

The Role of the Petition Sponsor

Thank you for agreeing to act as a petition sponsor for your Fellow nominee. As a petition sponsor, you will be responsible for preparing a reference form, which will be a key component of the Fellow petition. Fellow references illustrate the depth and breadth of the nominee's career and articulate the significance of his or her contributions to the occupational safety and health profession and the Society. The role of the petition sponsor involves great responsibility and reward.

What is the role of a petition sponsor?

A petition sponsor is one of (at least) six individuals who submit a reference form on behalf of a nominee.

Am I qualified to be a petition sponsor?

If you are a professional member of ASSE and you have detailed knowledge of the nominee's contributions and accomplishments, especially (but not solely) in the mandatory criteria, then you are qualified to be a petition sponsor.

How do I become a petition sponsor?

If you know someone who is being nominated for the Fellow honor, you can ask his or her petition coordinator if you can be included as one of the petition sponsors. More likely than not, a petition coordinator will seek you out and ask you to be a petition sponsor if he or she thinks that your knowledge of the nominee's professional history will present the candidate favorably.

How do I get started?

The petition coordinator will direct you to the reference form that you are responsible for completing (also available on the ASSE Professional Affairs web page). The form requires you to provide your contact information, the nominee's contact information, and asks that you briefly describe your relationship with the nominee. The core component of your responsibility as a petition sponsor is the description of the nominee's professional accomplishments as they relate to the petition criteria. You will describe the scope and length of the activities as it relates to one or two of the following criteria: professional competence and achievement, service to ASSE, development of new and expanded methodologies/philosophies, development and direction of beneficial research, promotion of the safety profession, inventions of copyrighted material, safety and health public services, contribution to standards, regulations, and legislation, and

other important qualifying achievements. As you compose your documentation of the nominee's professional accomplishments, rely on facts that you have first-hand knowledge of or have verified through reliable sources.

What happens next?

As you work on your portion of the Fellow petition, you should keep in close contact with the petition coordinator. It is important to communicate with the petition coordinator so that the petition coordinator is aware of exactly who is addressing each criterion. This information is important because *each professional accomplishment will only be counted once in the scoring process.*

Submission

After you complete your fellow reference form and submit any necessary documents to the petition coordinator, make sure that the petition coordinator does not need any additional information before filing the petition. If the petition coordinator informs you that he or she does not require additional information, your role is complete.