

ACC 2021 Sustainability Leadership Awards: Frequently Asked Questions

General FAQs

Q: Who is eligible to apply for the Sustainability Leadership Awards?

A: Full American Chemistry Council members that have met all of the previous year's Responsible Care reporting requirements and are in good membership standing are eligible to apply for the Sustainability Leadership Awards. For the complete set of eligibility requirements please see the Sustainability Award Framework and Application document, available on the ACC MemberExchange website.

Q: What is the award application time period?

A: ACC is accepting applications for the 2020 Sustainability Leadership Awards from January 1, 2021 through March 15, 2021.

Q: How often will the awards be given?

A: Awards will be presented at the June ACC Annual meeting each year.

Q: Can members apply for the Sustainability Leadership awards and the Responsible Care® awards?

A: Yes. Members can submit applications for both award initiatives. We encourage active participation in both!

Information on Sustainability Leadership Awards Categories

Q: What are the awards categories? How are they related to ACC's [Sustainability Principles](#)?

A: The Sustainability Leadership Awards will recognize member company achievements in four separate categories:

- 1) **Product Safety, Innovation & Transparency**
- 2) **Environmental Protection**
- 3) **Circularity**
- 4) **Societal Contributions**

These categories reflect commitments made under ACC's Sustainability Principles; more detail on these awards categories is included in the Sustainability Award Framework and Application document, available on the ACC MemberExchange website.

In addition, ACC members can submit nominees for an “**External Collaborator**” award. ACC established this award to recognize third-party stakeholder organizations that have worked with a member company to make significant contributions to sustainability.

Q: Can members apply for an award in more than one category?

A: Yes. Members can submit applications for any or all award categories. Each submission must have its own cover page and application form.

Q: Can members submit award applications highlighting international initiatives, or is it limited to U.S.-based initiatives?

A: Members can submit applications for sustainability initiatives, regardless of whether they are U.S. or internationally-based. If you are submitting an application highlighting an international initiative, we strongly encourage you to also include supporting information and/or performance statistics describing your company's adherence to Responsible Care® (or other relevant environmental, health, safety and security performance initiative data) in the country where the initiative takes place.

Awards Application Process

Q: How does a company submit an award application?

A: The award application is available on ACC's MemberExchange website. Members can submit completed award applications to ACC via email, to sustainability@americanchemistry.com.

Q: What documentation do I need to submit with my application?

A: The Awards Background and Application document containing the full criteria is accessible on ACC's MemberExchange website. Members are required to be up-to-date on their previous year's Responsible Care reporting, which will be verified by ACC. Members are encouraged to submit any supporting sustainability initiative documentation, including, but not limited to, sustainability reports, internal and/or external communications materials and validations from external stakeholders.

Q: Does a company have to submit its Responsible Care performance metrics data to ACC before submitting an awards application?

A: The awards application includes a section where companies must verify that they have submitted their Responsible Care performance reporting metrics to ACC. ACC will verify that companies have submitted this data.

Q: Are there any metrics expectations for performance (i.e., is there an underlying performance/results de minimis level member applicants must meet)?

A: As outlined in the awards criteria, companies must have an illustrated reduction of environmental impact through one or more Responsible Care reporting metrics, and will be required to attest to that in the application. ACC's Responsible Care team will undertake best efforts to verify attestations based on the information provided in the awards application.

Awards Selection Process

Q: How will award recipients be selected?

A: Awards will be reviewed internally by ACC and judged by an independent panel, comprised of five external sustainability experts. Panel judges may include representatives from the retail or building and construction sectors, product manufacturers, third-party certifiers, academia and other stakeholders in the sustainability space.

If you have additional questions, please contact: Jenny Heumann, 202-249-6520 (office), 202-549-4839 (cell) or [Jenny Heumann@americanchemistry.com](mailto:Jenny_Heumann@americanchemistry.com).