2023 UTC OUTSTANDING STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD
SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS GUIDELINES

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) will recognize an outstanding student from each active University Transportation Center (UTC) at a special ceremony to be held on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at the Grand Hyatt Washington (1000 H Street NW, Washington, DC).

Each UTC must use the following eligibility requirements, selection criteria and selection process guidelines to identify their student:

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Eligible candidates must be selected from within the consortia of the lead university.
- Only one candidate per consortia can receive the award.
- Eligible candidates MUST be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. (There is no exception to this policy.)
- Eligible candidates must have received financial support from the UTC program for at least two semesters prior to receiving the award.
- Eligible candidates must have completed with a grade of B or better at least 12 hours of graduate course work at the time the selection is made, and have a graduate GPA in excess of 3.25 (out of 4.00). (Undergraduate students are not eligible).
- Eligible candidates must be currently enrolled within the consortia making the selection.
- Previously selected recipients and recent graduates are not eligible.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection should be based upon accomplishments in three areas:

- Technical Merit and Research Capability
- Academic Performance
- Leadership

Evidence of technical and research capability merit is based upon faculty nomination and evaluation of submitted written papers or reports. Academic performance is based upon completed courses and grades attained. Evidence of professionalism and leadership can be in the form of presentations at professional society meetings and symposia, and leadership in student professional activities.
SELECTION PROCESS GUIDELINES

Each UTC should establish a selection committee consisting of faculty representatives from each consortium university and external reviewers, if desired. This committee will evaluate written documentation submitted by students and will select the awardee from that UTC. The student should submit the following information to the selection committee to assist it in its deliberations:

- Academic transcript and short vita and/or biographical sketch;
- Nomination letter from at least one faculty member; and
- Copy of paper(s) written by the nominee.