The Award

The biennial Kalenian Award is a competition. The duration of the Award shall not exceed 18 months and will be a grant of up to $20,000. It may be awarded to one or more recipients involved in the invention of a product in order to assist in the process of moving the invention toward commercialization. The award may be given to support innovative ideas or the development of commercial products. Ideally, recipients should be innovating in either an existing small business or in the process of trying to establish a small business.

For the three-page application, a very concise “who am I---this is my idea---this is how it will benefit society---this is what I need to achieve my goals” would be much appreciated. This is not a business plan contest. We receive many very high quality ideas and it is a difficult exercise to select one winner. Applicants may resubmit proposals if they do not win the previous year.

Proposals are encouraged for project types that: demonstrate the need to provide proof of concept, reduction to practice, or involves products that are in the early stages of commercial development.

Application Guidelines

STEP 1: INTENT TO COMPETE FORM

This is an online form that you should prepare answers for in advance. Please review the questions, then submit answers in the form before emailing your three-page proposal. You may submit more than one form for more than one idea.

Deadline: Submit Intent to Compete forms no later than 5:00 p.m. September 30, 2019.

STEP 2: PROPOSAL COVER PAGE, THREE-PAGE NARRATIVE AND APPENDICES

Required cover page contents:

- 2019 Kalenian Award Proposal
- Name of company, product, or project title
- Business address and web site, if any
- Name of applicant(s)
  - For alumni(ae), include: Year Graduated, WPIMajor(s)
  - For faculty, include: Department and title
  - For student(s), include: Major(s) and anticipated year(s) of graduation
- Contact info for all applicants:
  - Address; telephone number; email address
The three-page narrative should describe:

- the activity to be undertaken
- the expected outcome in the 18-month award time frame
- the perceived importance and/or market value of the product, and
- longer-term anticipated outcomes

The narrative three-page limit excludes the cover page, space used by graphics, diagrams or images, and appendices. (Graphics may be placed in an appendix, but do not use an appendix to exceed the written narrative page limit.) Do not include CVs, patents, business plans, large appendices or lengthy scientific and/or technical descriptions.

**Deadline:** The narrative proposal will be due no later than 5:00 PM on October 28, 2019.

**Email instructions** - Please email your proposal with "Kalenian Award Proposal" as the subject line to: Gina Betti at gbetti@wpi.edu.

**Proposal Review**

Proposals will be reviewed by judges with professional backgrounds and respect for confidentiality. Selection of the award recipient will be based on some or all of the following criteria:

- novelty of the idea
- commercial potential, including market opportunity and societal value
- demonstration of a viable business plan evolving from the idea, product, or process (do not submit a business plan)
- likelihood of success

**Contact:** Gina Betti, Foisie Business School, 508-831-5761, gbetti@wpi.edu