# PAYTECH AWARDS

## 2026

# Entry Guide

**Celebrating excellence in payment innovation globally**

**Nomination deadline
13 March, 2026**

# Key dates

**25 November, 2025**

Nomination period opens

**23 January, 2026**

Early-bird nomination deadline*

*Enjoy a **£50** discount per entry up until this date

**13 March, 2026**

The nomination deadline

**April, 2026**

Judging period

**25 June, 2026**

The ceremony

# Kickstarting your nominations

## Find your category

Explore award categories tailored to every area of fintech. There's one waiting for your achievements!

**View the categories**

## Learn how to submit

Get the inside scoop on crafting a winning nomination. It's quick, simple, and designed for success.

**Explore the process**

## Submit your entry

Access the portal, complete your nomination, and take your first step toward industry recognition.

**Nomination portal**

## Nomination fees

The fee per nomination is £345.

**Pay here**

# The categories

The PayTech Awards celebrate excellence in payment innovation globally, offering recognition in three distinct areas:

**Find out more about the categories**

## The Project Awards

The Project Awards categories honor groundbreaking initiatives by banks and financial institutions, showcasing their achievements in transforming the industry.

## The Excellence in Tech Awards

The Excellence in Tech Awards categories highlight the contributions of software and service providers, applauding their cutting-edge solutions and services.

## The Leadership Awards

The Leadership Awards shine a spotlight on outstanding teams and individuals who drive progress and inspire change.

**Nominations are open to companies or projects globally and with such a diverse range of categories, there's truly something for everyone in the financial technology ecosystem.**

## Project awards categories - for banks and financial institutions

Best PayTech Overhaul
Best New Payments Brand
Best Use of Tech in Consumer Payments
Best Use of Tech in Business Payments
Best Consumer Cards Initiative
Best Business Cards Initiative
Best User/Customer Experience Initiative –
Consumer Payments
Best User/Customer Experience Initiative –
Business Payments
Best Digital Currency Initiative
Best Contribution to Economic Mobility and
Financial Inclusion
Best Use of Tech in Combatting Fraud
Best Use of AI
Top Innovation in Payments

## Excellence in Tech Awards categories – for software and service providers

Best Payments System for Banks & FIs
Best Consumer Payments System
Best Business Payments System
Best Payments System for Merchants & E-commerce
Best Spend Management System
Best Cards & Payments System
Best Payments System for Verticals
Best Payment Infrastructure Solution
Best Payment Orchestration Solution
Best Cross-Border Payments Solution
Best Cross-Border Payments Solution for Merchants
& E-commerce
Best Cross-Border Payments Solution for Banks & FIs
Best Cross-Border Payments Solution for Emerging
& Frontier Markets
Best Cross-Border Payments Solution for Banks & FIs
Best Embedded Payments Solution
Best Embedded Payments Solution for Merchants
& E-commerce

Best Payments-as-a-Service Solution
Best Payments-as-a-Service Solution for Banks & FIs
Best Customer Experience Solution
Best AI Solution
Best AI Solution – Risk Management & Decisioning
Best AI Solution – Fraud Prevention & Combat
Best Digital Trust Solution
Best Digital Currency Solution
PayTech Start-up of the Year

## Leadership Awards – for teams and individuals

PayTech Leadership
Woman in PayTech
Visionary PayTech Founder
Visionary PayTech CEO
PayTech Team of the Year

# The step-by-step process

## 1 Sign in or register

Begin by signing in or registering on our nomination platform to access the entry form. Your account will allow you to save and edit your submission until you're ready to submit.

## 2 Fill in key fields

Provide essential information including your name, company, and contact details. Ensure accuracy as this information will be used for communication purposes.

## 3 200-word entry synopsis

Provide a clear, concise, and coherent summary of your project, service, team, or individual achievements. Focus on highlighting key accomplishments and the impact of your work.

**Note:** Ensure the synopsis is straightforward and serves as an overview, with further details to be expanded upon in the main entry.

## 4 1500-word statement

Craft a comprehensive statement tailored to the specific category you are entering. This section will be thoroughly evaluated by our panel of judges and should encompass all key aspects you want the judges to consider when assessing your entry. Review the category details and criteria provided below to ensure your statement addresses all relevant aspects.

## 8 Need assistance?

If you have any questions or require assistance during the entry process, please don't hesitate to contact our awards team. We're here to help ensure your submission is successful and represents your achievements in the best light possible.

## 7 Payment

Nomination fees must be paid before the judging process begins. The fee per nomination is £345. Payment can be made securely through our online platform using major credit cards, debit cards, or other secure payment methods.

## 6 Submit your entry

Once you have completed all sections of the entry form, review your submission to ensure accuracy and completeness. When you're ready, submit your entry to be considered for the PayTech Awards.

## 5 Attach logos, headshots & team pictures

# Crafting your statement

## Project Awards statement

For banks and financial institutions, winning a PayTech Award proves the value of their technology investments and showcases their skills, commitment, creativity, and execution.

Please provide a comprehensive account of the project that essentially answers the questions of "what, why, how" and demonstrates tangible benefits. This includes:

- What the project is, explained in clear, layman's terms

- The rationale of the project and its importance

- Solutions, technology, and relevant processes

- Project participants, collaboration

- Journey, stages, and milestones

- Challenges and how they were solved

- What problems the project solved on a business level and what improvements it delivered – supporting evidence, stats and facts are crucial.

The project must be recent (within the last two years) and be largely completed – the results and benefits must be tangible and measurable.

## Excellence in Tech Awards statement

For technology services and software providers, our awards a valuable recognition and endorsement by the industry, underpinned by 25 years of unbiased expertise and unrivalled reputation.

Please provide a comprehensive account of the product that essentially answers the questions of "what, why, how" and demonstrates tangible benefits to its users. This includes:

- What the solution is, explained in clear, layman's terms

- Functionality

- Technology and relevant processes

- What makes it unique or standout

- What problems it solves on a business level and what improvements it delivers – supporting evidence, stats and facts are crucial

- Use cases and examples of how it has delivered tangible benefits

- The solution must be operational and have at least one live site.

## Individuals statement

Please provide a comprehensive account of the nominated person and their work, including:

- Their accomplishments beyond their standard day-to-day job duties

- Their own contribution towards the success their company/business/project/etc

- The results of their work and the supporting evidence

- Their contribution to the industry's betterment, for example, mentorship projects, contribution to charitable causes, diversity & inclusion initiatives, and so on.

A successful nomination will be to the point and with supporting evidence, not buzzwords. We do not want to see press releases, advertorials, or sales & marketing brochures.

This award is for an individual, so make the nomination about them and why they deserve to win!

## Teams statement

Please provide a comprehensive account of the nominated team and its work, including:

- The composition of the team, responsibilities, etc

- How the team operates and collaborates

- The team's direct contribution towards the success of their company/business/project/etc

- The issues they solve and how they do it

- The results of their work and the supporting evidence

- Any extracurricular activities, such as charity work, pro-bono projects etc.

A successful nomination will be to the point and with supporting evidence, not buzzwords. We do not want to see press releases, advertorials, or sales & marketing brochures.

This award is for a team, so make the nomination about them and why they deserve to win!

# Entry tips

## Understand the criteria

Familiarize yourself thoroughly with the criteria for the award category you're applying to. Tailor your application to address each criterion effectively.

## Be clear and concise

Write in clear, concise language, avoiding jargon or overly technical terms. Ensure your application is easy to understand for the judges.

## Focus on impact

Emphasize the impact of your project, product, service, individual, or team. Clearly articulate the problem you addressed, the solution implemented, and the measurable benefits or outcomes achieved.

## Provide evidence

Back up your claims with solid evidence, such as statistics, metrics, case studies, or testimonials. Concrete data lends credibility to your application and demonstrates the tangible results of your efforts.

## Tell a compelling story

Craft a compelling narrative that captivates the judges and highlights the uniqueness and significance of your initiative. Share anecdotes, success stories, and real-world examples to illustrate your achievements.

## Tailor to the category

Customize your application to fit the specific requirements of the award category. Address each aspect of the nomination criteria and ensure your application aligns with the focus and objectives of the award.

## Avoid promotion

Steer clear of promotional language, marketing materials, or sales pitches. Focus on presenting factual information and meaningful insights rather than using buzzwords or exaggerated claims.

## Be authentic

Be genuine and transparent in your application. Highlight your strengths, accomplishments, and contributions honestly and authentically. Judges appreciate sincerity and integrity in award submissions.

## Proofread and edit

Thoroughly proofread and edit your application for grammar, spelling, and clarity. A well-polished and error-free submission reflects professionalism and attention to detail.

# Enter Now

**Website**
paytechawards.com

**Email**
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**Good Luck!**