



Panel of Judges

Process Handbook

January 2017

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OVERVIEW

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This is a summary of the processes used by The Partnership for Excellence (TPE) Panel of Judges to help ensure fair and thorough evaluations of Applicants.

MISSION OF THE PANEL OF JUDGES

The Panel of Judges reviews evaluations made by members of the TPE Board of Examiners and makes Award Level recommendations to the TPE Board of Trustees.

Judges also mentor Examiner Team Leaders to improve comments of their assigned Applicant, review and strengthen the draft *Feedback Report*, and approve it prior to TPE sending it to the Applicant.

Judges will identify Applicants with either overall or category exceptional performance practices to the TPE President/CEO, as potential presenters at the annual Quest for Success Conference.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

- Maximum use of discussion and consensus.
- Maximum number of Judges participating in consensus and decision-making.
- Elimination of conflict of interest and appearances of conflict.
- A Judge may not vote on an Applicant if the Judge has not been present for a substantial portion of the discussion on the Applicant.
- A Judge may not vote on an Applicant if the Judge has a conflict of interest.
- Documentation to support Judge's recommendations.
- TPE recognizes members of the Panel of Judges as part of the TPE Board of Examiners.

CHANGES TO PANEL OF JUDGES PROCESSES

Changes to these processes can be made immediately by a majority vote of the Panel of Judges so that they may ensure fair and thorough evaluations of Applicants.

Each Judge should provide TPE with any recommended future changes, ideas, and suggestions for improvement.

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR EXCELLENCE

Since 1998, The Partnership for Excellence has taken results-focused organizations to the next level. TPE is a non-profit organization (501(c)3) that works with organizations to simply become better at what they do. Based on the Baldrige Excellence Framework, TPE helps organizations improve all aspects of an organization through the use of seven performance excellence categories.

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES OF TPE

Mission: To cultivate organizational performance excellence and continuous improvement in Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia

Vision: To be the partner of choice for creating high performing organizations that produce exceptional results

Core Values: Excellence, Diversity, Integrity, Visionary Leadership, Professionalism

TPE EVALUATION PROCESS

TPE conducts evaluations of Applicants using the same processes as the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program (BPEP), with only minor differences. These include:

- TPE uses the BPEP *Baldrige Excellence Framework* for Business & Non-profit, Healthcare, and Education. Since Full Applications are due to TPE prior to the end of the calendar year, but evaluated early in the next year, TPE is traditionally completing its evaluation one criteria year “behind” BPEP updates.
- Applicants choose the sector Criteria in preparing their *Application Report*.
- Full Applicants address all Items of their sector Criteria, and submit a 50-page *Application Report* in addition to the Organizational Profile. Only these applicants are reviewed by the Panel of Judges.
- Site Visits focus on the Applicant’s use of performance excellence, in addition to the materials contained in the *Application Report*.
- All members of the Board of Examiners receive a two-day Examiner Training session using BPEP training materials.
- TPE organizes teams of six to ten Examiners for each Applicant, based upon the size, location, and sector.
- TPE appoints a Team Leader to provide leadership to each Examiner Team. These individuals receive a one-day Team Leader Training session using BPEP training materials.

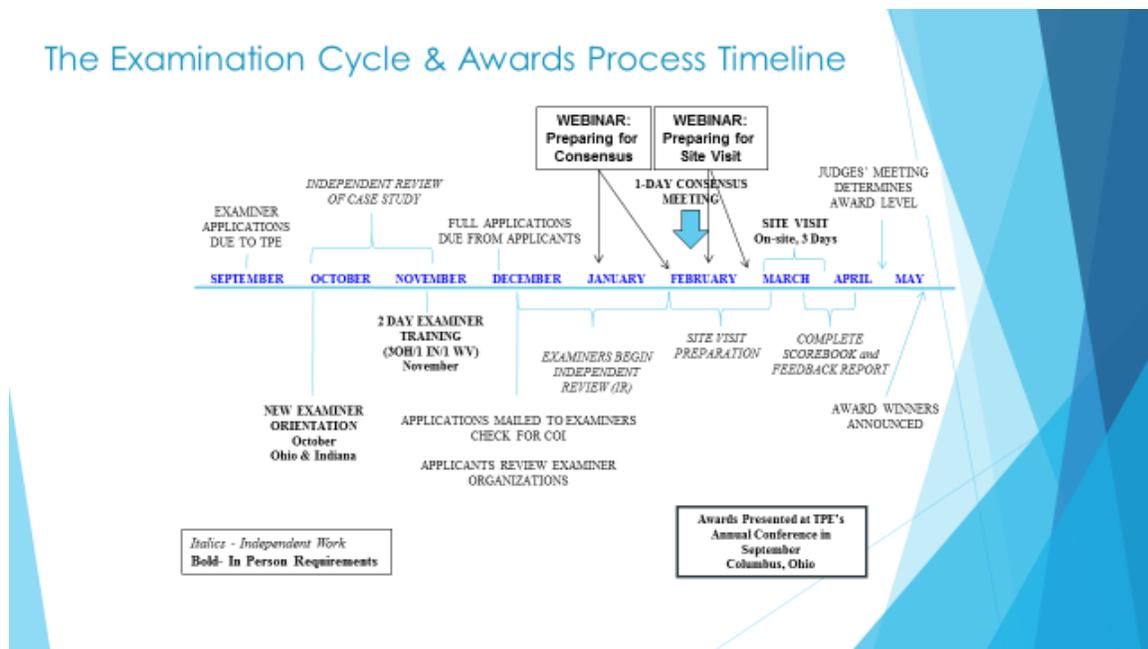
- Depending upon the size and experience level of the Examiner Team, another Examiner may serve as a Feedback Editor and another as Assistant Team Leader. The Team Leader is ultimately responsible for completing the draft Feedback Report.
- After completing the Site Visit, the Examiner Team will revise and update comments from their Consensus Scorebook, explicitly revise the consensus score, and complete the Site Visit Issue Worksheets.
- The Panel of Judges assign award levels of recognition using the following guidelines:
 - ALL Applicants receive Award Level recognition; however, applicants may decline to be recognized.
 - TPE may recognize an unlimited number of Applicants at each Award Level.
 - The Panel of Judges recommends the Award Levels for all Full Applicants. Any award level may be recommended by the Panel of Judges, including Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze.
 - If an applicant submits a Full Application, and if for some reason the applicant does not receive a site visit, Bronze is the highest award level the judges may award the applicant and the judges may recommend that no award is appropriate.
 - The TPE Board of Trustees reviews and approves these recommendations.
- Concurrently during this process, the Team Leader works with their Lead Judge to finalize the *Feedback Report*. The Lead Judge reviews, approves, strengthens and sends the *Feedback Report* to TPE with the final score summary worksheet.

BASIC JUDGING INFORMATION

SCHEDULE

- Selection of members of Panel of Judges – December/January
- Applications and Criteria books distributed – January
- Orientation Conference Call – late January (before Consensus Reviews)
- Conference Call with all Judges and TL's - Late February (before Site Visits)
- Consensus Scorebooks sent to Judges - late February/March
- Draft Feedback Reports, Score Summary Worksheet, Score Summary Comparison Worksheet, SVI Worksheets sent to Judges from TLs – March/April
- Final Conference Call with Judge's to prepare for Judges Meeting- Mid April
- Recommendation Form with Key Factors, Draft FBR, Final Score Summary Worksheet, Score Summary Comparison Worksheet emailed to all Judges – April
- Award Selection Meeting – end of April
- Final Feedback Report and Final Score Summary Worksheet due in to TPE – mid May.

The Examination Cycle & Awards Process Timeline



ESTIMATED JUDGES' TIME INVESTMENT

- Judges Orientation Conference Call: 2 hours
- Read *Application Report*: 7-12 hours per Applicant
- Review *Draft Feedback Report*: 4-8 hours per Applicant
- Judge's Award Selection Meeting: 5-6 hours
- Review and approval of *Feedback Report* : 3-5 hours per Applicant

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of interest refers to conflicts due to circumstances or relationships, such as current or recent employment and/or client relationship; significant ownership; employment, client relationship and/or significant ownership with business competitors of Applicants; current or recent participation on the Board of Directors of the company or of a competitor; or other significant knowledge or relationship. A conflict of interest also exists if an individual has served as an Examiner, including the Advising & Partnering Program for an Applicant during a previous or current application. If a Judge feels uncertain if a particular relationship or circumstance constitutes a conflict of interest, the Judge will declare a conflict of interest and not participate in evaluations of the Applicant at the Award Selection Meeting.

TPE AWARD LEVELS

TPE incorporates four levels of recognition. This system both encourages and recognizes Ohio, Indiana & West Virginia organizations in their path toward performance excellence. The four levels described in the Program Materials Booklet are shown below:

Platinum Award (Governor's Award for Excellence). This is the highest level of recognition for organizations that have demonstrated, through practices and superior results, the highest level of excellence. These organizations are outstanding examples of excellence in Ohio, Indiana & West Virginia, exhibiting processes that generate results better than competitive and comparative performance for areas important to key organizational success.

Gold Award (Achievement of Excellence). This is an advanced level of recognition for organizations that have demonstrated, through commitment and practice, significant progress toward excellence. Organizations recognized at this level clearly demonstrate results directly attributable to deployment of a systematic approach.

Silver Award (Commitment to Excellence). This is the intermediate level of recognition for organizations that have demonstrated a serious commitment to excellence and a process for continuous improvement. These organizations have documented a solid system-level approach to achieving excellence and measurement of process results.

Bronze Award (Pledge to Excellence). This is the starting level of recognition for organizations that have begun their journey toward understanding and applying principles of excellence.

GUIDELINES FOR AWARD SELECTION

To receive a given Award Level, Judges should assess an Applicant favorably (with some supporting evidence), in the following key areas:

- Understanding of performance excellence system.
- Leadership commitment.
- Systematic performance excellence system in place.
- Evidence of Improvement cycles.
- Positive results and trends along with comparative data or benchmarks.

Judges may consider, as mitigating factors:

- The number of employees and resources available to the Applicant to implement a performance excellence system
- The key organizational factors and/or the Applicant's position in the market/sector prior to implementing a performance excellent system.

CRITERIA FOR ASSIGNING AWARD LEVELS

<p>Potential <i>Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award</i> Recipient</p>	<p>The Applicant has an effective, systematic approach responsive to many of the Areas to Address and to key organizational needs, with a fact-based evaluation and improvement process in place in key areas. No major gaps in deployment, and a commitment exists to organizational learning and sharing. Improvement trends and/or good performance reported for most areas of importance. Results address most key customer/stakeholder and process requirements and demonstrate areas of leadership.</p>
<p>Platinum Award</p> <p>Process 5-Results 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Or</p> <p>Process 4-Results 4</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PROCESS (5): The organization demonstrates effective, systematic, well-deployed approaches responsive to the overall requirements of most Criteria items. The organization demonstrates a fact-based, systematic evaluation and improvement process and organizational learning, including innovation that result in improving the effectiveness and efficiency of key processes. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">RESULTS (3): Results address areas of importance to the basic Criteria requirements and accomplishment of the organization’s mission, with good performance being achieved. Comparative and trend data are available for some of these important results areas, and some beneficial trends are evident.</p> 2. PROCESS (4): The organization demonstrates effective, systematic approaches responsive to the overall requirements of the Criteria, but deployment may vary in some areas or work units. Key processes benefit from fact-based evaluation and improvement, and approaches are being aligned with overall organizational needs. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">RESULTS (4): Results address some key customer/ stakeholder, market, and process requirements, and they demonstrate good relative performance against relevant comparisons. There are no patterns of adverse trends or poor performance in areas of importance to the overall Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization’s mission.</p> 3. Would the organization be a good State role model? Do they show leadership? Would they be willing to share? 4. Is the organization aligned with the criteria’s core values? 5. Can the organization achieve a Baldrige Site Visit in one to two years with sustained approaches, continuous maturity?

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Is the organization a role model in at least two categories including leadership and mature deployment in most categories? 7. Does the organization have strong to leading, relative competitive and/or comparative performance in areas of importance to the organization? 8. Is there a best fit with the Baldrige “Scoring Band Descriptors”, Process band number 4/5, and Results band number 4/3? 9. Are the results of the quality effort recognized by the marketplace? 10. Are all levels of employees involved? 11. Does involved leadership exist that goes beyond the CEO or Quality Champion? 12. Are the approaches well-deployed throughout all of the organization? Is it institutionalized? 13. Does management show a relentless drive toward achieving quality improvement?
<p>Gold Award</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PROCESS (3): The organization demonstrates effective, systematic approaches responsive to the basic requirements of most Criteria items, although there are still areas or work units in the early stages of deployment. Key processes are beginning to be systematically evaluated and improved. 2. RESULTS (3): Results address areas of importance to the basic Criteria requirements and accomplishment of the organization’s mission, with good performance being achieved. Comparative and trend data are available for some of these important results areas, and some beneficial trends are evident. 3. Does the organization have one or two categories where they are a role model and/or are there one or two key themes that are role model? 4. Is there a best fit with the Baldrige “Scoring Band Descriptors”, Process band number 4, and Results band number 3? 5. Has the organization demonstrated a commitment to continuous improvement by documenting a sound systematic approach?

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Is the organization in the process of deploying effective plans, procedures and measurement systems? 7. Does the organization have early performance indicators, which show positive results and areas of strength? 8. Can the organization, with continued maturity, achieve Platinum Award recognition? 9. Has the organization implemented practices with potential for good results - some initiatives may be in the early stages of deployment, however, there are no gaps relative to basic or key concepts, Core Values and Criteria? 10. Does involved leadership exist that goes beyond the CEO or Quality Champion?
Silver Award	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PROCESS (2): The organization demonstrates effective, systematic approaches responsive to the basic requirements of the Criteria, but some areas or work units are in the early stages of deployment. The organization has developed a general improvement orientation that is forward- looking. 2. RESULTS (2): Results are reported for several areas responsive to the basic Criteria requirements and the accomplishment of the organization’s mission. Some of these results demonstrate good performance levels. The use of comparative and trend data is in the early stages. 3. Is there a best fit with the Baldrige “Scoring Band Descriptors”, Process band numbers 2-3, and Results band number 2?
Bronze Award	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PROCESS (1): The organization demonstrates early stages of developing and implementing approaches to the basic Criteria requirements, with deployment lagging and inhibiting progress. Improvement efforts are a combination of problem solving and an early general improvement orientation. 2. RESULTS (1): A few results are reported responsive to the basic Criteria requirements, but they generally lack trend and comparative data. 3. The Applicant is in the early stages of developing and implementing approaches to Category requirements. Important gaps exist in most Categories.

	4. Is there a best fit with the Baldrige “Scoring Band Descriptors”, Process band number 1, and Results band number 1?
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PANEL OF JUDGES PROCESSES

SELECTION OF JUDGES (DECEMBER/JANUARY)

The TPE President/CEO and the Judges Panel Chair will recruit individuals to be members of the Panel of Judges. The TPE President/CEO will approve these selections and appoint the individual as a member of the TPE Board of Examiners. The Judges Panel Chair will assign judges to serve a lead judge, or back-up judge for each applicant as appropriate.

Selection criteria includes several of the following factors:

- Experience as a BPEP or State Quality Award Judge.
- Experience as a BPEP or State Quality Award Senior Examiner.
- Experience as a BPEP Overseer or Member of a State Quality Award program Board of Directors.
- Experience as a recognized expert in performance excellence.
- Experience as a recognized expert in Business, Education, Health Care, Government, or Non-Profit sectors.
- Availability and willingness to perform the Panel of Judges' Mission.

Upon receipt of the Applicant's Application Report in December/January, Judges will read the Organizational Profile to ensure that they do not have a conflict of interest. NOTIFY the Lead Judge for the Panel of Judges and President/CEO if a previously unknown conflict is identified.

ORIENTATION CONFERENCE CALL (JANUARY)

The Panel of Judges will participate in a conference call to:

- Review and clarify the Panel of Judges Processes.
- Clarify questions or concerns about the TPE Evaluation Process.
- Identify any known conflicts of interest with Applicants and Judges.
- Clarify the Timeline and Actions Steps to be done prior to the Award Selection Meeting.

Prior to the conference call, Judges will receive the following by email:

- Listing of all Applicants, with sector and application information.
- Listing of Examiner Team Leaders with Applicant assignment and contact information.
- Listing of the Panel of Judges, with contact information.
- Criteria (Sector-Specific)
- Application report for their applicant

The Lead Judge will read and review the Application Report and evaluation materials in January. The Lead Judge will contact the Team Leader by phone to introduce themselves and clarify any concerns or issues identified in the application report. The Lead Judge will not contact the Applicant for any reason. Information that the Lead Judge needs that the Team Leader cannot provide should be discussed with TPE's President/CEO.

CONFERENCE CALL WITH JUDGES AND TL's (LATE FEBRUARY)

The Panel of Judges and all TLs will participate in a conference call to:

- Review and clarify the Processes, Timeline, and Deliverables.
- Offer insights and tips for TLs.
- Discuss the SV process and ensure TL's are prepared.

JUDGES MEETING COORDINATION CONFERENCE CALL (MID-APRIL)

The Panel of Judges will participate in a conference call to:

- Confirm the process and details for the Judges Meeting
- Discuss Best Practices
- Discuss preparation of the Judges' Recommendation Form and Rationale
- Format for the Oral Presentation during the Judges Meeting (limited to 15 minutes each)
- Deliverables/Timeline
- Timeline to complete Feedback Report
- Review Team Leader (TL) Evaluation Form
- Open Discussion

The Lead Judge will also start the mentoring process with the Team Leader to translate the Site Visit Report into a draft Feedback Report. The Judge should concentrate on ensuring that the comments provide clarity to the Applicant. The Judge will also provide suggestions for grammar, prescriptive comments, spelling, and related issues. The Team Leader is responsible for completing this task.

TPE will send an electronic version of the Site Visit Scorebook (includes Key Factors, Key Themes, Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement for each Item, and Site Visit Scores) for all applicants to all judges.

Team Leaders will send the following documents to their Lead Judge at the conclusion of Site Visit:

1. Copy of the Consensus Scorebook and Key Factors.
2. Score Summary Worksheet for the final scorebook.
3. Score Summary Comparison Worksheet- showing changes in Item scores between the Consensus and Site Visit Reviews that is signed at the end of Site Visit by all examiner team members.
4. All Site Visit Issue Worksheets with the Evidence & Conclusions and Effect on Comments sections completed.
5. Final Scorebook in Feedback Report format using the FBR template.

The Team Leader and Lead Judge will begin using the Draft Feedback Report format and the judging process will use this document for Key Themes and Item comments instead of the Site Visit Scorebook. The draft Feedback Report is used instead of the Site Visit Scorebook in order to provide Judges with the best information to make an award decision.

The Lead Judge will prepare the Judge's Recommendation Form for each Applicant, and email it to all Judges and the President/CEO one week prior to the Judges' Meeting.

Additionally, the Lead Judge will send to TPE the latest version of the draft Feedback Report with the latest Key Themes, the excel file showing Item scoring and the Scoring Comparison Sheet and any updated Key Factors. TPE will combine all the recommendation forms and prepare packages for each Judge, and will email these to ALL Judges, except those with conflicts with an Applicant. This form is limited to one page.

All judges will read the each Organizational Profile, Judge's Recommendation Sheet, Key Factors, Key Themes, and Scoring information for all Applicants. It is recommended that all judges read the entire draft Feedback Report.

The Lead Judge will prepare an **oral presentation** of less than: 15 minutes (10 minutes for Applicants not receiving a Site Visit) that the Judge will present at the Award Selection Meeting. The key elements of the presentation are:

- Brief description of the Applicant (Key Factors, such as sector, industry/services provided, size, etc.)
- Significant Process Key Theme Strengths and Opportunities for Improvement comments from its approaches and deployment of performance excellence.
- Significant Results Key Theme Strength and Opportunities for Improvement comments on the Applicant's results.
- Significant changes in Item level scores or scoring levels
- Significant comments from Process and/or Results Items
- Judge's assessment of the Applicant's maturity level.
- Award Level Recommendation and reason why.
- The Lead Judge is to serve as an Advocate for the Applicant to the Panel.

If the Lead Judge cannot attend the Award Selection Meeting or dial-in by teleconference, the Lead Judge will notify the Lead Judge of the Panel of Judges who will appoint another judge attending the meeting to read the completed Judge's Recommendation Form at the meeting. The Lead Judge will assist the newly appointed Backup Judge in understanding the organization and recommendation.

Each Judge will read all Judges' Recommendation Forms prior to the Award Selection Meeting. Judges will not receive recommendations for those Applicants that they have a conflict with.

AWARD SELECTION MEETING

The agenda is typically:

- Welcome
- Housekeeping and review of materials.
- Review of all Judges' conflicts of interest.
- Discussion of Award Selection procedures and Criteria for Assigning Award Levels.

- Site Visit Applicant Discussion and Award Level Vote (30 minutes each).
- Recalibration after 2-3 Applicants.
- Discussion and Voting of remaining Site Visit Applicants.
- Review of Award Level Recommendations and any Re-Discussions and Re-Voting.
- Review recommendations for Category Lead Performer Awards. Discuss and vote on recommendations for award.
- Discussion of Next Steps to finalize Feedback Reports with Team Leaders.
- Identification of Opportunities for Improvement in Judges Processes.
- Identification of Applicants for Quest for Success Conference presentations.
- Conclusion
- Review of TPE Awards Cycle & Recommendations for Improvement

Judges with a conflict of interest with an Applicant will leave the room whenever the Applicant is being discussed or voting occurs.

The Judges will discuss each Applicant in detail. The Judges consider all of the findings of the Examiner Team, with emphasis given to the findings of the Site Visit. The Judges discuss and consider the findings within the context of the nature of the Applicant's sector and any key organizational factors that may apply. Discussion of the Applicant continues until all participating Judges conclude that the case has been adequately covered.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Judges will vote “yes” or “no” as to whether the Applicant should receive a given Award Level. A two-thirds “yes” vote is required to receive an Award Level. The minimum margin of the voting for a two-thirds margin of the voting Judges is: 12/18, 12/17, 11/16, 10/15, 10/14, 9/13, 8/12, 8/11, 7/10, 6/9, 6/8, 5/7, 4/6, 4/5, 3/4, 2/3, and 2/2.

In the case where the Applicant was recommended for an Award Level by the Lead Judge, but failed to achieve a two-thirds "yes" vote, the Lead Judge may request further discussion. Dissenting Judges should state their objections and the Lead Judge should make a brief explanation or rebuttal prior to a second vote.

Failure of achieving a two-thirds “yes” on the second vote will generate a vote at the next lower Award Level.

This review and voting process is repeated for each Applicant.

Note: *The Panel of Judges may review and change previous Award Level recommendations made during their review if some decisions appear to be inconsistent with those previously made. Previous year decisions by the Judges may also be reviewed to assure consistency. The Award Level recommendations are not FINAL until the Award Selection Meeting is over.*

After all award levels for full applications have been determined, recommendations for Category Lead Performer Awards will be discussed and voted on. Applicants demonstrating role model performance in categories 1 – 6 will be eligible for recognition and recommended

by the lead judge. Platinum Award recipients will not be considered for this recognition. Category Lead Performer recipients will meet the following criteria.

- it is at the high side *or higher than* **characteristics** of the 50–65% scoring range
- there is linkage to appropriate organizational results demonstrating favorable levels, trends, and comparisons
- credible performance across other categories and no fatal flaws
- evidence of cycles of learning and significant improvement in category
- no issues surfaced during HRO meeting or site visit

Judges will delete electronic files and emails and destroy written evaluation materials, recommendation materials, and other information used during the Award Selection Meeting to TPE at the conclusion of the meeting, except for Applicants that they serve as Lead Judge.

ACTION STEPS AFTER THE AWARD SELECTION MEETING

The names of Applicants and their recommended Award Levels are to be held in confidence until TPE sends out its press release announcing award recipients. The names of other Applicants are not to be revealed; and the details of the Judges' discussions are confidential.

The President/CEO will give the recommended list of award recipients to the TPE Board of Trustees for approval. Upon a majority vote of the Board of Trustees, the Board certifies the recommendations and directs the TPE President/CEO to inform each Applicant of their Award Level.

The TPE President/CEO will contact the Highest Ranking Official for each Applicant and inform the organization of their Award Level. The Applicant must either accept or decline the Award Level. Applicants may choose not to receive an Award Level, in which case, the name of the Applicant will no longer appear against that or any Award Level. An Applicant that declines an Award Level will still receive a Feedback Report.

The TPE President/CEO will issue a press release announcing the award recipients.

COMPLETING THE FEEDBACK REPORT

The Lead Judge will serve as reviewer and approver for the Applicant's Feedback Report. Emphasis should be placed on creating Feedback Reports that are clear and as specific as possible. Ultimately, the Feedback Report should be both informative and "actionable" for the Applicant.

The Lead Judge will work with the Team Leader to make improvements to comments contained in the Feedback Report. The Judge will receive the draft Feedback Report from the Team Leader in order to provide review and comments. The Judge will approve the final Feedback Report and send it by email to the TPE President/CEO and cc the Team Leader.

Each Judge will return all materials provided by TPE, including the Application Report and evaluation materials, upon submission of the Feedback Report to TPE. Electronic files and email messages will be deleted.

TPE encourages all Judges to provide opportunities for improvement to the TPE President/CEO after approving and submitting all Feedback Reports. These recommendations may address any TPE process.



JUDGE'S RECOMMENDATION FORM

2017 TPE Examination Cycle

Applicant:		Lead Judge:	
Sector: (X in box)	<u>B</u> <u>G</u> <u>E</u> <u>HC</u> <u>NFP</u>	Size:	
Brief Description of Organization			

Consensus and Site Visit Percentage Scoring Summary

Item	Consensus	Site Visit	Item	Consensus	Site Visit
1.1			5.1		
1.2			5.2		
2.1			6.1		
2.2			6.2		
3.1			7.1		
3.2			7.2		
4.1			7.3		
4.2			7.4		
			7.5		

Score & Scoring Bands: (maximum points = 1000)

PROCESS = Band _____

RESULTS = Band _____

Key Area (Insert X in box)

1
(Low)
2
3
4
(High)

Understanding of Performance Excellence				
Leadership Commitment				
Systematic Performance Excellence System in Place				
Evidence of Improvement Cycles				
Positive Results and Trends				
Results Better than Benchmarks				
Criteria for Assigning Award Levels (Judges Handbook p. 8-11)				

Observations & Maturity Level:	
Assessment:	

Award Level Recommendation: (Insert X in box)	<u>Bronze</u>	<u>Silver</u>	<u>Gold</u>	<u>Platinum</u>
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Why? (Include lower & higher level rationale)	
Key Themes	



Category Lead Performer Award – Judge’s Recommendation
2017 TPE Examination Cycle

Judges can recommend an applicant as a Lead Performer in a given category. Role model performance in categories 1 – 6 will be eligible for recognition. Note: Platinum Award recipients will not be considered for this recognition.

Applicant:	Lead Judge:	Category:
Overall rationale for recommending applicant for category award:		

Provide a rationale for leading performance in the given category based on the following criteria.

Criteria	Rationale/Supporting Comments & Information
Category Score (50 – 65% or higher)	
Linkage to organizational results with favorable levels, trends & comparisons	
Evidence of significant improvement in performance	
Cycles of learning demonstrated	
Credible performance across other categories and no fatal flaws	
No issues surfaced during HRO meeting or site visit	