If you have not received a confirmation e-mail within two business days of sending, please call me at 757-864-1519.</p>
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