



YOUNG EXECUTIVE AWARD 2025 PROGRAMME DETAILS

Background and Objectives

Introduced in 2009, the ACI Asia-Pacific & Middle East Young Executive Award (YEA) is an annual research paper competition which encourages young talents in Asia-Pacific and the Middle East to contribute innovative solutions for current aviation industry issues.

Topic of Young Executive Award 2025

Topic/ theme: “How Artificial Intelligence Will Transform Airports and Customer Experience”.

Innovations carry significant potential in improving aviation safety, efficiency, security, facilitation, environmental sustainability, and economic development of airports. With the advent of rapid development of technologies, artificial intelligence is being applied to provide innovation throughout the entire airport experience. Airports are preparing for the new Golden Age of air travel with AI-enabled technologies to optimize their operations and transform passenger experience.

For this next Young Executive award competition, candidates are invited to use the below guidelines in their submissions:

- Challenges and opportunities for artificial intelligence at airports;
- How airports should equip its business and operations with AI capabilities to enhance overall passenger experience;
- What airport experiences would customers possibly expect to be mostly innovated by artificial intelligence;
- What role should airport operators play in adopting AI technologies alongside other airport stakeholders;
- Describe best approach for chosen role positioning and change management approaches that should be adopted to ensure successful execution for all impacted stakeholders;
- Future Prospects on the use of AI for innovation at airports.

Eligibility

Each ACI Asia-Pacific & Middle East airport member in good standing is entitled to nominate one candidate for this competition. Each entry must be accompanied by the completed Application Form, also signed by the CEO/ Official Representative of the airport supporting the candidate's nomination. All candidates shall be at or under the age of 35 at the deadline of submission. They should be currently serving in a middle management position at any ACI Asia-Pacific airport member and have a minimum of two years of working experience in the aviation field.

Submission Guidelines

All papers must be written in English and shall contain no more than 5,000 words of A4-sized paper, using Arial font, size 11 and 1.5 line spacing. All papers must include an Executive Summary and references. Graphical illustrations such as tables, graphs and images are permitted. Papers must be submitted digitally in Microsoft Word and PDF format.

The compulsory Executive Summary shall be an overview of the research paper and include pertinent analysis of identified risks, drawn conclusions, and recommended course of actions in a complete manner. The Executive Summary should ideally be no more than 2 pages.

Tables, diagrams (including associated legends), appendices, references, footnotes and endnotes, the bibliography and any bound published material are excluded from the word count.

Submission Deadline

Each candidate must send his/her paper together with the completed Young Executive Award 2025 Application Form and supporting documents to young_executive@aci-asiapac.aero on or before **Monday 23 December 2023 12:00 noon Hong Kong Time (GMT+8)**.

Costs

There are no entry fees to enter the programme.

Assessment Criteria

Candidate submission shall be assessed based on insightful and structural analysis with detailed observations and thorough research on the topic. The candidate shall also demonstrate creativity and innovation to possible solutions, apply the concept at airports in general and show vision towards the future aviation industry. The paper submission will also be assessed based on overall paper structure and clarity in language articulation.

The Winner

The Winner of the Young Executive Award will be decided by a panel of judges comprised of relevant industry representatives. The winner will be awarded a scholarship to Airport Operations Diploma programme (online self-study). The airport of the winning candidate will receive an additional scholarship for an ACI Global Training Leadership and Management Professional Certificate Course, virtual or classroom, of their choice (excluding travel fees).

The winning Young Executive will be announced at the ACI Asia-Pacific & Middle East Regional Assembly, tentatively scheduled for April 2025. The winner will also be featured in ACI Asia-Pacific & Middle East's publications and social channels.

ACI Asia-Pacific & Middle East reserves the right to award Honorable Mentions.

Contact Us

For further information, please visit our website at www.aci-asiapac.aero or email young_executive@aci-asiapac.aero.