



## YGN 2026 Excellence Prize Scoring Criteria

The YGN Excellence Prize is an award for newcomers to the nuclear industry (up to five years of nuclear experience) who have gone above and beyond the expectations of their role. There is a specific emphasis on the individual's achievements to promote the nuclear industry, fulfil the YGN Mission, and embody the YGN values. The award is a means of recognising these individuals and their accomplishments over their brief time within the industry; **Appendix A** outlines the details of the prize to be awarded.

This document provides a breakdown of the scoring criteria for each of the questions detailed within the application form: [YGN Excellence Prize Application Form 2026](#)

N.B: If your nomination is for somebody other than yourself, it is recommended that you also get their input to the nomination to ensure that all of their skills and experience are recognised.

N.B: Submissions exceeding 300 words per question will be excluded from consideration.

### **1. Demonstrated excellence and professionalism in their role(s) in the nuclear industry over the last five years.**

Explain how the nominee has demonstrated excellence and professionalism in their role(s) in the nuclear industry over the last five years.

The judges will be looking for evidence of the nominee making a positive contribution to the advancement of the nuclear sector, delivering to a high standard and exceeding the expectations of their role. Examples may include:

- Presentation at conferences / industry events or authoring technical papers
- Implementation of innovations
- Contributions to industry-wide forums (e.g., attending conferences, engagement with groups such as the Young Nuclear Professionals Forum etc.)
- Contributions to projects which have exceeded expectations of the role and had a strong impact on an organisation or the sector as a whole.

#### **Criteria for Scoring**

1 – Limited evidence of excellence and professionalism. Working in line with expectations of role.

3 – Good evidence of positive contribution to their team / organisation but less engagement with the wider nuclear industry.

5 – Contributed greatly to the advancements of the nuclear industry.

### **2. Played a role in representing the interests of early career nuclear professionals in line with the YGN Mission.**

Provide evidence of how the nominee has played a role in representing the interests of current and future early career nuclear professionals in line with the YGN Mission.

The judges will be looking for evidence which shows clear examples of where the nominee has encouraged, engaged and developed early career professionals and inspired the next generation. Examples may include:



- Using their influence within their own organisation and the wider industry to support the development of early career nuclear professionals (i.e., delivering events, mentoring, advocacy).
- Being a role model / advocate for the nuclear industry.
- Supporting outreach activities to inspire the next generation.



### Criteria for Scoring

1 – Little or no evidence of supporting, encouraging, engaging and developing early career professionals and inspiring the next generation.

3 – Good evidence, with a couple of examples of supporting, encouraging, engaging and developing early career professionals and inspiring the next generation.

5 – Excellent evidence of many varied examples of supporting, encouraging, engaging and developing early career professionals and inspiring the next generation. The evidence clearly demonstrates the positive impact made by the nominee.

### 3. Undertaken unique action(s) aimed at embodying the YGN Values.

Provide evidence where the nominee has gone above and beyond to embody the YGN Values.

The judges will be looking for evidence which shows clear examples of where the nominee has gone above and beyond under the YGN Values: Community, Collaborate, Opportunity and Inspire. Examples could cover:

- **Community** - create an environment to connect with YGN members and partners to establish a sense of belonging.
- **Collaborate** - unite diverse perspectives to empower the next generation to lead with confidence, drive innovation and strengthen the sector.
- **Opportunity** - offer a platform for early nuclear professionals to connect, learn and develop.
- **Inspire** - promote and develop role models, champion outreach and contribute to events that drive an ambitious and motivated community.

### Criteria for Scoring

1 – Little or no evidence of embodying the YGN values.

3 – Some good evidence of embodying the YGN values in line with expectations of their role.

5 – Excellent evidence of embodying the YGN values, going above and beyond expectations of their role.

### 4. Contributed to the successful operation of the Nuclear Institute.

Provide evidence of how the nominee has successfully contributed to the successful operation of the Nuclear Institute through engagement with the YGN, local NI branches, NI Committees and/or NI Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

The judges will be looking for evidence which shows clear examples of where the nominee has volunteered or participated in events held by the Nuclear Institute or its associated communities. Examples may include:

- Supporting in NI Volunteering role i.e. on a committee, at an outreach event or organising an event.
- Attending events run by the NI, NI YGN, NI branches and/or SIGs.

### Criteria for Scoring

1 – Little or no evidence of volunteering or engaging with the Nuclear Institute.

3 – Some good evidence of volunteering and attendance at YGN / NI events.

5 – Excellent evidence of volunteering and attendance to YGN / NI events (e.g., wide range of events and volunteering roles, engagement with different groups etc).



**Appendix A:**

The winner of the YGN Excellence Prize will receive:

- £400 cash prize,
- Ticket to the [YGN Annual Day Seminar & Dinner](#),
- Trophy awarded at the YGN Annual Dinner, and
- Feature in YGN / NI comms (subject to availability).