

INNOVATION LEADERSHIP

NOMINATION FORM

* Nomination investment will be returned if your candidate is not selected.



Profiles in Leadership Journal™ is proud to introduce our new **Innovation Leader award**. This prestigious award aims to honor a visionary leader within your organization who champions the advancement of **cutting-edge strategies, programs, and practices**. This individual is dedicated to fostering innovation, increasing efficiency, streamlining workflow, and ultimately boosting the productivity of your organization. By paving new pathways and cultivating a positive work environment, your **Innovation Leader drives overall performance and success within your organization**.

Benefits to Award Winners

- Your nominee, as well as your organization, will receive recognition and promotion in Profiles in Leadership Journal Fall issue.
- Increase the visibility of your nominee and organization by leveraging PLJ's press release announcing the award winners. Enhance recognition for your nominee, their innovation and you organization through strategic social media marketing, reaching a wider audience within the business and social communities.
- You have the option to utilize online content and links from PLJ on your website as well as across your various social media platforms.
- Your organization can showcase your award-winning nominee and their innovative work in both internal and external communications by incorporating a digital version of the 2026 Innovation Leader Award logo, which will be provided by PLJ upon request.

DEADLINE for Nominations:
August 14, 2026

Questions? Contact James Rector, Publisher

Email: publisher@leadershipjournal.com Office: 440-892-0444 Mobile: 440-662-9770



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PROFILES IN
LEADERSHIP
JOURNAL™
Since 1999

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Complete Your Nomination in 4 Steps

1. Provide important nomination information on pages 3 – 5 of this document.

Nominations will be reviewed and judged based on the brief bio you provide, which must include your nominee's innovation. Include what makes this program or initiative unique and who or how does it impact your organization. You may also include other areas the nominator deems important:

- Professional Achievement
- Mentorship
- Community Involvement
- Pipeline development
- Legacy
- Economic development

2. Complete the Nomination Area on Page 5

There is a \$495 processing investment per nomination which must be received by the nomination deadline. *If your nominee is not selected, your nomination investment will be refunded.*

3. Upload* Your Completed Nomination document by August 14, 2026
at <https://leadershipjournal.com/innovation-nomination-upload/>.

* Nomination forms must be submitted/uploaded via *PLJ's* secure online portal.
Email submissions will not be accepted!

4. Recognize Your Leaders with Confidence

We understand that today's communications require care and consideration. That's why *Profiles in Leadership Journal* offers all nominating organizations the opportunity to review and approve their award winner's profile prior to publication.

Your organization remains in full control of how your leadership is portrayed — we're your partner in celebrating excellence, not a source of concern.

It's that Easy

If your nominee should be selected as a 2026 Innovation Leader Award recipient, we will notify both your successful nominee and the person who nominated him or her. We'll also send each nominee a Question & Answer packet. He or she will be asked to answer a few questions, write an optional brief essay, and provide a high-resolution photograph of him- or herself, as well as a digital version of your organization's logo. Each nominee's photograph, optional essay, and professional information will appear on a dedicated full-page in our Fall issue. Complete the Nomination area on pages 3 and 4. Links for upload and payment are on page 5.

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(Please fill in all form fields and be sure to save this file when completed)

Before You Begin

As part of our collaborative process, your organization will have the chance to review and approve the final profile of your award winner before publication. This ensures alignment with your internal messaging and gives your team full confidence to nominate with peace of mind.

A. Nominee Information

Nominee's Name: Mr., Ms., Mrs., Dr. _____
(as it should appear in print and please check prefix that applies)

Job Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Full Corporate Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Contact info for Nominee's Administrative Assistant: _____

B. Nominated by:

Note: The nominator must be the primary point of contact for all editorial communications. Using a company executive as the nominator will not increase a nominee's chances of selection. He or she will be evaluated on merit alone. Please ensure that the person whose information is entered below is available to manage all communications related to the nomination and award process.

Nominator's Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Corporate Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone Number: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Secondary Contact Name & Email: _____



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C. Tell Us Why You Chose this Nominee

Briefly explain why your nominee should be recognized as a 2026 Innovation Leader awardee: (200 words max.)

Provide a brief bio that showcases your nominee's innovative strategies, programs, and practices. Specifically, highlight the innovations that have significantly enhanced your organization's efficiency and productivity. (300-400 words max.)

D. Final Profile Approval

Please confirm your preference regarding the final profile approval process:

- Yes**, we would like to review and approve the final profile before publication.
- No**, we trust the editorial process and do not require a final review.

Note: If "Yes" is selected, publication will not proceed without your organization's approval.

Questions? Contact James Rector, *Publisher*

Email: publisher@leadershipjournal.com **Office:** 440-892-0444 **Mobile:** 440-662-9770

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E. Nomination Processing

NOMINATION INVESTMENT: \$495:

After uploading your Nomination form, please be sure to go to our secure payment portal where you can submit your entry payment. If your nominee is not selected, *PLJ* will refund your nomination investment.



Please upload this document (*do not email*)
at: <https://leadershipjournal.com/innovation-nomination-upload/>



Submit \$495 application fee payment at:
<https://buy.stripe.com/cN25nagNJJaVZeysdQV>

**If you need an invoice for payment, please email
James Rector: publisher@leadershipjournal.com**

Submitted nomination and fee must be received by August 14, 2026.
Emailed submissions will not be accepted!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Will our organization have the opportunity to review the award winner's profile before publication?**
Yes. We offer every nominating organization the chance to review and approve the final profile of their award winner before publication. We understand the importance of alignment with internal communications and public messaging. Your team remains in full control of what is shared publicly.
- Will the nomination investment be refunded if our candidate is not selected?**
Yes.
- Is my organization allowed to nominate a candidate who has won a different award this year from *PLJ*?**
Yes. Your nominees may include a candidate or candidates who have previously won different awards from *PLJ* this year.
- How will my organization be notified of our nominee's acceptance?**
Confirmation that your organization's nominee has been accepted will be sent to the nominator and the award winner along with the Question & Answer Form.
- Is purchasing an advertisement in the Fall issue of *PLJ* required if our nominee is accepted?**
No advertising purchase is required.
- Will we be able to receive PDFs of our nominee's profile layout?**
If you wish to receive a **FREE PDF** of your nominee's layout from the Fall issue, please email a request to stevetothleadershipjournal.com after the issue has been launched.
- Will my organization have an opportunity to revise a profile after it appears in the Fall issue?**
If you would like to make edits or changes to your page(s) after the magazine is posted online, please email stevetothleadershipjournal.com.