

## SAIGA AWARDS GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

### 1. The purpose of the SAIGA annual awards is to mainly reward excellence and categorically to:

- 1.1 Contribute to the continuous professional development of members.
- 1.2 Recognise and reward academic excellence.
- 1.3 Recognise and reward professional excellence within the public sector audit and finance sphere.
- 1.4 Retain and attract a high calibre of professionals from the public sector audit and finance professions to the Institute.
- 1.5 Motivate SAIGA professionals towards continual professional improvement.

### 2. Rules and guidelines of the awards

- 2.1 Acceptable entries will only be from members of SAIGA in good standing both fees and CPD.
- 2.2 Academic research projects that contribute to new knowledge in the public sector finance will be accepted.
- 2.3 Current members of the Education Committee (EdCom) are not eligible for the academic research recognition.
- 2.4 Council members and employees of SAIGA are not eligible for receipt of any of the awards listed herein.
- 2.5 The board and employees of PSAAA are not eligible for receipt of any of the awards listed herein.
- 2.6 The process of nominations is mandated to the SAIGA's Nominations and Remunerations Committee (NomRemCo).
- 2.7 In the event that a nominee does not meet the criteria in respect of an award, the NomRemCo reserves the right not to recommend the conferring of the award.
- 2.8 Where applicable, short-listed nominees may be interviewed as part of the process by the NomRemCo.
- 2.9 The Council will apply its discretion when considering recommended awards to be conferred to candidates or recipients.

### 3. Guidelines for submission of motivations

- 3.1 SAIGA promotes fairness and consistency in the nomination process of its annual awards, therefore, the following guidelines should be followed when motivations for nominations are submitted:
  - 3.1.1 Every motivation for nominations must detail or provide sufficient, current, authentic, reliable, and verifiable evidence.
  - 3.1.2 Current evidence refers to period from 1 September to 31 August of the previous and current year. i.e., 1 September 2022 – 31 August 2023.
  - 3.1.3 Motivations must sufficiently and clearly address each criterion in the category for which the individual, or stakeholder is being nominated for.

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- 3.1.4 The motivation must be clear and provide sufficient details regarding the impact and ability of the nominated person.
- 3.1.5 The motivation should also indicate accomplishments of the nominee.
- 3.1.6 The academic research awards are nominated to SAIGA members who are studying at the SAIGA recognised universities by the Secretariat to the EdCom.
- 3.1.7 The RGA QE assessments awards are nominated by the SAIGA secretariat to the EdCom.
- 3.1.8 The presidential recognition award final decision lies with the President of SAIGA.

#### **4. Awards adjudication and decision-making processes**

- 4.1 The NomRemCo is responsible for the SAIGA annual awards adjudication process in respect of the people to be nominated.
- 4.2 The SAIGA EdCom will make their recommendation of the academic awards and for the RGA QE assessment recipients to the NomRemCo.
- 4.3 The NomRemCo shall then make a recommendation to the SAIGA Council as to the proposed award winners by also basing their decision on the following, in addition to the criteria per award category:
  - 4.3.1 Submitted documents provided by the nominator.
  - 4.3.2 Any supplementary information provided by the nominated person.
  - 4.3.3 Reviewing the candidate's listed references.
  - 4.3.4 Outcomes of interviews conducted with the nominated candidate, where applicable.
  - 4.3.5 The determination of the awards winners is at the sole discretion of the SAIGA Council is not subject to appeal or review.

#### **5. Costs of travel and accommodation to the award ceremony**

- 5.1 The SAIGA annual awards ceremony shall be held during the gala dinner of the annual SAIGA national conference.
- 5.2 In the event that the nominee is shortlisted, the Institute will only cover the cost of their entry of attendance at the gala dinner event, wherever the conference will be hosted.
- 5.3 All other costs incurred by the nominee, not limited to but including travel and accommodation costs, will be for the sole expense of the nominated person and will not be covered by the Institute.

#### **6. Categories of SAIGA annual awards**

##### **6.1 Academic research recognition**

- 6.1.1 Best academic research paper: Honours
- 6.1.2 Best academic research paper: Masters
- 6.1.3 Best academic research paper: PhD

##### **6.2 RGA QE assessments**

- 6.2.1 3rd best RGA QE candidate
- 6.2.2 2nd best RGA QE candidate
- 6.2.3 Top RGA QE candidate

##### **6.3 Advancing accountability and auditing recognition**

- 6.3.1 RGA professional of the year
- 6.3.2 Most impactful associate member of the year
- 6.3.3 Young RGA professional excellence award

#### 6.3.4 SAIGA presidential recognition award

### **7. Award criteria for academic research**

#### **7.1 Criteria**

- 7.1.1 Fulltime or parttime students who holds the membership of SAIGA.
- 7.1.2 Studying in the accounting, finance, or auditing programmes.
- 7.1.3 Research paper that focuses or demonstrating a contribution to the public sector sphere.
- 7.1.4 Studying towards an honours degree, or postgraduate qualification at NQF Level 8, master's degree, and doctoral degree.
- 7.1.5 The academic programme should have been achieved between September (previous year) and August (current year).

### **8. Award criteria for RGA QE assessments**

#### **8.1 Criteria**

- 8.1.1 Registered SAIGA member in good standing.
- 8.1.2 Successfully completed RGA QE assessments between Sept (previous year) and August (current year).
- 8.1.3 Obtain a minimum overall of RGA QE average examination result above 60%.
- 8.1.4 The nominee should have successfully completed all three-part exams i.e., Paper 1 (ethics & regulatory framework), Paper 2 (accounting) and Paper 3 (Auditing).

### **9. Award criteria for the RGA professional of the year**

#### **9.1 Criteria**

- 9.1.1 Promotes accountability, good governance and SAIGA professional conduct.
- 9.1.2 Demonstrates commitment to the INTOSAI professional codes of conduct.
- 9.1.3 Builds strong stakeholder relationships that support a high level of trust and credibility.
- 9.1.4 Promotes professional scepticism.
- 9.1.5 Add value to stakeholders or auditees.
- 9.1.6 Promotes innovation and generates ideas for improvement.
- 9.1.7 Instrumental in introducing innovative audit tools, techniques, or methodologies.
- 9.1.8 Demonstrates high levels of integrity and promotes an ethical culture.
- 9.1.9 Promotes and live by SAIGA values.
- 9.1.10 Contributes towards development of the RGA profession.

### **10. Award criteria for the most impactful associate member of the year**

#### **10.1 Criteria**

- 10.1.1 Promotes accountability, good governance and SAIGA professional conduct.
- 10.1.2 Demonstrates commitment to the INTOSAI professional codes of conduct.
- 10.1.3 Builds strong stakeholder relationships that support a high level of trust and credibility.
- 10.1.4 Promotes professional scepticism.
- 10.1.5 Add value to stakeholders or auditees.
- 10.1.6 Promotes innovation and generates ideas for improvement.
- 10.1.7 Instrumental in introducing innovative audit tools, techniques, or methodologies.

- 10.1.8 Demonstrates high levels of integrity and promotes an ethical culture.
- 10.1.9 Promotes and live by SAIGA values.
- 10.1.10 Contributes towards development of the RGA profession.

## **11. Award criteria for the young RGA excellence**

### **11.1 Criteria**

- 11.1.1 Must be an RGA member who is 35 years of age or younger.
- 11.1.2 Promotes accountability, good governance and SAIGA professional conduct.
- 11.1.3 Demonstrates commitment to the INTOSAI professional codes of conduct.
- 11.1.4 Builds strong stakeholder relationships that support a high level of trust and credibility.
- 11.1.5 Promotes professional scepticism.
- 11.1.6 Add value to stakeholders or auditees.
- 11.1.7 Promotes innovation and generates ideas for improvement.
- 11.1.8 Instrumental in introducing innovative audit tools, techniques, or methodologies.
- 11.1.9 Demonstrates high levels of integrity and promotes an ethical culture.
- 11.1.10 Promotes and live by SAIGA values.
- 11.1.11 Contributes towards development of the RGA profession.

## **12. Award criteria for the SAIGA presidential recognition**

### **12.1 Criteria**

- 12.1.1 RGA professionals, other SAIGA membership categories, SAIGA recognised training providers, SAIGA recognised training offices, stakeholders, and individuals outside of the RGA profession will be considered for the presidential award.
- 12.1.2 Has achieved peer acknowledgement of leadership, competence, or contribution to the public service.
- 12.1.3 Has made positive strives towards advancing accountability in his/her field of profession.
- 12.1.4 Demonstrates commitment to the SAIGA values of ethical behaviour, embracing and driving change, contributing towards accountability, and displaying levels of excellence.