



12th Edition of the OPAL Award for Best Practices 2026 Application Form Research & Development Category

DISCLAIMER:

- Each category you apply to requires its own separate application; otherwise, your submission will be automatically rejected.
- By submitting this application, the applicant grants permission for non-confidential project information, presentations, and supporting materials to be used for recognition and promotional purposes, including the Award Ceremony, Winners Brochure, OPAL Award for Best Practices website, social media, and other award-related communications.

Project Name:

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1. Company Name:	
2. OPAL Membership Number:	

3. Please select your company's class

- Operating Companies
- Large Contractors
- Local Community Contractors
- Small and Medium Enterprises



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4. Project Owner:

Name:	
Title:	
Mobile:	
Email:	

5. Focal Point (1):

Name:	
Title:	
Mobile:	
Email:	

6. Focal Point (2):

Name:	
Title:	
Mobile:	
Email:	



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A. Background

(All questions are mandatory)

7. Company Description

Provide a brief overview of your company, including its core activities and relevance to this project –
(50-100 words max).



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8. Project Description:

Describe the challenges, solution, implementation approach, and key results achieved – (300- 500 words max).



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B. Short Questions

(All questions are mandatory to answer)

- 9. Awards/Recognition** – Has this project been submitted for or received recognition through other awards or industry programs? If yes, provide details.

- 10. Implementation Date** – When was the project first implemented? (Month/Year)

- 11. Project Beneficiaries** – Include the number and type of beneficiaries affected by your project.

- 12. Methodology:** Describe the approach, methodology, or framework used to design and implement the project.



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13. What is the budget allocated for your project/system?

(Please put a check on the correct range)

- Less than \$100,000
 - \$100,000 to \$500,000
 - \$500,000 to \$1 Million
 - \$1 Million to \$2.5 Million
 - \$2.5 Million to \$5 Million
 - \$5 Million to \$10 Million
 - \$10 Million +
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14. Team Resources – What percentage of personnel involved in the development and implementation of the project were internal employees and external contractors? (Total must equal 100%.)

a) Internal Employees: _____ %

b) External Contractors: _____ %

15. Project Duration - Please indicate how long it took to implement the project (From project approval to implementation (months):



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16. Governance - Describe the leadership, governance, and oversight structure that guided the project and ensured its success (250 words maximum).



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C. Best Practices Essay

NOTE: This is the most critical part of your award entry!

Please describe and explain why your project is considered a best practice in the category to which you are applying to. Judges will evaluate your essay according to four criteria. Please organize your essay to address the judging criteria in the order discussed below.

1. **Business Impact:** Explain the value created for the organization, workforce, community, environment, or industry.
2. **Maturity** Describe the extent to which the project has been implemented and sustained.
3. **Relevance:** Explain how the project can be adopted or replicated by other organizations.
4. **Innovation:** Describe what differentiates this project from conventional approaches.

1) **Business Impact (200 words):**



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2) Maturity (150 words):

3) Relevance (150 words):



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4) Innovation (150 words):

END OF APPLICATION.