



Award Descriptions

Business Excellence Award

Description: Honor one business in the DCR Chamber for their outstanding successes in 2013-14. This company is one that has made an impact in their market and has experienced consecutive periods of financial growth.

Eligibility: All businesses are eligible for this award and may nominate themselves. Must be a current DCR Chamber member and have been in business for at least 10 years.

Criteria: Nominees should exhibit success in a variety of ways, such as increase in employees, ability to retain talent, taken and prevailed risks, recognized as a leader in their industry or marketplace, expanded, or consecutive periods of financial growth.

Community Leadership Award

Description: Honor one business in the DCR Chamber for their remarkable contributions and actions in the community that have not only improved the quality of life, but have made a difference in the lives of their employees as well.

Eligibility: Non-Profits are not eligible to receive the award. All for-profit businesses that are a current DCR Chamber member are eligible and may nominate themselves.

Criteria: Nominees should demonstrate a commitment to the community, region and their employees by identifying activities and organizational support performed in 2013-14. Activities could include employee volunteerism or partnership with a non-profit or community organization.

Small Business of the Year Award

Description: Honor one business in the DCR Chamber for their entrepreneurial spirit, creative business strategies and contributions to the community.

Eligibility: All for-profit businesses that are a current DCR Chamber member, have fewer than 50 employees and have been in business for at least 3 years are eligible for this award. Businesses may nominate themselves.

Criteria: Nominees should identify their growth strategies and outcomes, how they support and foster growth of their company's workforce, retain talent and demonstrate engagement with the community.

Non-Profit of the Year Award

Description: Honor one non-profit organization in the DCR Chamber for their successful service delivery, volunteer engagement and creative development strategies.

Eligibility: All non-profit organizations that are a current DCR Chamber member are eligible and may nominate themselves.

Criteria: Nominees should identify the types of direct services provided, how many individuals have they impacted and in what ways, creativity in delivery of services, successful development and donor recruitment efforts, and strategies that guarantee the organizations stability and sustainability.

Woman/Minority Owned Business Award

Description: Honor one business in the DCR Chamber that is owned by either a woman or minority and has demonstrated creative business strategies.

Eligibility: Non-Profits are not eligible to receive the award. All for-profit businesses that are a current DCR Chamber member and are owned by a woman or minority are eligible and may nominate themselves.

Criteria: Nominees should identify how they are recognized as a leader in their industry and with their peers, means by which they support and encourage the growth of their workforce and demonstrate an ability to take and overcome risks.

Business Excellence Awards

Application

Please complete the information below and submit to cjohnson@dcrchamber.com by **Monday, October 13th. Limit your submission to six pages.**

Business Profile

**By submitting this business profile, you are authorizing its use in future marketing materials associated with this award.*

In 200 words or less, please describe your business, including:

- Your business history
- Business mission statement
- What products/services you provide
- Any awards or recognition you have received

Growth

- Describe methods, strategies and circumstances that have resulted in your organization's expansion within your marketplace
- Identify number of consecutive periods of financial growth; provide data to quantify revenue growth
- State circumstances that have led to an increase in your workforce; provide percentage or number of new employees hired
- Describe your company's strategy for attracting and retaining talented employees, such as incentives, training, leadership opportunities, etc.

Business Strategies and Practices

- Describe the execution of your strategic vision
- Identify your values and beliefs regarding management
- Demonstrate a willingness to take risks and assess the outcomes of those risks
- Describe your leadership in introducing innovation to the market and your continued commitment to innovation
- Describe how you manage change effectively

Community

- Describe commitment to the community through corporate contributions and encouragement of employee volunteerism in the community
- Show evidence of having a meaningful impact on people's lives and in the community
- Provide for the human service needs of the community

Recognition

- List recent honors your business has received as leaders in the marketplace, such as industry accolades, individual employee recognitions, "Best Of" awards and community recognition; provide press releases, websites, event announcements, etc.