



# Nordic Procurement Awards: Eligibility Kit

## Celebrating & elevating procurement across the Nordics

The Nordic Procurement Awards are part of the Nordic Procurement Summit, a place where procurement leaders across the Nordics come together to learn, exchange experiences, and build community.

Procurement work often happens behind the scenes. The decisions, trade-offs, and progress made are there, but not always visible beyond the organization.

These awards were created to celebrate that work: to recognize outcomes that mattered, and to bring the Nordic procurement community closer together through shared stories and recognition.

They exist to:

- Celebrate meaningful procurement outcomes
- Recognize the people and teams behind the results
- Strengthen the Nordic procurement community

The awards are hosted by Ignite and presented at the Summit, but all winners are selected by an independent jury using published criteria and a structured process.

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## 1. Who the Awards Are For

### Eligibility overview

The Nordic Procurement Awards are open to organizations and individuals located in the Nordics (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden), or with a

significant Nordic presence.

Submissions must demonstrate outcomes delivered within the **last 24 months from time of submission**.

Ongoing initiatives or programs are eligible if:

- Measurable impact is already visible, and
- Procurement's contribution can be clearly evidenced

You can submit yourself, your own team, or nominate another organization or individual.

Submissions are open to both customers and non-customers of Ignite.

Organizations or individuals may submit to more than one category, provided each submission is relevant to the category criteria.

All submissions must be received by *23:59 CET on June 22*.

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## 2. Category-Specific Eligibility

### Procurement Impact of the Year

- Open to procurement teams or organizations
  - Single initiatives or broader programs are eligible
  - Outcomes must already be delivered (not planned only)
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### CPO of the Year

- Open to CPOs or equivalent senior procurement leaders
  - Nominee must have responsibility for Nordic operations
  - Impact must be demonstrably linked to the nominee's leadership
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## Rising Star

- Open to individuals aged 35 or under at the time of submission
  - Nominee must work in procurement or a closely related role
  - Submission must demonstrate impact beyond role expectations
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## Most Value Created with Ignite (*customer-only*)

- Open only to active Ignite customers
  - Submission must demonstrate outcomes enabled by the use of the Ignite platform
  - This category is evaluated separately from all others
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## 3. What Makes a Strong Submission

Strong submissions typically:

- Describe a clear business challenge or starting point
- Explain what procurement actually did (decisions, actions, trade-offs)
- Show what changed as a result
- Include practical evidence or metrics (directional is fine)

Supporting material may be included, such as:

- Internal or external metrics
- Press clippings or public recognition
- Testimonials or quotes from stakeholders, leaders, or partners

Submissions do not need:

- Perfect data
- Marketing polish

- External case studies or press coverage

Submissions based primarily on narrative or intent, without evidence of outcomes, are unlikely to score strongly.

Judges value clarity, credibility, and relevance over presentation quality.

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## 4. Submission Questions

The questions below are listed so you can prepare your answers in advance. All submissions are made through the online form.

Everyone completing a submission will be asked for: full name, email, organization name, and category.

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### Procurement Impact of the Year

1. Initiative or project title *(100 characters)*
  2. Project overview: If shortlisted, this may be published on the Awards website and may be edited for clarity or length. *(100 words)*
  3. What problem or challenge were you addressing? *(200 words)*
  4. What did procurement do? *(500 words)*
  5. What were the main challenges during execution, and how were they addressed? *(400 words)*
  6. What outcomes were achieved, and how was success measured? Outcomes must have been delivered within the last 24 months. *(700 words)*
  7. Why should this project or initiative be recognized? *(300 words)*
  8. Supporting materials *(optional)*
  9. Logo and team photo
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## **CPO of the Year**

1. Scope of responsibility *(300 words)*
  2. How do you meet the criteria to be CPO of the Year? *(400 words)*
  3. What outcomes were achieved under your leadership, and how were they measured? *(500 words)*
  4. Upload at least one reference or testimonial reflecting your leadership impact
  5. Supporting materials *(optional)*
  6. Logo and headshot photo
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## **Rising Star**

1. What's your role, and what are you responsible for today? *(200 words)*
  2. What are your 3 most significant achievements to date? *(500 words)*
  3. What challenges have you faced, and what did you learn? *(300 words)*
  4. What impact have you had, and what evidence supports it? *(400 words)*
  5. How have you grown, and where do you want to take your procurement career? *(300 words)*
  6. Provide at least one reference or testimonial reflecting your impact and potential
  7. Supporting materials *(optional)*
  8. Logo and headshot photo
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## **Most Value Created with Ignite *(customer-only)***

1. Initiative or project title *(100 characters)*
2. What was the situation before Ignite? *(400 words)*
3. How is Ignite used in practice today? *(400 words)*

4. What value has been created, and how do you measure it? *(500 words)*
  5. Supporting materials *(optional)*
  6. Company logo and team photo
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## 5. What Judges Evaluate (Core Criteria)

All submissions are evaluated using the same **five core criteria**, applied consistently across categories.

### Core judging criteria

1. **Problem clarity:** Is the business challenge clearly defined and relevant?
2. **Procurement action:** Did procurement play a clear and active role?
3. **Impact achieved:** Did something meaningful change as a result?
4. **Evidence strength:** Are claims supported by credible evidence or examples?
5. **Impact relative to context:** How strong is the impact given the organization's size, maturity, and starting point?

Judges are asked to focus on outcomes over storytelling.

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## 6. Category-Specific Criteria

In addition to the core criteria, each category includes two additional criteria that reflect what the award is intended to recognize.

These criteria are applied during final evaluation.

### Additional criteria by category

#### Procurement Impact of the Year

- Business relevance: How material were the outcomes to the business?
- Change adoption: Were new ways of working, systems, or decisions actually adopted?

### **CPO of the Year**

- Strategic influence: To what extent did the CPO influence decisions beyond procurement?
- Team & capability uplift: Did procurement's role, skills, or credibility improve under their leadership?

### **Rising Star**

- Scope of influence: Did the individual have impact beyond their tasks or projects?
- Initiative & ownership: Did the individual have evidence of acting without being asked?

### **Most Value Created with Ignite**

- Value realization: Did insights translate into action and outcomes?
- Behavioral change: Did Ignite change how procurement works day to day?

Category-specific criteria complement, but do not outweigh, core impact and evidence.

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## **7. Context & Fairness**

To ensure fair comparison across different organizations, judges assess impact relative to context, using non-identifying information such as:

- Organization size
- Procurement maturity
- Geography impacted

A smaller organization achieving a step-change may be evaluated more strongly than a larger organization delivering incremental improvement.

Writing style, formatting, or polish do not influence scores.

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## 8. Judging Process Overview

Submissions are evaluated by an independent jury using a structured, two-stage process.

- In the first stage, submissions are reviewed and scored independently to identify the three strongest finalists per category.
- In the final stage, shortlisted submissions are evaluated in more depth, including category-specific considerations, to determine the winner.

Judges review submissions confidentially, solely for evaluation purposes, and recuse themselves from scoring where a conflict of interest exists.

Ignite hosts the awards but does not determine outcomes.

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## 9. Recognition & Awards

Shortlisted finalists will be notified directly in August 2026.

Winners are announced live at the Nordic Procurement Summit on September 24, 2026.

- All shortlisted finalists receive recognition
- Winners receive a physical award presented at the Summit
- Winners and nominees also receive a digital badge for use on social channels and company websites
- Shortlisted finalists receive two complimentary Summit tickets for the nominee and a colleague. If you've already purchased a ticket, we'll refund you.

Attendance at the Summit is encouraged but not required to win.

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## 10. Award Standards

The jury reserves the right not to award a category if no submission meets the judging criteria.

This decision is based solely on the quality of submissions received.

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## 11. Public Recognition, Assets, and Permissions

The Nordic Procurement Awards are intended to celebrate procurement work publicly.

As part of the submission process, nominees must confirm permission for Ignite to:

- Announce shortlisted finalists publicly
- Share a short description of the work being recognized
- Use approved names and logos for Awards-related communications

Shortlisted finalists may be highlighted across Ignite's channels in the lead-up to the Summit, to celebrate their work.

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## 12. Confidentiality & Conflicts of Interest

- All submissions are treated as confidential during the judging process and are only shared with the jury
- Judges must recuse themselves from evaluating submissions involving:
  - Their own organization
  - Close client, partner, or advisory relationships

Recused judges do not score or vote on those submissions.

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## Final Notes

Submission deadlines are listed on the Awards page.

The Nordic Procurement Awards are hosted by Ignite as part of the Nordic Procurement Summit.

All winners are selected by an independent jury using published criteria.

If you have questions not covered here, please contact:

[hello@nordicprocurementsummit.com](mailto:hello@nordicprocurementsummit.com)

Good luck!