

Quality Business Awards

Terms and Conditions of Entry

The following Terms and Conditions of Entry (“the T&C’s”) apply in relation to the Tamworth Business Chamber Quality Business Awards:

1. How to Enter

- 1.1. Entry is free.
- 1.2. All applicants must read and understand the T&C’s and complete the entry form for their chosen category.
- 1.3. By lodging an application, the applicant agrees to be bound by the T&C’s.
- 1.4. Businesses are eligible to nominate for multiple categories, providing they remain bound by the T&C’s.

2. Entry Eligibility

- 2.1. All non-individual award category applicants must be registered with the Australian Tax Office (ATO) as a business and hold a current Australian Business Number (ABN).
- 2.2. Applicants must be located in, operate in, or service the Tamworth region Local Government Area.
- 2.3. Individuals or organisations who are currently suspended, bankrupt or insolvent are ineligible.
- 2.4. Applicants in the Customer Service award categories must have been trading for a continuous period of one year, and not bankrupt or trading insolvent at the date of entry.
- 2.5. Entry into the Outstanding Young Employee, Outstanding Young Entrepreneur, and Outstanding Business Leader categories is not open to Tamworth Business Chamber Directors or Politicians.
- 2.6. With the exception of those awards listed at clause 2.5 herein, Directors and Politicians are eligible to enter their business into all other business award categories.
- 2.7. Tamworth Business Chamber employees are ineligible to enter the Quality Business Awards program.
- 2.8. Sponsors of the Tamworth Business Chamber may enter the Quality Business Awards program but may not enter the category that they are sponsoring.
- 2.9. The Tamworth Business Chamber Quality Business Awards include award categories which align with the NSW Business Chamber Business Awards. In order to be eligible for these awards, entrants must meet the eligibility criteria published by the NSW Business Chamber. For further eligibility criteria for these categories, see clause 7 herein.

3. Entry Requirements

- 3.1. Tamworth Business Chamber reserves the right to declare any entry ineligible, if during the term of the award process the applicant’s entry/nomination form is deemed in Tamworth Business Chamber’s discretion to be incomplete or deficient, false or misleading in any way.

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4. Judging Requirements

- 4.1. An independent judging panel from a variety of industries will judge all entries.
- 4.2. Judges are required to sign a confidentiality agreement and disclose any conflict of interest.
- 4.3. All entrants are required to meet a gateway score to progress as a Quality Business Awards Finalist.
- 4.4. The judges' decision is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.
- 4.5. All judging score sheets and notes will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed. Upon written application to Tamworth Business Chamber, a judges' summary will be provided.
- 4.6. Successful finalists will be notified by phone, email and mail.

5. Opening and Closing Dates

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

6. Confidentiality

- 6.1. All information provided in the entry and nomination forms 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 forms (excluding financial information) will be used for the purpose of promoting the Awards and your business.
- 6.3. Information provided in the entry and nomination forms will be disclosed to media partners for the purpose of direct marketing advertising opportunities available through the media partners. Entrants/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 Quality Business Awards include the below award categories which align with the NSW Business Chamber Business Awards. In order to be eligible for these awards, entrants must meet the eligibility criteria published by the NSW Business Chamber at www.businessannualawards.com.au/Award-entry/Categories and www.businessannualawards.com.au/getattachment/Award-entry/Categories/2018-NSW-Business-Chamber-Business-Awards-Category-Questions-Pack.pdf.aspx. Applicable awards and eligibility criteria include:
 - 7.1.1. Excellence in Small Business (less than 20 Full Time Equivalent ("FTE") employees): to be eligible for this award the business must employ less than 20 FTE employees on payroll in Australia such as contractors, casuals and labour hire staff, and have been trading for a period of two years or more, not bankrupt or trading insolvent at the time of entry.
 - 7.1.2. Excellence in Business (20 FTE or more employees): to be eligible for this award the business must employ 20 or more FTE employees on payroll in Australia such as contractors, casuals and labour hire staff, and have been trading for a period of two years or more, not bankrupt or trading insolvent at the time of entry.

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- 7.1.3. Excellence in Social Enterprise: to be eligible for this award, the organisation must have: been trading for a continuous period of two years or more, not bankrupt or trading insolvent at the time of entry, must not have not entered into the categories of Excellence in Small Business and Excellence in Business in 2018, must be driven by a public or community cause, be it social, environmental, cultural or economic, the majority of its income must be from trade, NOT donations or grants and use the majority (at least 50%) of its profits to work towards its social mission.
- 7.1.4. Start Up Superstar: to be eligible for this award the business must have been trading for a continuous period of less than two years, not bankrupt or trading insolvent at the time of entry, must not have been purchased or acquired and not be a part of a franchise.
- 7.1.5. Excellence in Innovation: to be eligible for this award the business must have been trading for a period of two years or more, and not be bankrupt or trading insolvent at the time of entry.
- 7.1.6. Outstanding Employer of Choice: to be eligible for this award the business must have been trading for a period of two years or more, and not be bankrupt or trading insolvent at the time of entry.
- 7.1.7. Excellence in Workplace Inclusion: to be eligible for this award the business must have been trading for a period of two years or more, and not be bankrupt or trading insolvent at the time of entry.
- 7.1.8. Outstanding Young Employee (aged between 18-35 years at time of entry). To be eligible for this award the individual must have been employed by their current employer for a minimum of 18 months at the time of entry, and not be a NSW Business Chamber Staff Member, Regional Advisory Councillor, State Councillor or Board Member (not Awarded at State, ONLY awarded at a Regional level).
- 7.1.9. Outstanding Young Entrepreneur (aged between 18-35 years at time of entry). To be eligible for this award the individual must be a current owner or part owner of a business for at least 24 months on/prior at the time of entry, and not be a NSW Business Chamber Staff Member, Regional Advisory Councillor, State Councillor or Board Member.
- 7.1.10. Outstanding Business Leader (aged 36 years and over at the time of entry). To be eligible for this award the individual must not be a NSW Business Chamber Staff Member, Regional Advisory Councillor, State Councillor or Board Member.
Outstanding Business Leader (aged 36 years and over at the time of entry)
- 7.2. Excluding NSW Business Chamber members, Tamworth Business Chamber members and Tamworth businesses can only enter the above aligned categories via the Tamworth Business Chamber 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. Being 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 Business Awards program terms and conditions.
 - 7.3.3. Winners' entries being submitted via the NSW Business Chamber Business Awards online entry system for the purpose of judging.

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8. Other

8.1. Additional Terms and Conditions apply to certain categories.