



TXCPA Awards Criteria

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:

- CPA certificate;
- 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.

Distinguished Member (Previously Honorary Fellow)

Given to an individual who has distinguished himself/herself within the Texas Society of CPAs. Some of the criteria to be considered in selecting this award recipient include:

- A CPA and a member of the Texas Society of CPAs; in good standing
- Shall have spent most 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;
- Shall have been an outstanding and recognized leader in TXCPA as well as a local chapter of the Society, probably having served as a committee chair, officer and member of the Board of Directors;

- May also have been active in committees and/or offices of the AICPA;
- Shall have been an outstanding and recognized leader in his/her community and its civic as well as social enterprises; and
- Shall have demonstrated the above types of outstanding leadership on a consistent basis for a number of years before, and possibly after, his/her retirement from his/her working career.

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;
- Significant, honorable, and widely recognized work in executive or administrative activity of the AICPA, the state societies or chapters thereof affecting the practice of accountancy. Employees of TXCPA or its chapters may be considered for this award only as they approach retirement status or if they have had a history of combined service of more than thirty years to AICPA, TXCPA and/or its chapters, or other state CPA societies;
- 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 Accounting Education Foundation, TXCPA, the Texas State Board of Public Accountancy (TSBPA), or the PAC committees of the TXCPA or its chapters.

Meritorious Service to the Accounting Profession in Texas

Regarded as the highest honor bestowed by TXCPA. The service recognized shall be to the Society or a chapter thereof through direct participation in its affairs or otherwise, if circumstances justify. Service at the national level should only be considered as it relates to the member's contribution to Texas.

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

- CPA certificate;
- Member of TXCPA in good standing;
- Shall have spent most of his/her career engaged in professional activities which emphasize the use of CPA competencies;
- Shall have been an outstanding and recognized leader in the Texas Society of CPAs as well as the local chapter of the TXCPA, probably having served as a committee chair, officer and Board of Directors member;
- Shall have demonstrated the above types of outstanding leadership on a consistent basis for a number of years before, and possibly after, his/her retirement from his/her working career; and
- Shall have been a spokesperson for the profession (last five years) through speeches or articles.

Outstanding Committee Chairman

Presented in recognition of outstanding performance by a committee chairman 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 Chairman if the chairman is serving a second year as chair.

Young CPA of the Year

Bestowed on a CPA who is a member of TXCPA. The individual, age 39 years or under as of the end of the current fiscal year, 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.

Rising Star

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 TXCPA CPA member;
- Must be age 40 and under as of the end of the current fiscal year;
- Those who have already been recognized as TXCPA Rising Stars are no longer eligible for nomination;
- Those serving on the [TXCPA Awards Committee](#) are not eligible for nomination.