



# Sidney D. Drell Science & Technology Award

## 2026 INSA Charlie Allen Achievement Awards

### Instructions and Overview – Please Read Carefully!

The **Sidney D. Drell Science & Technology Award** recognizes early- and mid-career professionals for innovative scientific or technological research and development (R&D) whose applications have had, or have the potential to make, significant impacts in intelligence, defense, and/or homeland security.

#### ELIGIBILITY

Nominees may come from any sector, including government agencies, private industry, national labs, FFRDCs, and academia.

#### COMPLETING THE FORM

Please focus the nomination on work that the nominee has undertaken over the past three to five years.

The selection committee must be able to evaluate the individual contributions of the nominee, not the achievements of an office, team, or program. Please refer to the **Selection Criteria** when completing the nomination form.

- **Question One:** Provide background on the nominee's office or project and their role. This helps establish context for subsequent questions.
- **Questions Two and Three are the most important parts of the nomination.** Please be as specific as possible in describing the nominee's individual contributions to a research & development project with national security applications; to his/her organization's mission; to the goals of the intelligence, defense, and/or homeland security communities; and to the national security of the United States.

**Optional:** You may include one supplemental document (e.g., an endorsement from a mentor or a former supervisor), limited to a single page document.

#### SELECTION CRITERIA

Nominations will be reviewed by the INSA Achievement Awards Committee using the following criteria. Nominations do not need to address every criterion.

**Accomplishments:** Individual contributions to research & development on a scientific study or technological innovation with significant past or potential impact on defense, intelligence, national security and/or homeland security activities.

**Leadership:** Demonstrates initiative and the ability to guide others by setting direction, making sound decisions, and fostering accountability. Builds trust, motivates colleagues, and provides purpose and encouragement to achieve organizational and mission goals.

**Values:** A commitment to fostering innovation, collaboration, resourcefulness, and resilience among peers and junior colleagues.

**Team-Building:** Creates cohesive teams by promoting collaboration and communications, and mutual respect.

**Innovation & Problem-Solving:** Applies creativity and technical expertise to develop new approaches, solutions, or processes that address complex challenges and deliver measurable mission impact.

**Inspiration & Personal Attributes:** Exemplifies professionalism, integrity, and dedication. Services as a positive role model whose actions inspire others to excel and contribute fully to the mission.



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Please submit completed nominations to [achievement@INSAonline.org](mailto:achievement@INSAonline.org) by COB on **Friday, October 31**.

Note: All nomination materials must be unclassified.

Nominee	Nominating Official
Full Name	Full Name
Name of Employing Organization	Name of Employing Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the nominee qualifies as an early/mid-career researcher or technologist (defined as possessing 5-15 years of R&D experience).	Military or GS Rank (if applicable) or Equivalent
Title	Title
Estimated Years of Professional Experience	Relationship to Nominee (supervisor, mentee, etc.)
Postal Address	Postal Address
Commercial Phone Number	Commercial Phone Number
Unclassified Email Address	Unclassified Email Address

### How did you hear about the Charlie Allen Achievement Awards?

- ☐ INSA newsletter/website    ☐ Press release    ☐ From my agency
- ☐ From another organization: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_



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## 1. BACKGROUND

Please briefly describe the scientific or technological research and development program to which the nominee has contributed. This information will be considered primarily as context for the subsequent questions. (250 words maximum)



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### 2. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Please describe the nominee's personal contributions to a scientific or technological research and development initiative whose applications have had – or have the potential to make – positive impacts on intelligence, defense, national security, or homeland security missions. Explain the impact of the nominee's accomplishments, including their contributions to addressing of a critical national security challenge. Please be as specific as possible in describing the impact of the nominee's activities to the defense, intelligence, national security, and/or homeland security communities. This answer will be weighted most heavily in the evaluation process. (400 words maximum)



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## 3. BROADER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MISSION

Please describe any additional information that reflects on the nominee’s character and contributions to the organization, to colleagues and other researchers, and/or to U.S. national security. (250 words maximum)