



NPI Members,

The 2009 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award demonstrates excellence by obtaining a high score based on standardized criteria. The criteria are designed to measure innovation, professionalism, productivity, e-procurement and leadership attributes of the procurement organization. There are several changes in this application as summarized below:

- Application fee has been increased to \$400
- Application may be submitted on-line: www.npicconnection.com
- Identification of date parameters for all criteria requiring action within a specific time period
- Chapter Officers and Board Members will be added to leadership criterion
- ABA Model Procurement Code criterion has been deleted
- Best Value criterion has been added
- Change in requirements for Cooperative Purchasing criterion

The changes to this year's application add to the difficulty of receiving the award and making this achievement an even greater testimony to the caliber of procurement professionals in public sector today. The AEP Committee continually strives to adapt the AEP application to meet current trends and to elevate the benchmark for government procurement officials.

The most significant change is the ability to submit your application on-line. The program has just been launched and is ready for you to use. It will be optional for the 2009 application and will be required for 2010. Attached is a Word copy of the application along with instructional information for the on-line program. It is very intuitive and does not have to be accessed multiple times for adding and editing documents until the submittal deadline of May 29, 2009.

As always, I welcome your questions and you can email or call me anytime. The goal of the AEP committee is for your agency to be successful.

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