This award recognizes an employer, i.e., institution, company or organization that meets the following criteria:

- *Directly employs an active BLS certified laser safety officer, and*
- *Has provided encouragement and support for employee participation within the laser safety community and/or has made outstanding contributions to the field of laser safety.*

Any BLS CLSO/CMLSO employer is eligible, including private businesses, nonprofit organizations, health care facilities/systems, governmental, or educational entities that meet the criteria.

Self-nomination is not allowed. Nominations must be made by a BLS CLSO or CMLSO in good standing and supported by at least two other BLS certified laser safety professionals. Nominator and/or supporters do not have to be employees of the proposed award recipient.

**Examples of criteria that may be used in determining qualification for the BLS Illumination Award include, but are not limited to the following:**

- Significant support for laser safety related training and education
- Significant support for employees to achieve BLS certification
- Development of online material to assist laser safety professional staff on a day-to-day basis
- Development of online training and educational courses for all laser users, and any ancillary staff that may be potentially exposed to laser radiation
- Co-sponsorship of educational courses with other laser safety professional institutions
- Provision of certification exam testing opportunities, e.g., location and/or proctor
- Financial support provided for laser safety professionals to maintain their certification status
- Encouragement and support for participation in standards development
- Significant involvement in laser safety-related conferences or workshops