EPA Contest
AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

EPA's annual contest spans two categories: the **Awards of Excellence** and **Higher Goals**.

Awards of Excellence

EPA's Awards of Excellence competition honors overall excellence. Judges in this category evaluate a number of criteria, including writing quality, content choices and design. Members compete only against publications in their same category.

Each entry receives a completed critique sheet by a professional industry judge with one Award of Excellence granted to the best entry. One or more Awards of Merit may be bestowed on other top entries, at the discretion of the judges and contest officials.

There are two divisions: **Traditional** and **Digital**. Each member publication can enter only the Traditional or Digital Awards of Excellence division in which it is a member.

- **Traditional** is defined as a print or PDF-generated publication
- **Digital** is defined as a content-driven website

Print publication members have the option to hold a dual membership (Traditional and Digital) and, subsequently, may enter in both the Traditional and Digital divisions of the Awards of Excellence.

Note: Publications that produce only a PDF for a digital publishing platform (i.e., ISSUU) are considered Digital members, but they enter the Traditional division of the Awards of Excellence.

Submissions by Traditional members

Two consecutive issues must be submitted by mail for printed publications. PDF-only publications will upload PDF files or provide URLs for the digital publishing platform.

> **Judging criteria in the Traditional division include:** Quality of writing | Variety and balance of content | Journalistic creativity | Design and typography | Use of illustrations/photos

Submissions by Digital members

You will provide the URL for your content-driven website. Please double check that your link works so the judge has access to your content. Provide login access if your website requires it.

> **Judging criteria in the Digital division include:** Quality of writing | Variety and balance of content | Journalistic creativity | Website design/aesthetics | Website usability/navigation/mobile responsiveness

The categories in the Awards of Excellence are:

Traditional (Print and PDF)

101 Campus: A print or PDF newspaper or magazine produced by students.

102 Christian Ministry: A print or PDF publication that serves workers in Christian education, churches, or other ministries and/or that educates readers about a certain area of ministry.

103 Denominational: A print or PDF publication serving as the official voice of a denomination.

104 Devotional: A print or PDF publication offering devotional readings and Bible studies to inspire readers.

105 General: A general-interest print or PDF publication that is not the voice of an organization or a denomination.

106 Higher Ed: An institutional print or PDF publication that is the official voice of a college, university, or seminary.

107 Missions: A print or PDF publication with a theme of missionary evangelism (“home” and/or “international”).

109 Newspaper: A newspaper-format print or PDF publication, generally, but not exclusively, serving a geographical area with timely news.

110 Organizational: A print or PDF publication that is the official voice of a group other than a denomination.

111 Youth: A print or PDF publication intended for youth audiences up to college-age.

Digital (Content-driven website)

NOTE: Print publication members may only submit in a digital category if they hold dual membership in both Traditional and Digital (with the exception of Campus publications which may enter either or both).

201 Campus: A content-driven website produced by students.

202 Christian Ministry: A content-driven website that serves workers in Christian education, churches, or other ministries.

203 Denominational: A content-driven website serving as the official voice of a denomination.

204 Devotional: A content-driven website offering devotional readings and Bible studies to inspire readers.

205 General: A general-interest content-driven website that is not the voice of an organization or denomination.

206 Higher Ed: A content-driven website that is the official voice of a college, university, or seminary.

207 Missions: A content- driven website with a theme of missionary evangelism (“home” and/or “international”).

209 Newspaper/Online News: A content-driven website generally, but not exclusively, serving a geographical area with timely news.

210 Organizational: A content-driven website that is the official voice of a group other than a denomination.

211 Youth: A content-driven website intended for youth audiences up to college-age.

Other

301 Most Improved (Traditional division only): A print or PDF-generated publication that has made significant content and/or design changes in the past year. (Provide two consecutive issues from this year and the two corresponding issues from the previous year.)