



SMALL BUSINESS EAGLE AWARD NOMINATION

Help us recognize outstanding leaders in the small business community of West Central Illinois

AWARD CATEGORIES

Please check one or more potential categories:

- Entrepreneurial Lifetime Achievement:** For a successful record of achievement of an individual and/or business that embodies the spirit of entrepreneurialism and innovation in our region from either the present or from the past.
- Entrepreneur of the Year:** For developing an outstanding, growing business or businesses; innovative product(s), increasing jobs, increasing sales, overcoming adversity, and community contributions.
- Small Business Success Over 5 & Over 10 Years:** Must own and operate a successful, growing business for past 5 or 10 years.
- Small Business Exporter of the Year:** For going global and increasing sales through exporting.
- Small Business Start-Up of the Year:** For developing an outstanding business within the past two years.
- Young Entrepreneur of the Year:** Owner will not reach 35th birthday by May 1, 2013, and has demonstrated success in sales and profits, increased jobs, innovative products, and has demonstrated potential.
- Small Business Financing Project of the Year:** A recognition of private bank participation with public financing on a project that created jobs, investment, and the start-up or continuation of a business.
- Small Business Advocate of the Year:** A promoter of small business, including volunteering time and services to small business interests and groups, advocating the cause of small business in the community. Advocates may or may not be small business owners.
- Special Recognition:** Business anniversaries 25, 50, 75, 100 years, Women/Minority Owned-Business, and Home-Based businesses.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

I nominate _____ Title _____
 Company/Organization _____ Address _____
 Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____

Please attach a short narrative on why this business/individual should be considered for an award by including:

- a) origin of business, b) growth of company in jobs/sales, c) leadership in industry, d) distinction of business/individual

Please also rank your nominee, with 5 being the highest/best rating and 1 being the lowest/least rating, based on the following:

Products and Services Offered

Are the business' products and services relevant and unique? Is there a market demand for the business' products / services? Is there an appropriate level of quality and performance consistency among the business' products / services? Do the business' products / services meet or exceed client expectations?

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Sustainability

Does the business offer an attractive and realistic business model? If set up as a non-profit, is the organization achieving financial self-sustainability through fees and revenues? If set up as a for-profit, is the business achieving financial stability through realistic market and financial projects?

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Social Responsibility

Does the business, financial institution or small business advocate have a positive impact on society? Can the business, financial institution or small business advocate promote the general well-being of society, such as coping with poverty, providing help to children, the elderly or the disadvantaged? Can the business arouse public attention to contemporary social problems?

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Innovation and Creativity

Is the business concept original? Does the business have a creative approach? Is the business creative in its problem solving? Does the financial institution or small business advocate have a creative approach to helping entrepreneurs and small businesses? Does the financial institution or small business advocate engage in unique problem solving to assist entrepreneurs and small businesses?

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Target Customers

How many customers are there? What need of the customer is addressed by the business' products / services? What benefits are provided by the business' products / services that others don't? Is there evidence that customers buy the business' products / services? Have changes in societal or technological trends been identified that may affect number of potential customers?

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Environmental Responsibility

What is the nominee's impact on the environment? Does the business generate environmental benefits, such as protection of finite resources?

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Competitive Advantage

Does the business have good growth prospects? Can the business be easily replicated by competitors? Is there a sound business strategy? What are the risks involved, and have they been identified and addressed?

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Qualifications and Experience

The entrepreneur / business owner, financial institution or small business advocate shares with others the tools, approaches and techniques critical for success. The entrepreneur / business owner, financial institution or small business advocate serves as a role model for future social entrepreneurs and general public.

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Advocacy Effectiveness

The level of commitment by the financial institution or small business advocate to support and promote entrepreneurs. The variety of financial services or other services offered by the financial institution or small business advocate. The effectiveness of the particular plan or support for the entrepreneurs cited in the nomination.

1 2 3 4 5 N/A

NOMINATOR'S INFORMATION:

Nominator Name _____ Title _____

Company/Organization _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Send Nominations By:	On Line Form available at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2013EagleAwardNomination	Email – mckillip@illinois.edu
April 1, 2013		Fax – (309) 342-1768
		Mail - 180 S Soangetaha Rd, Ste 108 Galesburg, IL 61401-5595

The Small Business Day Award Ceremony is brought to you by the Entrepreneurial Support Network (ESN) of West Central Illinois. For additional information call the Carrie McKillip @ 309-342-5108 / mckillip@illinois.edu. Self-nominations accepted. A representative of ESN will contact the nominator to obtain further details of nominee. *Thanks for supporting and joining the Celebration with us!*