AWARD	PRIMARY RECOGNITION	KEY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	PRIMARY SELECTION CRITERIA
RISING STAR AWARD	Innovation, professional dedication and community commitment of emerging young CPA leaders.	• CPA member in good standing • CPA **licensed 10 years or less** • **Age 40 or under** at fiscal year-end	• Exemplary leadership in TXCPA, the profession and/or the community; chapter and committee service • Student and financial-literacy outreach • Speaking, writing and social media • Professional contributions • Civic and charitable involvement
YOUNG CPA OF THE YEAR	Significant contributions to the accounting profession and community by an accomplished young CPA.	• CPA member in good standing • **Age 40 or under** at fiscal year-end • Membership in at least one other professional organization	• Professional advancement and achievement • Publications and speaking • Significant TXCPA or chapter accomplishments • Community and charitable contributions • Participation in other professional organizations
DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE	Outstanding civic, charitable and community service unrelated to regular duties performed as a member.	• CPA member in good standing	• Ongoing civic and charitable leadership • Significant public-service projects • Promotion of public service through publications • Outstanding elected or appointed government service
IMPACT AWARD	Significant impact during the year through volunteer leadership, mentorship and advocacy for TXCPA and the Texas CPA community.	• CPA **licensed 10 or more years** • TXCPA member in good standing	• Advancement through advocacy, education or innovation • Sustained commitment to TXCPA's mission • Exceptional member support, mentorship and role modeling • Professionalism, integrity and collaboration
DISTINGUISHED FELLOW	Sustained professional excellence, **leadership and service within TXCPA** and the accounting profession over many years.	• CPA member in good standing • Leadership Council approval required	• Exceptional TXCPA and chapter leadership • Professional prominence • Career-long use of CPA competencies • Beneficial service to other professional organizations • Community leadership • Consistent long-term impact

AWARD	PRIMARY RECOGNITION	KEY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS	PRIMARY SELECTION CRITERIA
MERITORIOUS SERVICE TO THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION IN TEXAS	Exceptional and sustained **service of the accounting profession in Texas**, over many years.	• CPA member in good standing	• Career-long advancement of CPA competencies • Notable Texas contributions, particularly within the past five years • Advocacy and thought leadership • Sustained mentorship and service • Significant TXCPA or chapter leadership
B&I AWARD	Members in business, industry, government, nonprofit or education who help recruit others into the CPA profession.	• CPA member in good standing • Employed in or retired from a non-public accounting role	• Recruitment and mentoring of future CPAs • Career outreach • Employer or industry contributions • Organizational leadership • Civic or educational involvement promoting the profession • Workforce-development service
OUTSTANDING COMMITTEE CHAIR	Outstanding committee chair performance during the current year.	• CPA member in good standing • Serving as chair on a state-level committee	• Overall committee activity and impact • Preceding-year activity may count when it significantly affects current-year results for a chair serving a second year
OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTING EDUCATOR AWARD	Teaching excellence and distinguished service to the accounting profession by Texas accounting educators.	• Full-time accounting educator at a Texas college, university or community college • Classroom teaching was primary responsibility for three of the last five years • CPA license not required.	• Teaching philosophy and excellence • Classroom innovation • Practical student learning opportunities • Professional and student accounting organization involvement • Research and publications
HONORARY MEMBER	Contributions that substantially benefit TXCPA and the profession by an individual not eligible for regular membership.	• Not eligible for TXCPA membership • Texas residency is not required • Leadership Council approval required	• Statewide professional distinction • Substantive contributions to continuing education • Actions that enhance accountancy and benefit the public • Exceptional service to AcctoFi, TXCPA, TSBPA or TXCPA/chapter PAC committees

TXCPA AWARDS CRITERIA

B&I Award

The B&I Award recognizes CPA members who work in a corporate, nonprofit, governmental, or educational institution and have made significant contributions to the profession through the recruitment of others to the CPA profession. This includes CPAs employed by educational institutions in non-teaching roles. Members in B&I are recognized as those who work in general industry, government or education. Selections will be made by members of TXCPA's Business and Industry Issues Subcommittee of the Membership Committee. Members of the subcommittee are not eligible to receive the award while they are serving on the committee.

Some of the criteria to be considered for this award include:

- A CPA and a member of the Texas Society of CPAs; in good standing
- Employed in or retired from a business or industry role (non-public accounting).
- Demonstrated leadership in recruiting individuals into the CPA profession, which may include mentoring students or early-career professionals, speaking at career events, or leading recruitment initiatives.
- Significant contributions to the growth or success of their employer or industry.
- Recognized leadership within their organization or the broader business community.
- Active involvement in civic, charitable, or educational initiatives that promote the CPA profession.
- Service on boards, committees, or task forces related to accounting education or workforce development.

Distinguished Fellow

In recognition of an individual who has distinguished himself/herself within the Texas Society of CPAs and the accounting profession through professional excellence, leadership, and service consistently over many years.

Subject to the approval by the Leadership Council. Distinguished Fellows must continue to meet the requirements of a CPA member unless they have honorably surrendered their license. Distinguished Fellows shall not be required to pay dues or other assessments. Distinguished fellows holding a valid and unrevoked license per Article II(3) of the Bylaws shall be eligible to hold offices and to vote at meetings.

Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting this award recipient include:

- A CPA member in good standing of the Texas Society of CPAs;

- Shall have provided exceptional leadership and dedicated service to TXCPA and its chapters, likely serving as a committee chair, officer or member of the Board of Directors, and demonstrating a lasting commitment to supporting and engaging members;
- May also have contributed through service to the AICPA or other professional organizations, particularly where involvement has benefited TXCPA, its members and the accounting profession.
- Shall have spent the majority of his/her career actively engaged in professional activities which emphasized the use of CPA competencies;
- Shall have been an outstanding and recognized leader in his/her professional career within the accounting profession;
- Shall have been an influential leader within his/her community, actively supporting civic and social initiatives that reflect the profession's core values; and
- Shall have demonstrated the above types of outstanding leadership, service and impact consistently over many years, including possibly beyond their professional career.

Distinguished Public Service

Initiated to: (a) recognize TXCPA members who contribute responsibly as citizens of their respective communities, and (b) encourage certified public accountants to actively participate in, and make substantial service contributions to, a broad scope of charitable and civic activities and to become leaders in their communities. The award is based on outstanding charitable, community and/or civic activities and other public service unrelated to regular duties performed as a member.

Each nominee should possess obvious credentials of specific accomplishments in the community, civic and charitable efforts. Only public service activities are recognized; professional service related to accounting organizations or the profession is not considered in determining the award winner.

Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting a candidate for this award include:

- A CPA and a member of the Texas Society of CPAs; in good standing
- Participation in community, charitable and other civic activities on the local, state or national level, especially in a leadership capacity and on an ongoing basis;
- Responsibility for a public service project that had a significant positive effect on the community;
- Encouragement of participation in and/or implementation of public service projects through written articles or other published materials; and
- Service in an outstanding manner as an appointed or elected government official at the local, state or national level.

Honorary Member

Presented to a person who is not eligible for regular TXCPA membership. While it might be appropriate to recognize an individual for a single act, honorary membership should be, in most instances, reserved for those who have benefited accountancy for a significant period.

Some criteria include:

- Distinguished at least within the profession on a statewide basis in accountancy and need not be a resident of the state of Texas;
- Activities by individuals that directly benefit the profession in continuing professional education in a substantive way, elevating the competence and image of the profession;
- Activities by members of other professions, legislators or governmental employees (elected or appointed) that enhance the practice of accountancy and benefit the public by their actions; and

- Service by individuals of an exceptional nature or value to the AcctoFi, TXCPA, the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy (TSBPA), or the PAC committees of the TXCPA or its chapters.

Impact Award

Presented in recognition of a TXCPA member who has demonstrated exceptional leadership, vision, and dedication in advancing the mission of TXCPA and strengthening the accounting profession in Texas, having made a significant impact on TXCPA, its chapters and the CPA community through volunteer leadership, mentorship, and advocacy during the year.

Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting a candidate for this award:

- Must be a CPA licensed ten (10) or more years
- Member in good standing of TXCPA
- Has contributed meaningfully to the advancement of the accounting profession in Texas through advocacy, education, or innovation;
- Has demonstrated a sustained commitment to the values and mission of TXCPA, consistently going above and beyond in support of the organization and its members;
- Serves as a role model and mentor to peers and emerging professionals, inspiring others to engage and lead within the profession; and
- Recognized by peers for professionalism, integrity, and a collaborative spirit that strengthens the CPA community statewide.

Meritorious Service to the Accounting Profession in Texas

Regarded as one of the highest honors bestowed by TXCPA, this award recognizes exceptional and sustained service that has advanced the accounting profession in Texas. Service at the national level should only be considered as it relates to the member's contribution to the accounting profession in Texas.

Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting a candidate for this award might include:

- A CPA member in good standing of the Texas Society of CPAs;
- Shall have spent the majority of his/her career engaged in professional activities that demonstrate and elevate CPA competencies;
- Shall have made notable contributions to the accounting profession in Texas, serving as a visible advocate or spokesperson through public engagement, thought leadership, or professional influence, particularly within the past five years.
- Shall have been an outstanding and recognized leader within the accounting profession, probably having served TXCPA or the local chapters in key roles as a committee chair, officer, or member of the Board of Directors;
- Shall have consistently demonstrated leadership, mentorship, and service to the profession and the Society over many years.

Outstanding Accounting Educator Award

The Outstanding Accounting Educator Award recognizes Texas accounting educators who have demonstrated excellence in teaching and have distinguished themselves through active service to the accounting profession.

Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting a candidate for this award include:

- Must be a full-time accounting educator at a Texas college, university or community college, where for three of the last five years the educator's primary responsibility has been teaching in the classroom
- Nominee is not required to be a licensed CPA
- Excellence in classroom teaching as evidenced through teaching philosophy, innovation in the classroom and pursuit of practical learning opportunities for students
- Contributions to the accounting profession as evidenced through involvement and accomplishments in professional accounting organizations, involvement and accomplishments in student accounting organizations, research accomplishments and publications

Outstanding Committee Chair

Presented in recognition of outstanding performance by a committee chair during the current year. Overall committee activity and impact should be considered in bestowing this award. Activity in a preceding year that has a significant impact on the current year's activity can be considered in making the selection of Outstanding Committee Chair if the chair is serving a second year as chair.

Rising Star Award

Recognizes the innovation, professional dedication and community commitment of TXCPA's up-and-coming young CPA leaders age 40 and under.

Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting a candidate for this award might include:

- Must be a CPA licensed ten (10) years or less
- Current TXCPA member in good standing;
- Must be age 40 and under as of the end of the current fiscal year;
- Demonstrated exemplary leadership skills and active involvement in TXCPA, the accounting profession and/or their communities. Examples include:
    - TXCPA volunteer activities – chapter, committee involvement; community outreach such as student programs and financial literacy events; and social media activities such as speaking, writing, blogging, etc.
    - Accounting profession activities – activities, while not through TXCPA, that enhance the profession.
    - Charitable activities – participation with civic groups such as the Red Cross, Chamber of Commerce, and Habitat for Humanity that positively impact the community.
- Those who have already been recognized as TXCPA Rising Stars are no longer eligible for nomination; and
- Those serving on the TXCPA Awards Committee are not eligible for nomination.

Young CPA of the Year

Bestowed on a CPA who is a member of TXCPA. The individual, age 40 years or under as of the end of the current fiscal year (May 31), has made significant contributions to the accounting profession and the community and is a member of at least one other professional organization. Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting a candidate for this award include:

Professional achievement suggested:

- If in public practice, became a supervisor, manager or partner;
- If not in public practice, management level in industry or government, active faculty member, administrative management position or started a successful business;
- Written an article which has been published and is significant to the profession or the public; and
- Significant speaking engagements.

Significant accomplishments within TXCPA or a local chapter:

- Committee chair or officer;
- Outstanding committee member; and
- Chair or outstanding participant of a major TXCPA or local chapter function or seminar.

Community contributions and significant achievements:

- Religious organization;
- Chamber of Commerce;
- Civic clubs; and
- Charitable organizations.

Membership in at least one other professional organization, such as:

- AICPA; Institute of Management Accountants; and American Accounting Association
- Demonstration of dedication to the profession through participation in professional activities.