



2027 INSA Charlie Allen Achievement Awards

Sidney D. Drell Science & Technology Award

Recognizing early-and-mid-career professionals in the homeland security community.

ELIGIBILITY

This award recognizes early- and mid-career professionals (typically within 15 years of their terminal degree or start of their professional career) for innovative scientific or technological R&D with applications that have had, or have the potential to make, significant impacts on defense, intelligence, national security, and/or homeland security missions. They may come from any sector, including government, industry, national labs, FFRDCs, and academia.

Submission Guidelines

- ❖ **Timeframe:** Focus nominations on work completed over the past 3 to 5 years.
- ❖ **Individual Focus:** The selection committee evaluates individual contributions, not office or team achievements.
- ❖ **Question One:** Use strictly for project/office context.
- ❖ **Questions Two and Three:** Focus entirely on the nominee.
- ❖ **Supplemental Material:** Optional support limited to a single-page document (e.g. supervisor endorsement).

Deadline: Submit **unclassified** nominations to achievement@INSAonline.org by **COB Friday, October 30.**

Selection Criteria: All nominees will be reviewed using the following criteria. Submissions do not need to address every criterion listed below.

Research Impact & Innovation: Individual contributions to research, applied engineering, or technological innovation with significant impact, realized or potential, on defense, intelligence, national security, and/or homeland security missions.

Ingenuity & Problem Solving: Applies creativity and technical expertise to address complex challenges with measurable mission impact.

Knowledge Sharing & Mentorship: Promotes a culture of collaboration, clear communication, and mutual respect. Shares their technical expertise and knowledge generously with colleagues and junior researchers, through formal or informal mentoring, helping build the skills and capabilities of others in the field.

Values, Inspiration & Character: Embodies professionalism, integrity, and resilience, setting a standard of excellence that inspires and elevates those around them.



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Nominee Information	Nominating Official Information
Full Name	Full Name
Name of Agency & Office/Company/University	Name of Agency & Office/Company/University
Grade Level or Rank	Grade Level or Rank
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



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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

Describe the nominee's personal contributions to scientific or technological research and development initiatives. Explain the impact of this work, realized or potential, on defense, intelligence, national security, and/or homeland security missions, including how it addresses a critical national security challenge. Be as specific as possible. This answer is 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)