The AME Excellence Award recognizes North American manufacturing or healthcare organizations that have demonstrated excellence in manufacturing and business operations. The application requirement for 2020 is for a single plant or operating unit, including “maintenance, repair and overhaul” operations or a hospital in either the public or private sector. The AME Excellence Award criteria details a lean systems model for enterprise excellence. The primary focus of the award is to acknowledge continuous improvement, best practices, creativity and innovation. This award supports AME’s mission of inspiring commitment to enterprise excellence by identifying “Pearls of Excellence” or best practices to share with other AME members.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
To apply for the AME Excellence Award, begin by completing the Intent to Apply and Plant Profile.
Send the completed information to excellenceaward@ame.org by the extended deadline of February 24 March 13, 2020.

Your entire application consists of the:
- Intent to Apply form
- Plant Profile
- Self-assessment AME Lean Sensei® score or Self-Assessment AME Lean Sensei for Hospitals score
- Achievement Report using the AME template

AME Lean Sensei
We suggest applicants gather their team and review the AME Lean Sensei questions. Keep in mind the Award Criteria as you reach consensus scores on the 60 Lean Sensei questions.

Once you have gained consensus, complete the self-assessment using the Excel version of the AME Lean Sensei. You can download the Excel version of the AME Lean Sensei at www.ame.org/lean-sensei.

Achievement Report
You support the scores in the AME Lean Sensei with a written Achievement Report. Use descriptions and pictures to provide evidence to support your self-assessment score. Please use the Achievement Report template.
ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY FOR THE AME EXCELLENCE AWARD

Manufacturing Plant
The application entity is a single plant (facility) in the United States, Canada or Mexico. Applicants doing maintenance, repair and overhaul in either the private or public sector are eligible. The plant should have been in operation for a minimum of three years. Award eligibility must be delineated as “manufacturing” by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) (www.census.gov/eos/www/naics/).

Questions regarding eligibility can be forwarded to the AME office. **AME members can contact the AME office if they wish to have one of their international affiliate operations apply.** Please note we will also accept applications from healthcare service providers (hospitals). Final decisions regarding AME Excellence Award recipients are made by the AME Awards Council.

Hospital
The applying organization may be in either the public or private sector.

TIMELINE FOR THE EXCELLENCE AWARD – DEADLINES EXTENDED!

**February 24 March 13, 2020** – Intent to Apply and Plant Profile are due

**March 23 April 3, 2020** – Completed Excel version of the AME Lean Sensei and the Achievement Report are due

   Download the latest Excel version of the Sensei at ame.org/lean-sensei and the Achievement Report template.

**Late-May through mid-July 2020** – Plant assessment site visits will be conducted

**Mid-August 2020** – Applicants will be notified of final results

**September-October** – Recognition at the applicant’s site

**October 26-29, 2020** – Recognition at the 36th annual AME International Conference in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE
All members of the AME Awards Council and all AME assessors have signed confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements. The AME Excellence Award also has a clear policy and process to ensure that conflicts of interest are avoided.

THE APPLICATION FEE IS $4,500
The fee must be submitted prior to, or along with, your completed workbook and supporting documentation which is due April 3, 2020. Applications received without the application fee will not be considered.
PLANT ASSESSMENT FEE
The assessment site visit fee will vary depending upon the size and scope of the plant. For a small applicant (less than 300 employees) assessment site visit, the team will generally consist of three assessors. Medium-sized sites will require a team of four to five. Large sites may require a team of six to seven assessors. This fee will generally run between $7,500 and $15,000 ($2,500/assessor). For sites outside of North America there is a flat fee of $4,500, plus the out-of-pocket cost for the assessment team's travel. Applicants will be notified of the fee prior to the assessment site visit. Fees for site visits cover the travel costs for assessors, as well as other directly related costs for the awards program.