ATSE Awards 2026

RESILIENT DATA ENGINEERING AWARD

The Resilient Data Engineering Award is an Award of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) will be made to an early-career individual in academia, industry or the public sector; or team of up to three members, who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to building resilient data pipelines. Applicants must be data scientists, engineers, researchers or innovators.

This individual or team stands out not only for their technical proficiency but also for their steadfast commitment to the integrity and reliability of data engineering and data practices in high-impact areas such as engineering, healthcare, environmental science, or public policy. They have made significant contributions to data and information resilience including such areas as data quality, data curation, data infrastructure, data privacy and security.

We encourage a diverse range of applicants across all genders, educational and sector backgrounds. This Award is announced by ATSE annually as part of the ATSE Awards Gala Dinner held in October each year.

The award consists of a medal, cash prize of $10,000, and travel funding of $1,500 to attend the annual ATSE Awards Gala Dinner.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Tuesday 12 May 2026 close of business

AWARD PURPOSE

- Raise awareness of data scientists and engineers contributing to data resilience including but not limited to the areas of data quality, data curation, data infrastructure, data privacy and security.

- Draw attention of federal and state parliamentarians and administrators to the key role they play in the integrity and reliability of data engineering in high-impact areas such as engineering, healthcare, environmental science, or public policy.

- Reinforce with these communities the contributions these data scientists and engineers make towards responsible data stewardship, emphasising ethical considerations, transparency, and accessibility in data management practices, to promote Australia's reputation as a trusted research and commercial partner.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Awardee will have:

1. Demonstrated both technical proficiency and steadfast commitment to the integrity and reliability of data engineering and data practices in high-impact areas.

2. Made significant contributions to various areas relating to Information Resilience such as data quality, data curation, data infrastructure, data privacy and security.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The Awardee must be:

1. For individual applicants: less than seven (7) years after commencing a career in data science or engineering.

2. For teams, at least one member of the team, ideally the most senior member of the team, (or, for academics, the lead researcher), will be less than seven (7) years after commencing a career in data science or engineering.

3. A data scientist, engineer, researcher or innovator.

Legally certified PDF certificate/s to be attached where relevant.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Current members of ATSE's Board or of the Resilient Data Engineering Award Committee are not eligible to be a Proposer, Seconder or Referee for this Award.

Each nomination must be made by a Proposer (who submits the nomination form) and supported by a Seconder (who supports the nomination with a letter addressing the work for which the nomination has been made). Proposers do not need to be Fellows of the Academy.

In addition, the Referee for the application should be an industry or technical expert in the Nominee's field who can comment on the Nominee's signature contribution to the field. Referees must not work in the same team as the applicant, nor be a supervisor or manager for the applicant.

The Nominee must acknowledge and confirm facts attested in the nomination. Self-nominations will be excluded.

OBLIGATIONS OF WINNER

Each Nominee will give permission for details contained in the nomination to be released to the members of the Selection Committee (both those listed in the nomination form and external Referee) for the purposes of the selection process. Whenever such material is considered by the Selection Committee, this information and details of their deliberations and recommendations will remain confidential. The Nominee should note that a brief description of the work being acclaimed, and images of the winner(s), will be publicised.

The winner of the Resilient Data Engineering Award will be expected to:

- Attend the annual ATSE Awards ceremony (details to be advised).

- Participate in activities as reasonably requested by ATSE within 12 months of receiving the award to promote the importance of information resilience to federal and state parliamentarians and administrators, and the technology and innovation communities, to reinforce with these communities the contribution engineering makes to Australia's reputation as a centre of technology and innovation leadership.

- Work with ATSE professional staff and Fellows to promote the importance of information resilience.

NOMINATION DOCUMENTS

The following materials constitute a complete nomination:

Eligibility Criteria
An individual or key team member must be within 7 years of commencing a career in data science or engineering.

Proposer and Nominee details including contact information

Nominee Current role

Supporting statements
Executive overview (Maximum 100 words)

Selection criteria
• Excellence, innovation and impact in the field of information resilience (Maximum 500 words)

• Peer acknowledgement of signature contribution to information resilience and the integrity and reliability of data engineering and data practices (Maximum 500 words)

Supporting documents
• Seconder details and letter

• Referee details and letter (Referee letter from an industry or technical expert in the Nominee's field attached)

APPLICATIONS CLOSE

Tuesday 12 May 2026 close of business

Only electronic submissions of nominations and attachments will be accepted. Incomplete applications and any received after the closing time and date will not be considered. All decisions taken by the Selection Committee will be final.

ADVICE AND INFORMATION

Elvira Copur — Membership Manager
Australian Academy of Technological Sciences & Engineering
02 6185 3240 (9am—5pm AEST / AEDT)
membership@atse.org.au

Australian Academy of Technological Sciences & Engineering
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