Overview
The Rapid Excavation and Tunneling Conference (RETC) is a biennial international conference dedicated to the exchange of new developments in the technology of underground rapid excavation and tunneling on a global scale.

The RETC Attendance Award provides selected students with an opportunity to attend the RETC Conference. Applicants must be full-time freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate students with a designated major in an applicable field of engineering (civil, mechanical, mining, electrical, geological) or construction management. Applicants must have a demonstrated interest in the underground industry.

Goals
The goals of the RETC Attendance Award are:
- Provide students with skills and information for a career in the underground industry
- Provide educational and networking opportunities to future underground industry professionals
- Increase exposure of available career opportunities in the underground industry

How to Apply
The RETC Attendance Award is administered by the RETC Executive Committee, in conjunction with the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, Inc. (SME). Applications must be submitted online. Applicants will need to follow the directions provided to submit their applications. The application consists of demographic and contact information, school and university information, work history, and a few short answer questions.

Award
Up to twelve recipients will be selected. Each recipient will receive:
- NAT or RETC Conference Registration
- Round-trip airfare to Conference
- Hotel Accommodations at conference hotel
- Conference Proceedings
- Social Function Tickets
- $200 stipend for miscellaneous cash needs

Recipients are responsible for their own ground transportation and for any other expenses, including meals, other than the social functions provided.

Timeline
The RETC Attendance Award adheres to the following timeline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2</td>
<td>Launch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Application deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Selection deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Applicant notification deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAT or RETC</td>
<td>Recipient(s) recognized and check(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>presented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(typically Mid-Late June)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Questions
Questions regarding the RETC Attendance Award may be directed to:
Tara Davis, davis@smenet.org
Carol Kiser, kiser@smenet.org
Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration, Inc. 303-948-4200