

State News for NSPE Members

Nominations Deadline Extended - NSPE-DE Excellence Awards

The **Engineer of the Year** and **Young Engineer of the Year** are the most prestigious awards presented by NSPE-DE. These honors recognize individuals who provide sustained and unusual welfare, the advancement of the engineering profession, and/or service to humankind. New this year, we will be introducing a **Government Engineer of the Year** award. Individuals that are eligible for nomination must be currently engaged in the practice of engineering as an employee of the state, local or quasi-government agency in either a managerial or technical position.

If you know or work with someone who you think is deserving of either the Engineer of the Year, Government Engineer of the Year, or Young Engineer of the Year awards, don't hesitate to nominate them. **The nomination deadline has been extended to January 15, 2024.** Access nomination information [here](#).

NSPE-DE Scholarship Program Seeks Applicants

NSPE-DE has opened the 2023–2024 scholarship program for Delaware high school seniors who plan to enroll in a college engineering program next fall. The **Delaware Engineering Society - Joe J. Welker Memorial Scholarship** provides \$1,500-\$4,000 for the freshman year.

Access scholarship criteria and applications forms [here](#). Applications are due on **December 31, 2023.**

Delaware DOT Honored for Reducing Severe Crashes

The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) was honored today with a 2023 National Roadway Safety Award for significantly reducing fatal and serious injury crashes at 20 intersections by converting them to all-way stops.

Between 2015 and 2019, nearly 40% of Delaware's traffic fatalities and serious injuries occurred at intersections. Of those, about half occurred at unsignalized intersections.

Between 2017 and 2020, DeIDOT converted 20 low-volume intersections statewide, mostly in rural and suburban areas, from two-way to all-way stops. In the two years after the change (2021 and 2022), the number of crashes at those intersections fell by 71% overall. Fatal crashes dropped by 75%, while crashes with injuries plummeted by 90%.

Peter Haag, DeIDOT's Chief of Traffic Engineering, said the results have provided DeIDOT with a creative approach to address safety concerns. Now, DeIDOT engineers can consider the usage of all-way stops similar to traditional preliminary steps, such as installing larger stop signs.

"We're looking at things in a different way," Haag said. "Safety is at the forefront. We can go directly to an application that we're seeing success with." [Read more.](#)

Electric Vehicle Mandate Takes Effect in Delaware

After more than a year of controversy, consternation, citizen complaints, and contemplation, Delaware's environmental secretary has moved ahead with a mandate for car dealerships to sell more and more zero-emission vehicles starting in three years, [why.org reports](#).

The 2021 proposal by the Carney administration initially sought to require that starting with 2026 model years, 35% of all new cars, SUVs, and light trucks delivered to dealerships would be either fully electric or plug-in hybrid electric. That percentage would have increased gradually to 100% in 2035.

The final decision was not quite as stringent. Shawn Garvin, secretary of the state Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control, has decreed that the mandate will begin with a 43% requirement for the 2027 model year. That percentage will ramp up to 82% for the 2032 model year. After that, the mandate will expire, but Garvin said it could be renewed in some form. The mandate does not affect the right or ability of dealerships to sell used gas-powered vehicles — only new ones. Dealers also will be allowed to sell new heavy trucks powered by gasoline.

Garvin hailed the mandate as one that will reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming and cut other air pollutants, such as nitrogen dioxide, which creates smog and causes respiratory ailments like asthma.

The regulation "aims to protect public health, reduce emissions, and align with

Delaware's climate goals – all while providing consumers with cleaner and more sustainable transportation options," Garvin said. "This decision will result in cleaner air in Delaware and strengthen protections for communities overburdened by exposure to tailpipe pollution." [Read more.](#)

DAPE Members Can Claim PDHs for STEM Outreach Activities

Many DAPE members are involved with local STEM activities, mentoring the next generation of engineers in Delaware. While involvement with STEM programs is personally rewarding, licensees can claim up to 4 PDHs per year for your engineering outreach activities.

Outreach activities are defined in the CPC guidelines as "active participation in educational outreach activities pertaining to professional licensure or the surveying/engineering professions which involve K-12 or higher education students." Access more information on the [DAPE website](#).

WANTED: Volunteers for the Delaware MATHCOUNTS Program

Middle school students from across our state come together for the Delaware MATHCOUNTS Competition, the only in-person math competition of its kind. These students are some of the most capable and hardworking young mathematicians in our state. This program doesn't work without the engagement of professional engineers who can mentor and inspire them. NSPE-DE is seeking volunteers for the 2023-2024 MATHCOUNTS season. There are various opportunities to get involved and make a difference. For more information, contact James Taylor (president@nspe-de.org).

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#) .

Share Your Expertise: NSPECon24 Presentations



NSPE seeks speakers willing to elevate the profession by providing interesting, relevant, and timely education to colleagues attending the [2024 Professional Engineers Conference \(NSPECon24\) August 7-9 in Raleigh, North Carolina](#).

Proposals may address a number of topics in three key conference tracks that include leadership, issues and trends, and career assistance. Please consider sharing your expertise and insights by **submitting a presentation proposal by midnight, January 10**.

To learn more about potential topic areas, how to prepare a submission, and the benefits of being selected to present, click on the button below.

[Submit Your Presentation](#)

NSPE Member Benefit: On-Demand Webinars

The WORKability Wednesdays fall series wrapped up in November. Recordings of the presentations are available in the [PE Institute](#). Past webinars are also available for viewing in the [On-Demand Webinars](#) section of the website.

NSPE is always seeking great content and speakers. Those interested in presenting can submit ideas using the online [Call for Webinars form](#).

Enterprise Membership - Elevate Your Engineering Team



Is your organization looking to bring together a team of engineers, each committed to professional growth and staying up to date with the ever-evolving field of engineering? [Consider launching your NSPE Enterprise Membership!](#)

In today's rapidly changing engineering landscape, having a group of experts with diverse skills is essential. To rise to the challenges of this environment, engineers must commit to continuous upskilling and lifelong learning. The skills demanded by the profession in 2024 include critical thinking, problem-solving, active learning, resilience, stress tolerance, and flexibility.

“NSPE Enterprise Membership has proven to be a valuable program for our engineering team at Huitt-Zollars. It streamlines our membership process; the ability to make a single payment for multiple employees simplifies our administrative tasks and reduces time. Our engineers appreciate the continuous learning/professional development and networking opportunities provided by NSPE throughout the year.” — John Ho, P.E., F.NSPE, Vice President, Huitt-Zollars

Key Advantages of NSPE Enterprise Membership

- **Unite Your Engineering Team:** NSPE Enterprise Membership brings together five or more individuals from your organization into one cohesive group.
- **Streamlined Billing:** Enjoy unparalleled member benefits and simplify the billing process with a single consolidated invoice and one payment for the entire group.
- **Gain Access:** Reach a wide network of multidisciplinary engineers across local chapters, state societies, and NSPE.
- **Dedicated Member Services:** Access customized member services through a single point of contact at NSPE for membership servicing and any questions your team may have.
- **Enjoy Discounts with Benefit Partners:** NSPE membership entitles your employees to deep discounts on a wide variety of publications, tech, office needs, test prep, insurance, and more.

[Learn more about the benefits of Enterprise Membership.](#)

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