



BusinessPremier

Small Business Awards

celebrating DC's entrepreneurial spirit

2009 Small Business Awards

Application



BusinessPremier is an initiative of the

Washington, DC
Economic Partnership

Washington, DC Economic Partnership • 1495 F Street, NW • Washington, DC 20004 • 202.661.8670 • www.wdcep.com

About the Awards

On **July 22, 2009**, the Washington, DC Economic Partnership (WDCEP) will honor DC-based entrepreneurs, small businesses and business service providers at its annual **BusinessPremier Small Business Awards** ceremony held at the historic Willard Hotel.

The 2009 *BusinessPremier* Small Business Awards will identify three outstanding businesses for their accomplishments in the following categories:

- ❖ **Small Business of the Year**
- ❖ **100-Year-Old DC Business of the Year**
- ❖ **Small Business Initiative of the Year**

For the first time, the WDCEP will also unveil the winner of the first annual *PremierPlan* business plan competition. [Click here](#) for more information.

We invite you to nominate your company or a small business. Applications will be accepted until **May 20th, 2009** for the annual Small Business Awards. An Awards committee will determine the winners of the three award categories.

The winners will be announced at the 2009 *BusinessPremier* Small Business Awards on July 22, 2009.

Wednesday, July 22, 2009

8:30am Registration | 9–11am Program

Willard InterContinental Washington

1401 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20004

To register, please [click here](#).

Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Small organizations are defined by WDCEP as having fewer than 50 full-time employee equivalents.

NOTE: Exception is only provided in the category of 100 Year Old DC Business of the Year where the applicant may have no more than 100 full-time employees or equivalents.

2. Business is headquartered within the District of Columbia or has more than 50% of its business operations and employee base within the District
3. Business has been in operation for a minimum of three years
4. Business exhibits growth, excellence, innovation, and involvement
5. For Small Business Initiative of the Year, program/initiative submitted for candidacy must have been in operation for at least one (1) year
6. Business owner must be available to receive the award at the 2009 Small Business Awards on **July 22, 2009**.

Award Categories

DC Small Business of the Year

Award given to an organization that shows successes in the following areas:

1. Innovation
2. Commitment to excellence & quality
3. Corporate citizenship
4. Growth achievement & potential

100 Year Old DC Business of the Year

Award given to a small business that has been in existence within the District of Columbia for 100 years or more. Award will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Innovation
2. Commitment to excellence & quality
3. Corporate citizenship
4. Growth achievement & potential
5. Strategies for longevity

DC Small Business Initiative

Award given to any organization or government agency that has developed a program designed to support small businesses/entrepreneurs—through service or product. Award will be judged on the following criteria:

1. Organization's involvement with improving DC business climate
2. Program is unique & innovative
3. Program increases the entrepreneurship climate within the District of Columbia
4. Overall Impact of Program/Initiative on DC Businesses

Prizes

1. Promotional video to be aired at the 2009 *BusinessPremier* Small Business Awards
2. Feature in WDCEP newsletter
3. Two (2) guest tickets to the 2009 *BusinessPremier* Small Business Awards
4. Physical award for display.

How to Apply

Complete Parts I and 2 of the *BusinessPremier* Small Business Awards application, as well as part 3, 4 or 5—dependent upon the category to which you are applying.

NOTE: *Applicants may not apply for more than one category*

Please return your completed application on or before **May 20, 2009** via e-mail or mail to:

businesspremier@wdcep.com

or

Washington, DC Economic Partnership

Attn: Small Business Awards

1495 F Street, NW

Washington, DC 20004

NOTE: *Attachments should not exceed 1MB*

NOTE: *Applications sent via mail must be postmarked on or before Wednesday, May 20th, 2009.*

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted via e-mail or mail on or before Wednesday, **May 20th, 2009**.

Notification

The winner of the 2009 *BusinessPremier* Small Business Awards will be notified by **July 1st, 2009**.

PART 1: General Information

Company Information

NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)

TITLE

MAILING ADDRESS (Number, Street, Suite #)

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

WORK PHONE NUMBER

HOME PHONE NUMBER

CELL PHONE NUMBER (optional)

E-MAIL, WEBSITE ADDRESS (if applicable)

PART 2: General Questions

NOTE: Your answers to the questions in this section may be used for the Small Business Award program book and/or other Washington, DC Economic Partnership promotional materials. Please limit your submission to 150 words per question.

1. Please provide a brief business description.

2. What about the District of Columbia has helped make your business successful?

Part 3: Small Business of the Year

Required Criteria (both are required)

1. Your company has 50 or fewer full-time employees (two part-time would equal one full-time employee)
2. Your company has been in operation for a minimum of three years

Questions

Please limit your submission to 150 words per question.

1. Describe your growth in employment over the past three years (please include number of full-time & part-time employees for 2006, 2007 and 2008).

2. Describe specific examples of how your business is thriving and your successes.

3. What are the challenges or obstacles your business has overcome?

4. What is your business doing to continue to succeed and grow?

Part 3: Small Business of the Year continued

5. Please discuss ways in which your business has demonstrated innovation?

6. Please describe how your business is an active corporate citizen (e.g. community service, donations, energy efficiency).

7. Please list any awards or recognition received.

8. Additional information you believe may assist the selection committee. (optional)

Part 4: 100 Year Old Business of the Year

Required Criteria

1. Your company has 100 or fewer full-time employees (two part-time employees=one full-time employee)

Questions

Please limit your submission to 150 words per question.

1. Describe your growth in employment over the past three years (please include number of full-time & part-time employees for 2006, 2007 and 2008).

2. What has made your company successful within the District of Columbia for over a century?

3. Please discuss ways in which your business has demonstrated innovation?

4. Please describe how your business is an active corporate citizen (e.g. community service, donations, energy efficiency).

Part 4: 100 Year Old Business of the Year continued

5. What are the challenges or obstacles your business has overcome?

6. What is your business doing to continue to succeed and grow?

7. Please list any awards or recognition received.

8. Additional information you believe may assist the selection committee. (optional)

Part 5: Small Business Initiative of the Year continued

5. Please list any awards or recognition received.

6. Additional information you believe may assist the selection committee. (optional)