



2025 UEDA Awards of Excellence Application

Institutions wishing to nominate their initiatives for the 2025 Awards of Excellence are required to submit their initiative using this form. **The deadline for applications is midnight (local submission time) June 23, 2025.** Finalists will be notified by **August 18, 2025.** Finalist presentations and Awards Ceremony will occur at the UEDA Annual Summit in Huntsville, AL on October 6 - 8, 2025. **All selected finalists must attend the Summit in person.**

For more information on the Awards of Excellence program, to review past recipients, or to review the 2025 Submission Guidelines, please visit <https://universityeda.org/knowledge-network/awards-of-excellence>.

All projects submitted must have started in the last five years (or since January 2020).

Organization and Contact Information

The following questions request information about the applicant.

1. Institution Name
2. Project's Main Contact Name
3. Project's Main Contact Phone
4. Project's Main Contact Email

Project Information

The following questions request information about the project/initiative.

5. Title of Initiative
6. Initiative Website
7. Project Start Date
8. Project End Date (blank if ongoing)
9. Primary Awards Submission Category
 - a. **Talent:** The Talent category focuses on programs that teach people how to thrive in the 21st century Knowledge Economy. This category includes life-long learning (degree and non-degree programs), experiential education and discovery-based learning programs, active alignment of curricula to industry needs, etc.
 - b. **Innovation:** The Innovation category encompasses basic research; applied, translational, problem-oriented, and industry-contracted R&D; cooperative extension services; technology transfer; etc.
 - c. **Place:** The Place category recognizes various ways in which higher education institutions contribute to the overall aesthetic and quality of life of their communities. The focus of this category is on the broader impact throughout the community or region.
 - d. **Engaged University:** This category recognizes initiatives that demonstrate excellence in linking all three legacy award categories. Projects included successfully engage multiple community partners to link, leverage and connect efforts in Talent, Innovation, and Place.



2025 UEDA Awards of Excellence Application

Project Summary

The following question requests an overview of the project/initiative.

10. Please share a brief description of the project/initiative, including the following items (max 300 words):
- Objectives
 - The problem sought to address
 - How the problem is linked to your institution's and region's broader economic development strategy

Feel free to add a one-sentence pitch that will be featured on our website and in our Annual Summit program.

Key Project Details

The following questions reflect the Awards of Excellence judging criteria.

11. **Originality:** Explain the project's originality and how its objectives, approach, and results are distinct. (max 250 words)
12. **Impact:** Please describe the project/initiative's intended impact and plan (max 300 words):
- Relevant milestones and interim results
 - Result timelines
 - Progress trackers
 - Return-on-Investment (ROI)

Feel free to include any discussion of qualitative and quantitative performance outcomes and trends that you have noted over time.

13. **Leadership, Collaboration, and Strategic Partnerships:** Describe the project's stakeholder engagement and resulting partnerships, detailing their contribution to overall success. (max 300 words)
14. **Replicability, Scalability, and Sustainability:** Please describe the following components of the project/initiative (max 250 words):
- **Replicability:** How can the insights, tools, and best practices from the project/initiative be duplicated by other institutions in other regions?
 - **Scalability:** How can it be easily scaled up or down, and/or modified to reflect different regional or institutional contexts?
 - **Sustainability:** Does the project/initiative have a business model that can sustain the project/initiative beyond its initial funding?
15. **Total Budget:** Please share the budget (or investment) of your project/initiative. (*Example: \$5,000*)



2025 UEDA Awards of Excellence Application

Video Submission

16. Please record a brief (**max 30-seconds**) video sharing an overview of your project and why it should be considered for a UEDA Awards of Excellence.

- Videos can be uploaded to the following link: https://centerrec.sharepoint.com/:f:/s/Associations/EuRzojE5RmxFucwuiHCP_QQBBCpLguklvzSmBRcfU5ILng

*Informal recording via phone or laptop is encouraged. **Professionally produced videos will not be accepted.***