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IFTA FINTECH ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

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IFTA 金融科技成就大獎

2019

- Applications close
Friday, 20 March 2020

- Awards Presentation Ceremony
Date: Monday, 25 May 2020
Time: 5:00pm – 8:00pm
Venue: Conference Hall, Hong Kong Productivity Council
4/F, HKPC Building,
78 Tat Chee Avenue,
Kowloon, Hong Kong



Call for Applications

iftaawards.org



iftasia



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IFTA
FINTECH
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARDS 2019

The IFTA FinTech Achievement Awards (IFTA) showcases and celebrates the extraordinary achievements made by corporations, NGOs, start-ups, and individuals in the Finance and Technology industry. Running for the 2nd year, we have diversified our Awards into 30 FinTech categories, 26 for corporates and 4 for individual, recognising a wide spectrum of FinTech innovation, education, R&D, and its applications worldwide.

Transforming FinTech Communities with Competence, Character, and Care

IFTA FinTech Achievement Awards 2019, with the theme “Transforming FinTech Communities with Competence, Character and Care”, recognises talents and enterprises in pursuing creative solutions that meet business and social needs. Awardees should possess competence in their respective subject, with an admiring character to continuously improve. It is also vital to be ethical and caring – care for the environment, society, and governance. Through this Award, IFTA hopes to draw like minds together and build a prosperous community filled with the vibrant atmosphere of financial and technological colours.

18 November 2019

Applications open

20 March 2020

Applications close

March 2020

Assessment by the jury panel

20 April 2020

The jury panel meeting

15 May 2020

Finalists' videos provision

25 May 2020

Awards Presentation Ceremony

2018 Highlights

First organised by Institute of Financial Technologists of Asia Limited (IFTA), the award presentation ceremony of IFTA Fintech Achievement Award 2018 successfully took place on 26 February 2019. Business elites of the awarded companies received the distinction, shared their joy at the ceremony. Eminent figures from the business community and notable guests supported the event and witnessed this remarkable event.



The Jury Panel (arranged in alphabetical order of surnames)

Head Juror



Dr Charleston SIN
Executive Director
MIT Hong Kong Innovation Node

Jurors



Mr Emil CHAN
Chairman
The Association of Cloud and Mobile Computing Professionals



Dr Henry CHAN
Associate Professor and Associate Head,
The Department of Computing
The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



Mr Rogers CHAN
Managing Partner
Impact Invest



Dr Toa CHARM
Associate Professor, Business School
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Mr Jason CHIU
Chairman
Hong Kong Startup Council



Mr Dicky LO
Former Chief Executive Officer
The Chinese Gold and Silver Exchange Society



Mr Steve WONG
Senior Manager, ICT Cluster
Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation



Ir Eric CHAN
Chief Public Mission Officer
Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited



Mr Raymond CHAN
Managing Director
9F International Holdings



Dr Terence CHAN
Chairman
Howah Technology Venture Limited



Dr Dorothy CHAU
Director of Hong Kong, Macao & Cross-border Financial Affairs
Tencent



Ms Ashley KHOO
Immediate Past President
The Hong Kong Society of Financial Analysts



Mr Johnson NG
Senior Service Promotion Manager
Hong Kong Trade Development Council

Supporting Organisations



Award Categories



Corporate Achievements in FinTech (for corporates, NGOs, and start-ups)

1.	Accounting Tech	Incorporating or developing its proprietary technology into accounting services
2.	Advisory Tech	Using algorithm-driven technology to deliver automated decisions on investment opportunities
3.	Algo-Trading	Using programmed software to identify and place trades to generate profits efficiently and effectively
4.	Artificial Intelligence	Applying simulation of intelligence processes that perceives and takes actions itself based on its environment
5.	Blockchain-based Transformation	Using technology to assist with digital currency access, trade, exchange, and storage; or to provide blockchain or distributed ledger services
6.	Cloud Computing	Using a delivery mode of computing services to offer faster innovation, flexible resources, and economies of scale
7.	Crowdfunding	Using technology to access and raise funds for investment opportunities via the internet
8.	Cybersecurity	Using programmed software to protect operating systems and data from potential cyber-attacks
9.	Big Data Analytics	Using technology to analyse extensive raw data collected from different parties for insights and trends
10.	Data Privacy	Using technology to ensure private data of stakeholders are protected without violation of rights or exposure to commercial entities
11.	Digital Banking	Using electronic payment systems that enable end-users to transact payment without physically attending bank branches
12.	Digital Ethics	Displaying ethical behaviour that has contributed to the promotion of social justice in digital communities
13.	Financial Planning Tech	Incorporating or developing own proprietary technology to deliver mortgage broking, stockbroking, and other financial planning services
14.	HR Tech	Using technology to manage employee data for compensation and payroll, performance management, and recruitment
15.	Innovative Tech	Demonstrating a creative aspect utilising new ideas, methods, alterations and unique changes from existing FinTech systems
16.	InsurTech	Using technology to assist the insurance claims process, and enhance policyholder experience
17.	Internet of Things (IoT)	Using IoT systems for creative use on FinTech products/services
18.	Investor Tech	Using technology to assist with the provision of capital and financial support
19.	Legal Tech	Using technology to provide legal services transforming time-booking services or legal research etc
20.	Lending Tech	Using technology to assist with accessing capital, mortgage, personal, and other loan products
21.	Payment Tech	Using technology to assist with payment, funds disbursement, money transfers, payroll, or other payment services
22.	PropTech	Using technology for the real estate space, spanning across software, hardware, materials, or manufacturing
23.	Reg-Tech	Using technology to assist with meeting regulatory compliance obligations
24.	Robotic Process Automation (RPA)	Using "robots" to emulate and integrate the actions of a human interacting within digital systems to execute a business process
25.	e-Provident Fund	Using electronic infrastructure and processes to standardise, streamline, and automate MPF scheme administration
26.	5G	Using 5G technology to increase speed, reduce latency, and improve the flexibility of wireless services



Outstanding Financial Technologists of the Year (for individuals)

Open for Applications

1.	Entrepreneur of the Year	Recognising founders or start-ups for their track record of business growth, finance and/or technology innovation, and community engagement.
2.	Leader of the Year	Recognising leaders, managerial grades or above, with outstanding achievement who has made significant contributions to the finance and/or technology industry
3.	Rising Star of the Year	Recognising young professionals, on or below 35, with outstanding achievement who has made significant contributions to the finance and/or technology industry

The Prestige Award (by appointment only)

4.	Iconic Star	Recognising professionals who have devoted their lifetime, creating extraordinary impacts on the FinTech environment with success stories to share.
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Judging Criteria



Corporate Achievements in FinTech (for corporates, NGOs, and start-ups)

The criteria are set out for entrants to demonstrate the 12 values necessary for outstanding achievement and efforts in FinTech. Entrants are required to specify and elaborate on the criteria engaged in achieving desired award levels.

1.	Competence and Leadership	Showcasing excellent records of academic and job experiences that strengthen ones' professionalism and leadership skills in the industry
2.	Compliance to Rules and Regulations	Understanding the risks and complying to the regulations of the FinTech solutions provided, including authoritative licenses
3.	Cost-effectiveness and Business Model	Displaying continuous improvements on cost-effectiveness for specific projects or departments
4.	Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG)	Incorporating sustainability, energy efficiency, workplace health and safety, and governance system to align the interest of the public
5.	Ethics (Care and Character)	Demonstrating enthusiasm, passion, and care for the industry through one's engagement in the past, regardless of work
6.	Globalisation and Scalability	Demonstrating the ability to scale specific projects or products globally with outstanding quality
7.	Industrial and Social Impact	Creating a positive impact and contribution to accelerate adaptation and prosperity of both the FinTech industry and end-users
8.	Innovation	Demonstrating efforts in research and development, actively adopting technology, leadership in the market, technology, and business
9.	Performance and Quality	Indicating records of performance and quality assessments in-depth on delivery of products or services
10.	Talent Development	Providing incentives and opportunities for staff capacity building
11.	Cybersecurity	Adhering to any international standards or best practices and framework
12.	Sustainability	Sustaining and fostering the development of different business model dimensions



Outstanding Financial Technologists of the Year (for individuals)

The criteria are set out for entrants to demonstrate the 5 values necessary for outstanding achievement and efforts in FinTech. Entrants are required to specify and elaborate on the criteria engaged in achieving desired award levels.

Ethics (Care and Character)	Demonstrating enthusiasm, passion, and care for the industry through one's engagement in the past, regardless of work
Innovation and Technology	Demonstrating the use of new and innovative technological approaches with FinTech-related projects
Contribution	Recognising outstanding performance and achievement with a contribution to the profession and community Demonstrating commitment to improving oneself continuously
Professionalism	Demonstrating FinTech knowledge or well-rounded professional expertise in diverse areas, such as payment infrastructure, stock trading, cryptocurrencies, blockchain, insurtech, money transfer and remittance, mortgage lending, and financial cybersecurity Presenting as a role model and exhibiting high potentials as a future leader
Teamwork	Being able to coordinate and lead teams for progressive development

Corporate Achievements in FinTech (for corporates, NGOs, and start-ups)

The Awards aim to recognise the leadership and achievements of companies that have contributed to the FinTech development in Hong Kong. The entrants will be granted with four different kinds of achievement levels based on the number of criteria they achieved.



Remarks:

A **Certificate of Appreciation** is granted to companies, NGOs, and start-ups who have made contributions that do not fall within the assessment criteria.

Outstanding Financial Technologists of the Year (for individuals)

The Awards aims to recognise the leadership and achievements of companies that have contributed to the FinTech development in Hong Kong. A Certificate of Excellence will be granted to the Outstanding financial technologists that have made contributions with at least 3 criteria or above.



Remarks:

A **Certificate of Appreciation** will be granted to individuals who have made contributions that do not fall within the assessment criteria.

Application Procedure

Fill in and submit the online application with the required application materials on iftaawards.org on or before Friday 20 March 2020, 1800 HKT. Late submissions will NOT be considered.

Application Fee

Award Categories		Application Fee
Corporate Achievements in FinTech (Corporate Award Categories)	Company Applications	\$8,000 per application
	NGO* or Start-up* Applications	\$4,000 per application
Outstanding Financial Technologists of the Year (Individual Award Categories)	Individual Applications	\$1,500 per application

* NGO is required to submit a non-profit organisation certificate (exemption document under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance) as identity proof.

* For start-up applications, the start-up must be established since 1 January 2014.

Remarks

1. The application fee is non-refundable once submitted.
2. If the submitted applications fall short in meeting the awards criteria framework, the application fee will not be refunded.

Required Submission Materials

1. Duly completed the online application form.
2. For **Corporate Award categories' applications**, all entrants have a **maximum of 12 pages in A4 size (maximum 10 MB) in one PDF file**, as supplementary information to support Awards application. This can range from testimonials, financial statements, business metrics, independent data reports, images, statistics, media coverage, and other relevant sources of information. If the reference document contains more than 12 pages, only the first 12 pages will be put forward as calibre materials.
3. For **Individual Award categories' applications**, all entrants have a **maximum of 8 pages in A4 size (maximum 10 MB) in one PDF file**, as supplementary information to support Awards application. This can range from testimonials, financial statements, business metrics, independent data reports, images, statistics, media coverage, and other relevant sources of information. If the reference document contains more than 8 pages, only the first 8 pages will be put forward as calibre materials.
4. The company logo can be submitted with a maximum file size of 4MB in AI and jpeg format for marketing purposes.
5. Entrant photo(s) and project photo(s) can be submitted with a maximum file size of 4MB for each in jpeg format for marketing purposes.
6. For **Corporate entrants**: the application can be accompanied by a short video (**optional**) of no more than 5 minutes in length, demonstrating the application of FinTech in business.
7. For **Individual entrants**: the application **must be accompanied by an up-to-date resume** that demonstrates a track record and achievements.


Remarks:


1. All applications must be written in proficient English, Traditional, or Simplified Chinese.
2. IFTA reserves the right to reproduce, print, or publish the submitted material, in either paper or electronic format, or for any use in association with IFTA activities.

Eligibility

1. The IFTA welcomes all company, non-profit, and individual entrants who have invested in financial technology to join in the IFTA FinTech Achievement Awards 2019. Entrants can choose to submit their applications for any of the categories subject to final approval by IFTA.
2. IFTA accepts global applications, meaning that there are no district limitations to company, NGO, and individual submissions.
3. Each company and NGO may submit more than one application for each Corporate Award category, while only one submission is allowed per individual for the Individual Award category.
4. Entrants are required to submit one form for each application.
5. NGO is required to submit a non-profit organisation certificate (exempt from tax under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance) as identity proof.
6. Previous awardees can re-submit their submission every year in the same category or across categories for Awards recognition. The decisions will be based on the judging criteria and panel.
7. For Individual Award categories, applications can be filled by an entrant who wishes to nominate for another person qualifying for the Awards.
8. IFTA reserves the ultimate right to make final and binding decisions on the eligibility of all applications.
9. IFTA reserves the right not to bestow a recognition if the jurors deem that no application is qualified for an Award.
10. The juror's decision shall be final in assigning for the Awards.

IFTA Awards 2019 Secretariat Office

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