

Name of award: The Firm Award

Definition: Given in recognition of significant scientific and community contributions to glaciology by a mid-career scientist.

Criteria: The Firm Award is given to a mid-career scientist who has made significant scientific contributions to glaciology, defined as any cryospheric study, and contributions to the community. Scientific contributions will be assessed on the excellence, originality and impact of the nominee's body of research. Community contributions are broadly defined as any professional effort that contributes to the betterment of science or society. This award focuses on the achievements and contributions of the nominee since completion of their terminal degree; nominees are not required to hold a doctorate. All IGS award nominees are expected to exhibit integrity and high ethical standards within the glaciological and wider communities, and to demonstrate and promote IGS core values.

Frequency: Nominations will be called for annually. One, or in exceptional cases, two awards may be given following each call for nominations.

Eligibility:

- The nominee must be a mid-career scientist. Typically, a nominee is considered to be "mid-career" if 5–20 years have elapsed since they received their terminal degree. The selection committee will also consider other evidence of mid-career status if the elapsed time exceeds 20 years. In such cases, nominators should provide a rationale for defining the nominee as mid-career. For example, career breaks and intervals of part-time employment (e.g., for parental leave, illness, etc.) would lengthen the duration of "mid-career" status following receipt of the terminal degree.
- The nominee need not be a member of the IGS at the time of nomination. A non-member will be encouraged to join if they are awarded the honour.
- No individual may receive the award more than once.
- Unless part of a group/team nomination, an individual may only be considered for one IGS award in any given year.

Nominations: The nominator may be anyone with sufficient knowledge of the nominee and must be a current member of IGS. Self-nominations are not accepted.

A nomination package should include:

1. A nomination letter (up to 3 pages) that explicitly articulates how the nominee meets the award criteria. Where appropriate, the letter should also discuss the nominee's achievements in relation to the opportunities and challenges with which they have been presented over their career. The letter should provide information on the nominee's eligibility, including any relevant career breaks.
2. An abridged CV (up to 2 pages) of the individual that is created by the nominator. Guidance will be provided as to the content to be included, which will reflect principal research achievements and impactful service contributions.
3. Three other letters of support (up to 2 pages each, excluding the signature page). Support letters from diverse groups and scientists at different career stages, including those mentored by the nominee, are encouraged.

The nomination and support letters may be multi-signatory, but any individual may sign only one of these letters (nomination or support) per candidate.