

Quality Business Awards

Terms and Conditions of Entry

1. How to Enter

- 1.1. Entry is free.
- 1.2. All applicants must read and understand the terms and conditions and complete the entry form for your chosen category.
- 1.3. By lodging your submission, you agree to be bound by the Terms and Conditions of Entry.
- 1.4. Businesses are eligible to nominate for multiple categories providing they remain bound by the Terms and Conditions of Entry.

2. Entry Eligibility

- 2.1. All entrants must be registered with the Australian Tax Office (ATO) as a business and hold a current Australian Business Number (ABN).
- 2.2. Entries are eligible for any business which is located, operates or services the Tamworth Region Local Government Area.
- 2.3. Entries into Customer Service awards can be made by any business that has been continuously operating for a minimum period of one year as at the date of the Gala Evening.
- 2.4. Entries into Start Up Superstar Category can be made by any business that has been continuously operating for a period of less than two years as at the date of the Gala Evening.
- 2.5. Entries into the NSW Business Chamber Aligned Categories can be made by any business that has been continuously operating for a minimum period of two years as at the date of the Gala Evening. These Categories include:
 - 2.5.1. Excellence in Small Business (less than 20 **FTE's inc employees, contractors**)
 - 2.5.2. Excellence in Business (more than 20 **FTE's inc employees, contractors etc**)
 - 2.5.3. Young Business Executive (Age 18-35)
 - 2.5.4. Young Entrepreneur (Age 18-35)
 - 2.5.5. Business Leader (Age 36+)
 - 2.5.6. Employer of Choice
 - 2.5.7. Excellence in Social Enterprise
 - 2.5.8. Excellence in Innovation
 - 2.5.9. Excellence in Sustainability
- 2.6. Entry into the Young Business Executive, Young Entrepreneur or Business Leader categories are not open to Tamworth Business Chamber Directors, Subcommittee Members, or Politicians. Directors, Subcommittee Members and Politicians are eligible to enter their business into all other business award categories.
- 2.7. Staff and Contractors are ineligible to enter the Quality Business Awards program.
- 2.8. Sponsors may enter the Quality Business Awards program but may not enter the category that they are sponsoring.
- 2.9. Winners from the NSW Business Chamber Regional Awards Program cannot enter the same category in the year subsequent to the year that they won.
- 2.10. Individuals or firms who are currently suspended, bankrupt or insolvent are ineligible.

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3. Entry Requirements

- 3.1. Tamworth 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 any way.

4. Judging Requirements

- 4.1. An independent judging panel from a variety of industries will judge all entries.
- 4.2. Winners from the previous year are eligible to form part of the current year's Judging Panel for their winning category.
- 4.3. Judges are required to sign a confidentiality agreement and disclose any conflict of interest.
- 4.4. All entrants are required to meet a gateway score to progress as a Quality Business Awards Finalist.
- 4.5. The judges' decision is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.
- 4.6. All judging score sheets and notes will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed. Upon application to Tamworth Business Chamber, a judges' summary will be provided.
- 4.7. Unsuccessful and successful finalists will be notified in the mail.

5. Opening and Closing Dates

- 5.1. Tamworth Business Chamber reserves the right to extend or vary the entry period if required, before or after the award entry period commences.

6. Confidentiality

- 6.1. 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 Tamworth Business Chamber.
- 6.2. If you are selected as a finalist, information provided in the entry (excluding financial information) will be used for the purpose of promoting the Awards and your business.
- 6.3. Contact information provided in the nomination form will be disclosed to media partners for the purpose of direct marketing advertising opportunities available through the media partners. Nominees can refuse the disclosure of contact information to media partners by advising Tamworth Business Chamber in writing.

7. Alignment with NSW Business Chamber State Award Program

- 7.1. Tamworth Business Chamber's Quality Business Awards have the following categories which align with NSW Business Chambers:
 - 7.1.1. **Excellence in Small Business (less than 20 FTE's inc employees, contractors)**
 - 7.1.2. **Excellence in Business (more than 20 FTE's inc employees, contractors etc)**
 - 7.1.3. Young Business Executive (Age 18-35)
 - 7.1.4. Young Entrepreneur (Age 18-35)
 - 7.1.5. Business Leader (Age 36+)
 - 7.1.6. Employer of Choice
 - 7.1.7. Excellence in Social Enterprise

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- 7.1.8. Excellence in Innovation
 - 7.1.9. Excellence in Sustainability
 - 7.1.10. Start Up Superstar
 - 7.2. Excluding NSW Business Members, Tamworth Business Chambers members and Tamworth Businesses can only enter the above aligned categories via the Quality Business Awards Program.
 - 7.3. Winners of the above categories are eligible to progress to the NSW Business Chamber New England North West Regional Awards program as a Regional finalist subject to:
 - 7.3.1. A financial member of the Tamworth Business Chamber, and local alliance member of the NSW Business Chamber at the time of entry and during the term of the NSW Business Chamber Regional Awards process.
 - 7.3.2. Complying with the NSW Business Chamber Awards program, Terms and Conditions.
 - 7.3.3. Winners entry being submitted via the NSW Business Chamber Business Awards online entry system for the purpose of judging.
 - 7.4. The following categories may be entered into directly by a Member of Tamworth Business Chamber at the New England North West Regional Level:
 - 7.4.1. Excellence in Export.
8. Other
- 8.1. Additional Terms and Conditions apply to certain categories.