



RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

2026 IFT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS NOMINEE GUIDE

Eligibility per the IFT Awards Program Policy

An IFT Achievement Award nominee must be a non-student IFT member in good standing who has not received another IFT Achievement Award within the previous three years.

An individual may not receive the same award or prize more than once or receive more than one award in the same year. These restrictions do not apply to designation as an IFT Fellow, to receipt of the Collaborative Research Grant in honor of Marcel Loncin, or to Achievement Award winners with multiple recipients (i.e., commercialization teams).

When preparing the award submission, review the award eligibility and criteria carefully. For ease of jury scoring and deliberation, make every effort to tailor the nomination to the specific award.



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Best practices for nominations

Clear Advancement of IFT's Mission:

Ensure that the nomination clearly communicates how the nominee's work directly supports IFT's mission. Provide specific examples that demonstrate the advancement of science, innovation, and leadership in the global food system.

Specificity and Impact:

Emphasize measurable achievements and outcomes that demonstrate impact. Showcase how the nominee's work has positively influenced food systems, contributing to IFT's vision of improving food for everyone.

Tangible Results:

Include specific projects, research, or initiatives that highlight the nominee's role in advancing the science of food. Where possible, tie these achievements back to improving food systems and addressing global food challenges.

Document Structure and Format:

Ensure the nominee's CV/resume is structured to emphasize achievements aligned with the award criteria and IFT's mission. The document should be a maximum of 5 pages, with a 10-point font size and 1-inch margins.



Best practices for letters of reference

Demonstration of Unique Attributes:

Referees should provide detailed examples that highlight the nominee's unique skills, experiences, and attributes. These should reflect how the nominee's work has contributed meaningfully to IFT's mission and addressing key challenges in the global food system.

Telling a Complete Story:

Letters should go beyond generic statements to paint a fuller picture of the nominee's career and impact. Focus on specific successes that align with the award criteria, emphasizing how the nominee has made significant strides toward improving food systems through innovation, collaboration, and leadership.

Ties to IFT's Vision:

Referees should also connect the nominee's contributions to IFT's vision of improving food for everyone. This could include descriptions of how their work has addressed pressing food-related issues, enhanced food safety, improved nutrition, or promoted sustainability, thereby advancing food systems for the betterment of society.

Criteria-Specific Examples:

Referees should be selected based on their ability to provide insight into the nominee's achievements relevant to the specific award. They should give clear examples that directly relate to the award's focus.

Formatting Requirements:

Letters should follow the required format: maximum 1 page, 10-point font, and 1-inch margins.