

Chapter of the Year Awards

Please read these rules carefully, as many changes have been made to facilitate the competition during a pandemic. These may be different procedures than recent years.

Purpose:

The Institute of Food Technologists Student Association welcomes all chapters to apply for the Chapter of the Year Awards. All submissions are to be submitted **via the submission portal on IFT.org**. The submission deadline is **April 15, 2021 at 11:59PM Central Time**. Late submissions will NOT be accepted. Incomplete submissions will be removed from consideration. You should receive an email receipt for your submission; be sure to retain a copy of this receipt for your records.

Background:

The Chapter of the Year (COY) was first established in 1976 to recognize outstanding IFTSA chapters. The competition was revised in 2014 to better align with IFTSA's Strategic Plan and to increase recognition for the many outstanding IFTSA chapters. Further edits were made in 2018 following a review by the IFTSA Competitions Task Force. Applications will be assessed on the chapter's essay responses **and completion of minimum chapter requirements**.

Eligibility:

- Student group must be an official IFTSA chapter in compliance with IFTSA Bylaws.
 - Contact IFTSA VP of Chapter Engagement or designated IFT Staff member for information on minimum chapter requirements
- Chapter officers must be student members in good standing with IFT for the current academic year.
- Faculty Advisor must be an IFT member in good standing for the current academic year.

Awards:

The following awards will be presented annually*:

- Outstanding Chapter for Connect—\$250 with trophy
- Outstanding Chapter for Develop—\$250 with trophy
- Outstanding Chapter for Support—\$250 with trophy
- Chapter of the Year —\$1000 with trophy

All Awards recipients will be recognized at IFT annual event during the IFTSA Closing Ceremony or virtually.

* The overall Chapter of the Year recipient is additionally eligible for up to 1 of the Outstanding Chapter awards.

Application procedure:

One essay each related to an IFTSA promise award**

- Connect (≤400 words)
- Develop (≤400 words)
- Support (≤400 words)
- Chapter of the Year (≤500 words)

Additional Required Material

- Chapter Health Survey– twice yearly
 - Part 1
 - Part 2
- PowerPoint Slide
- Chapter and Department information

** Chapters have the option to apply for one, two, or all of the promise awards. Applying for all three promise awards is necessary if the chapter wants to be considered for the title of “Chapter of the Year”.

Essays:

- **Connect:** IFTSA promises to Connect its members by bringing people, ideas, and opportunities together to support students’ professional goals - how does your chapter exemplify this promise?
- **Develop:** IFTSA promises to Develop its members by providing opportunities for developing skills beyond the classroom and lab – how does your chapter exemplify this promise?
- **Support:** IFTSA promises to Support its members by Cultivating an inclusive environment where all individuals pursuing an education in the science of food can thrive– how does your chapter exemplify this promise?
- **Chapter of the Year:** Explain how your chapter strives to achieve IFTSA’s vision and mission, deliver member value locally, and ultimately, why your chapter deserves the title of “Chapter of the Year”.

PowerPoint Slide:

- Include pictures and text related to activities and events held by your chapter
 - Use high quality images for displaying during the IFTSA Closing Ceremony
- Include University name and logo
- **Do Not** include IFT/IFTSA logos
- Single slide must be in .ppt or .pptx format, 16x9 aspect ratio. Max 25mb file size

Submissions may only include information from events and activities that occurred between May 15th, 2020 and April 15th, 2021.

The enforcement, review, and changes of these Rules and Guidelines will be the responsibility of the Chair of the competition and designated IFT Staff member.

For all questions and comments please email the Chapter of the Year Chair at iftsa.coy@gmail.com.