



## Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award

The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award is the nation's highest honor for quality and performance excellence in the categories of manufacturing, service, small business, education, healthcare, and nonprofit organizations. Named after the late 26th secretary of the Department of Commerce, the award was established by Congress in 1987 to enhance the competitiveness of U.S. businesses. The award promotes excellence in organizational performance, recognizes the quality and performance achievements of U.S. organizations, and publicizes successful performance strategies.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) manages the award in close cooperation with the private sector. ASQ is proud to assist in administering the award under contract to NIST. ASQ has been involved with the Baldrige Award since its inception in 1988 and has been the sole administrator of the award since 1991.

The Baldrige Award criteria focus on quality as an integral part of today's business management practices. The award applicants are examined by an independent board of examiners in seven areas: leadership; strategic planning; customer and market focus; measurement, analysis, and knowledge management; work force focus; process management; and results.

ASQ members, quality professionals, and their organizations may consider the criteria as a tool to deliver ever-improving value to their customers and improve their organization's overall performance and capabilities.

## International Team Excellence Award

Teams from a broad spectrum of industries compete each year for the coveted ASQ Gold, Silver, and Bronze International Team Excellence Awards, which showcase companies that shine in creating innovative solutions and organizational cost-savings.

Since 1985, more than 870 teams from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, Costa Rica, Colombia, India, Japan, Mexico, Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and the United States have participated in this outstanding process. Well-known companies, such as Alcoa, Baxter Healthcare, Bayer, Boeing, CSX, Fidelity, and Genentech, have showcased proven results with long-term implications, resulting in cost-savings of millions of dollars. Finalists share their success stories and best practices at ASQ's annual World Conference on Quality and Improvement.

Recently, ASQ began the Education Team Excellence Award to provide educators with the opportunity to benchmark their team's efforts against other schools' best practices, and capture national and international recognition for the winning schools' team-based quality improvement efforts. Awards are given annually at ASQ's National Quality Education Conference.

For more information on how to participate, contact Geetha Balagopal at [gbalagopal@asq.org](mailto:gbalagopal@asq.org).