

2016 NSW Business Chamber Business Awards

Categories

Terms and Conditions

*Celebrating and recognising business excellence in NSW.
Showcasing the success of our members.
Strengthening business in NSW.*

2016 Business Award categories

There are 11 award categories – three recognising individual excellence and achievement, and eight recognising business excellence. There is also a Local Chamber of Commerce Category and NSW Business Chamber Regional Business of the Year category.

Young Business Executive

The Young Business Executive award recognises an inspirational young professional aged between 18-35 years who has built a successful career with an organisation.

Questions

Are you entering on behalf of another individual (YES/NO)?

If NO proceed to question 1.

If YES do you have their permission to enter on their behalf (tick box).

1. Entrants name.
2. Entrant's date of birth.
3. Entrant's current job title.
4. Name of organisation the entrant works for.
5. Provide a current profile including current job role and scope of responsibilities Word count: Max 400
6. What is your employment background? Word count: Max 400
7. Provide an overview of your 5 year goals/milestones and how you are working towards these. Word count: Max 250
8. Detail your measurable career achievements. Word count: Max 400
9. Describe the key challenges you have faced as a young business professional and how you deal with these challenges. Word count: Max 400
10. What do you believe makes you a good leader? Word count: Max 400

Additional T&C's

In addition to the general T&C's the following apply to this category:-

- If you are applying on behalf of someone else you must have their permission to enter this award category.
- Entrant must be employed by the organisation for a period of 2 years at the time of entry submission.
- Should the entrant leave the organisation before the Regional or State Gala event, their entry is ineligible.
- The Finalist complimentary ticket is non transferrable in this category at regional or state level.
- NSW Business Chamber State and Regional Councillors are ineligible to enter into this category.

- NSW Business Chamber Business Award program judges are ineligible to enter into this category for the current year and the consecutive year following the year in which they judged

Young Entrepreneur

The Young Entrepreneur award recognises an inspirational young person aged between 18-35 years who, through their own commitment and passion, has built and operates a successful business. This award recognises young business leaders who demonstrate outstanding entrepreneurial spirit, strategic direction and innovative ideas whilst providing inspiration to a new generation of upcoming young business people.

Questions

Are you entering on behalf of another individual (YES/NO)?

If NO proceed to question 1.

If YES do you have their permission to enter on their behalf ? (tick box)

1. Entrant's name.
2. Entrant's date of birth.
3. Name of organisation.
4. Please detail the measurable achievements in your business. Word count: Maximum 400
5. Provide an overview of your 5 year goals/milestones for your business and how you are working towards these. Word count: Maximum 400
6. Describe the key challenges you have faced as a young entrepreneur and how you deal with these challenges. Word count: Maximum 400
7. How do you demonstrate inspiration to other young entrepreneurial people? Word count: Maximum 400
8. Why do you believe you should win this award? Word count: Maximum 300

Additional T&C's

In addition to the general T&C's the following apply to this category: -

- If you are applying on behalf of someone else you must have their permission to enter this award category.
- Entrants must have ownership and/or have been operating their business for a minimum of 2 years at the time of entry submission.
- NSW Business Chamber State and Regional Councillors are ineligible to enter into this category.
- NSW Business Chamber Business Award program judges are ineligible to enter into this category for the current year and consecutive year following the year in which they judged.

Business Leader

The Business Leader award recognises the positive contribution made to business by business people and professionals. The award recognises those who demonstrate outstanding entrepreneurial spirit, strategic business direction and innovative ideas, whilst providing inspiration to a new generation of upcoming business leaders.

Question

Are you entering on behalf of another individual (YES/NO)?

If NO proceed to question 1.

If YES do you have their permission to enter on their behalf? (tick box)

1. Name of entrant.
2. Entrant's date of birth.
3. Entrant's current job title.
4. Name of organisation.
5. Provide a current profile of yourself including your title, current business role, scope of responsibilities. Word count: Maximum 400
6. Why do you believe you should be considered as a business leader? Word count: Maximum 400
7. Provide an overview of your 5 year goals /milestones. Word count: Maximum 400
8. Detail your achievements in business in the previous 5 years. Word count: Maximum 450
9. Describe the key challenges you have faced as a business leader in the past 5 years and how you overcame them. Word count: Maximum 450
10. Demonstrate how you have helped the community (and or the business community) overcome social or environmental problems. Word count: Maximum 400

Additional T&Cs

In addition to the general T&C's the following apply to this category: -

- If you are applying on behalf of someone else you must have their permission to enter this award category.
- NSW Business Chamber State and Regional Councillors are ineligible to enter into this category.
- NSW Business Chamber Business Award program judges are ineligible to enter into this category the current year and consecutive year following the year in which they judged.
- Tick box that you have read and accepted these category T&C's

Excellence in Business Ethics

Recognises an outstanding business that has been able to achieve business success while acting in an ethically responsible way.

Questions

1. Explain how your business demonstrates excellence in business ethics? Please provide at least 3 specific examples. Word count: Maximum 400
2. How do ethical practices contribute to your business success? Please provide evidence. Word count: Maximum 400
3. Detail measurable evidence of how you contribute to your local community. Word count: Maximum 400
4. Describe how your business interacts with your employees to promote excellence in business ethics with your suppliers and customers. Please provide at least 3 specific examples. Word count: Maximum 400

Excellence in Innovation

Recognises businesses that have made significant contributions to their industry through the introduction or improvement of an idea, method, technology, process or application.

Questions

1. Is this a new innovation or an innovative approach to an existing practice or problem? Please explain. Word count: Maximum 400
2. Explain how your business monitors and reacts to changes in the market including how your business acquires an understanding of emerging customer needs and market developments. Word count: Maximum 450
3. Provide evidence of how your business is innovative, with specific examples over the previous 24 months including cost effectiveness, integration and risk minimization. Word count: Maximum 500
4. Provide details of the commercialisation, adoption or take up of the innovation and its sustainability over time. Word count: Maximum 500
5. Provide measurable evidence of how innovative activity in your business in the previous 12 - 24 months has helped grow or improve your business. Word count: Maximum 400
6. Demonstrate the extent to which your business innovation has or is likely to have a positive impact beyond your business (i.e. to your industry, to the community). Word count: Maximum 400
7. How are these improvements or impacts to the business measured? Word Count: Maximum 400

Excellence in Sustainability*

The Excellence in Sustainability award recognises businesses that are working to reduce the impact of their operations on the environment and/or provide products and services that have positive environmental outcomes.

Questions

1. Describe your business environmental sustainability goals. Please note that these must be quantifiable targets. Word count: Maximum 300
2. Describe the initiatives/actions your organisation has undertaken to achieve its sustainability objectives in the previous 12- 24 months. Word Count: Maximum 400
3. Describe your sustainability achievements over the last 12 months. Word count: Maximum 400
4. Describe how you involve staff in your environmental initiatives. Word count: 400
5. Provide measurable evidence of how the sustainability objectives your business has achieved have contributed to the business, it's customers, staff and suppliers such as financial outcomes, staff engagement, marketing benefits, supplier/customer loyalty. Word count: 500

Additional T&C's applicable to this category

Where sustainability is your core business, you must enter this category based on sustainable initiatives and projects within your business, not related to your core offering.

Excellence in Small Business (for businesses employing less than 20 employees*)

The Excellence in Small Business award recognises a business (employing less than 20 employees*) that has attained significant growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies and processes implemented to achieve sustainable growth in the previous 24 months.

*This includes all employees on payroll in Australia such as contractors, casuals and labour hire staff.

Questions

1. Explain your business growth in the previous 24 months. Word count: Maximum 400
2. Explain the strategies and plans to achieve your business growth over the previous 24 months. Word count: 450
3. How did you implement these strategies? Word count: Maximum 400
4. Detail the measurable results you achieved both financial and non-financial and how these demonstrate "excellence". Word count: Maximum 500

Excellence in Business (for businesses employing 20 or more employees*) The Excellence in Business award recognises a business that has attained significant growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies and processes implemented to achieve sustainable growth over the previous 24 months.

***This includes all employees on payroll in Australia such as contractors, casual and labour hire staff.**

Questions

1. Explain your business growth in the previous 24 months. Word count: Maximum 400
2. Explain the strategies and plans to achieve your business growth over the previous 24 months. Word count: Maximum 450
3. How did you implement these strategies? Word count: Maximum 400

Detail the measurable results you achieved, both financial and non-financial, and how these demonstrate "excellence". Word count: Maximum 500

Employer of Choice

The Employer of Choice award recognises organisations that put in place strategies and initiatives to create stimulating and supportive workplace environments for their employees. These strategies or initiatives must have a positive impact on both employees and the organisation as a whole.

Questions

1. Number of full time employees includes all employees on payroll in Australia. (This is for context only and will not be scored).
2. Explain any specific HR and WHS programs and policies you have undertaken in the previous 24 months. Word count: Maximum 400
3. Why did your business embark on this project/s and/or initiatives? Word count: Maximum 350
4. What measurable results have been achieved and how have they positively contributed to workplace productivity and employee satisfaction? (i.e. reduction in voluntary staff turnover, absenteeism, training and development hours, employee satisfaction measures). Word count: Maximum 450
5. Identify and describe the benefits you offer as an Employer of Choice? Word Count Maximum 400

Excellence in Export

The Excellence in Export recognises leading examples of businesses that are forging a strong reputation for Australian products and services in international markets.

Questions

1. Summarise your measurable export success/es in the past 24 months. Word count: Maximum 350
2. Outline the key points of your international marketing strategy over the past 12- 24 months and what role it played in your company's success. Word count: Maximum 400
3. What strategies (communication/advertising/promotional/partnerships etc.) have you implemented to promote and sustain awareness of your brand/s in overseas markets in the past 12-24 months? Word count: Maximum 400
4. Briefly explain how your company differentiates its product/service from the competition and how are you maintaining/improving this advantage. Word count: Maximum 400

NSW Business Chamber Regional Business of the Year

This award takes into account all business award categories and is awarded to a business considered an “all-rounder” with superior performance in all aspects. Please note that entrants cannot directly nominate for this award. The winner of this award is selected from the Regional Category winners.

Local Chamber of Commerce

^To enter into this award Category, Local Chambers must be part of the NSW Business Chamber Local Chamber Alliance program

Entry Questions

- Local Chamber of Commerce name. *
 - Date Established. *
 - Please describe the geographical area which your Local Chamber covers. *
 - Number of members. *
 - Does your Chamber employ full time staff?
 - Does your Chamber receive any funding? If yes, where from?
 - Entry Contact First Name. *
 - Entry Contact Last Name. *
 - Entry Contact Phone Number. *
 - Entry Contact Email. *
1. What was the net member movement in the previous 12 months? (In real and percentage terms). Detail any factors that affected this movement. Word count: 400
 2. Describe the key initiative that your Local Chamber has undertaken in the last 12- 24 months. Detail the specific and quantifiable outcomes of these initiatives on your local business community? Word count: 500
 3. Specify how you engage with your local business community. Word count: 500
 4. Describe how you engage with the NSW Business Chamber. Word count: 400
 5. Outline any key lessons you have learned in the last 12 months. Word count: 400

2016 Terms and Conditions of Entry

1. How to enter

1.1. To enter the NSW Business Chamber Awards all applicants must read and understand the terms and conditions and complete the on-line entry form for your chosen category.

1.2. To enter you must be web-enabled with a NSW Business Chamber website member login. Call 13 26 96 to become web enabled.

1.3. All submissions are to be lodged through the NSW Business Chamber website www.businessannualawards.com.au

1.4. By lodging your submission, you agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of entry.

1.5. Your entry must be submitted by 5pm Australian Eastern Standard time on the relevant date for your region, as published in the Key Award Dates section on www.businessannualawards.com.au. NSW Business Chamber reserves the right to extend or vary the entry period if required, before or after the award entry period commences.

1.6. All entries must be submitted through either one of the Local Chamber of Commerce award programs or Regional Award Programs. There are no direct entries into the NSW Business Chamber State Awards.

2. Who can enter

2.1. Entries can be made by any current financial member of NSW Business Chamber (NSWBC).

2.2. Entries can be made by Associate members of the NSW Business Chamber with the Local Chamber of Commerce limited entitlement package.

2.3. Members of local chambers that are Chamber Alliance Partners but that have NOT yet opted in are eligible to enter, once they have completed the opt in process.

2.4. Joint members of NSW Business Chamber and Hunter Business Chamber must enter via the Hunter Business Awards.

2.5. All businesses must have been in operation for at least two years.

2.6. All entrants (excluding Associate members with the limited entitlement package) must be financial members of the NSW Business Chamber at the time of entry and during the term of the Award process.

2.7. To enter the 2015 NSW Business Chamber award program and be eligible, all Local Chamber applicants must be opted in members of the NSW Business Chamber AND members of their local chamber at the time of entry and during the term of the Award process.

2.8. Entrants must be web enabled with a NSW Business Chamber website member login. The same login is used to access the online entry process.

2.9 Entry into the Business Awards Program is not open to Board Members (or their businesses) of the NSW Business Chamber, Hunter Business Chamber and Illawarra Business Chamber.

2.10. Entry into the Young Business Executive, Young Entrepreneur or Business Leader categories is not open to NSW Business Chamber Regional Advisory Councillors.

3. 2015 winners

3.1. Regional and State Winners from the 2015 NSW Business Chamber Awards program cannot enter the same category in the subsequent year (2016) that they won.

3.2. State and Regional Winners are free to enter any other category in 2016 other than the category they were a winner of in 2015.

3.3. State winners from 2015 are eligible to form part of the 2016 Judging Panel for either Regional or State Awards for their winning category.

3.4 Regional winners of the Local Chamber of Commerce of the Year Award are eligible to enter in the Local Chamber of Commerce category each year.

4. Entry requirements

4.1. All entries for consideration must be lodged online and include the required information.

4.2. NSW Business Chamber reserves the right to declare any entry ineligible, if during the term of the award process your entry form is incomplete or deficient, false or misleading in anyway.

4.3. Your entry will be allocated to a NSW Business regional awards program, based on your postcode (for NSW Business Chamber managed awards, see point 10 below for list) as stored in our membership database. You cannot change your postcode once you have started your entry however you can change the region in which you are entering.

4.4. You must be a web-enabled NSW Business Chamber member, with a NSW Business Chamber member website login and password to enter. Call 13 26 96 for more information.

5. Opening dates

5.1. Refer to the Key Award dates page on the website.

5.2. NSW Business Chamber reserves the right to extend or vary the entry period if required, before or after the award entry period commences.

6. Closing Date

6.1. Refer to the Key Award dates page on the website.

6.2. NSW Business Chamber reserves the right to extend or vary the entry period if required, before or after the award entry period commences.

7. Confidentiality

7.1. All information provided in the entry form will be used for the purpose of judging only and will be treated as commercial-in-confidence by NSW Business Chamber.

7.2. If you are selected as a finalist, the information provided in the entry will be used for the purpose of promoting the Awards and your business.

8. Judging Panel

8.1. All entries are judged by a panel of subject matter experts, selected from business and community leaders from within the your local regional NSW area or Sydney area region, including previous State Category Winners and Corporate Category Sponsors.

8.2. The judge's decision is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

8.3 In situations where there is only one entrant for a category in a Regional Award, this entry will be judged. Subject to meeting a gateway score, the entry will become an automatic State Finalist and will be awarded a State Finalist certificate and represent their region at the State Gala event.

9. Awards

9.1. The Awards comprise of the following categories:

9.1.1. Excellence in Innovation

9.1.2. Excellence in Sustainability

9.1.3. Excellence in Small Business (for businesses employing less than 20 employees*)

* this includes all employees on payroll in Australia such as contractors, casuals and labour hire staff.

9.1.4 Excellence in Business (for businesses employing 20 or more employees*)

* this includes all employees on payroll in Australia such as contractors, casual and labour hire staff.

9.1.5. Excellence in Business Ethics

9.1.6. Employer of Choice

9.1.7. Young Business Executive (Age 18-35)

9.1.8. Young Entrepreneur (Age 18-35)

9.1.9. Business Leader (Age 36+)

9.1.10. Excellence in Export

9.1.11. 2016 Local Chamber of Commerce

9.2. Category winners from in each Regional NSW and Sydney area Awards will automatically enter the NSW Business Chamber State Business Awards as a State Category Finalist.

9.3. Each Regional NSW category finalist in the State Awards is eligible for one return flight from Regional NSW to Sydney and one nights designated accommodation in Sydney's CBD

10. Geographic coverage

10.1. The above terms and conditions cover NSW Business Chamber Awards programs, running in the following regions: Macarthur, Western Sydney, North Eastern Sydney, South Eastern Sydney, Murray-Riverina, Central West Orana, Mid North Coast, New England North West, Far South Coast, Northern Rivers and Illawarra. Use the postcode locator on this website to find out if you fit these regions.

10.2. NSW Business Chamber is providing the online entry engine for other local chamber and regional awards which are aligned with our program. These awards may have different terms and conditions.

11. Announcing the finalists and winners

11.1. Finalists will be notified by phone and email, and published on the Business Awards website www.businessannualawards.com.au

11.2. Winners will be announced at the gala event in each region, with the state winners announced at the State Gala Dinner. In a region where there is no gala event, winners will be notified and awarded their Regional Winner trophy in person.

12. Alliance Partner Business Awards

12.1 The NSW Business Chamber 2016 Business Awards Terms and Conditions apply to entrants into NSW Business Chamber 2016 Business Awards, including entrants of Local Chamber of Commerce awards which are aligned with the NSW Business Chamber Business Awards. Please note that terms and conditions may also be applied by the Local Chamber of Commerce running such awards. Please check the Local Chamber Awards website for their terms and conditions.

13 Local Chamber of Commerce (LCC) Members:

13.1 Where a Local Chamber Awards program exists and that LCC partner aligns all or some of their categories and criteria with the NSW Business Chamber Awards Program LCC members cannot enter directly into the NSW Business Chamber Awards for those aligned categories at a regional level.

- Where a Local Chamber Awards program does not exist, LCC members can enter directly into the NSW Business Chamber Awards at a regional level.

-A business/individual is eligible to enter into multiple local chamber awards within a region. You will be required to enter a new username per entry submission.

Local Chamber Award winners are eligible to progress to the NSW Business Chamber Regional Awards program as a Regional finalist subject to:

-Complying with the NSW Business Chamber Awards program, Terms and Conditions.

-The Local Chamber category winner's entry being submitted via the NSW Business Chamber Business Awards online entry system for the purpose of judging.