**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **When is the application deadline?**  August 25, 2023
2. **What does a winning application look like?** Projects, practices, or processes that are process-oriented and improvement-focused and can be supported with documented evidence of results. An existing industry best practice that is implemented doesn’t support true innovation. See samples we’ve provided in the [Resource Center](https://aeixrrg.com/what-we-do/awards-grants/awards-grants-resource-center/).
3. **How can I improve my chance of success?** Be specific when answering questions about how your project has reduced liability and improved safety. This is the purpose of the Awards & Grants Program.
   1. **Wrong answer:**  “safety will be improved and liability will be reduced.” This is general and doesn’t provide essential information like how and there are no metrics to support the project.
   2. **Right answer:** “neonatal mortality associated with maternal hemorrhage has declined 25% in a manner that is clearly associated with the project strategies.”
4. **Which application should I complete, award or grant?** Complete the Award Application if you have a true, innovative improvement project or process that has been completed and has supporting documentation of success. An existing industry best practice implemented at your organization does not meet the definition of true and innovative.

The Grant Application should be used for proposed improvement projects that may need financial assistance to reach completion. Like the Award Application, an existing industry best practice implemented at your organization does not meet the definition of true and innovative.

1. **Are there restrictions on how grant money can be used?** Yes**,** grant money is intended to support the development of a new project, process, or practice. Examples of successful Grant Applications can be found in the Resource Center on our website.

**Grant money is** not used for hiring new staff, paying existing staff salaries or purchasing IT products.

1. **How are the winners determined?** A committee of risk management professionals from American Excess Insurance member organizations evaluates and scores each application based on specific program criteria.
2. **How many winners are there?** There is no set number of award or grant winners.
3. **What is the Sylvia Moss Brown Award for Excellence?** The award submission receiving the most votes receives this prestigious honor. The award is named in memory of Sylvia Brown, a former Premier Insurance employee who developed the program nearly two decades ago.
4. **When are the winners announced?** The winners are notified in November following the American Excess Insurance Board of Directors meeting.
5. **How will our project or practice be showcased?** Sharing best practices is a hallmark of American Excess Insurance. Award winners may be invited to present at the Premier Annual Breakthroughs Conference & Exhibition, held annually in June. And, we share with other American Excess Insurance members.