



2017 Business Awards

◆ LARGE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR (15+ Total Employees)

Large Business of the Year 15+ award is presented by Chamber Ambassadors at our Annual Meeting in February. To be eligible, business must be a current member of the Chamber with **15 or more total employees** (full and part-time). Nominees are reviewed by a committee of Ambassadors, based on the following criteria: Involvement with the Chamber, Community Service, Customer Service, Commitment to Employees, Business Improvement and Growth.

◆ SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR (<15 Total Employees)

Small Business of the Year <15 has the same criteria as above, however, this award is presented to a current member with **less than 15 total employees** (full and part-time). Nominees are reviewed by a committee of Ambassadors, based on the following criteria: Involvement with the Chamber, Community Service, Customer Service, Commitment to Employees, Business Improvement and Growth.

◆ PROJECT OF THE YEAR

We're looking for businesses that have made major, innovative improvements to their facility, including investments in equipment, signage and building structure. Consideration will be given as to how those improvements have improved the overall image of the business district. To be eligible, the business must be a Chamber member, and improvements must be completed by year end.

NOMINATION FORM (Check one or more)

Large Business of the Year
(15 or more total employees)

Small Business of the Year
(under 15 total employees)

Project of the Year

General Qualifications

- All nominated businesses must be members of the Austin Area Chamber of Commerce (most display membership decal on their door; or call Chamber office at 437-4561).
- Nominations of your own business are welcome.
- Completed nomination forms are due to the Chamber office by **December 15, 2017**.

Name of Business: _____

Owner/Manager _____ Total number of employees (FT&PT) _____

Nominated by _____ Why have you nominated this business? _____

The nominee will be contacted to obtain background information for evaluation by the Business of the Year committee. All nominees will be recognized in the media and at the Chamber's annual winter meeting February 22, 2018.

Send completed nomination form to:

Business of the Year Award, Austin Area Chamber of Commerce, 329 North Main, Suite 102, Austin, MN 55912
Or fax to: 507-437-4869

TOP 10 REASONS TO NOMINATE YOURSELF

(OR A FRIEND OR CLIENT)

FOR BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

10. **Bragging Rights!**
You can tell everyone about your award. Put it on a banner, in your brochures, on your letterhead!
You can even tattoo it on your arm if you wish!
9. **Win Points!**
Your friends and business clients will be delighted when they learn you think so highly of them.
8. **It's Free!**
The nomination form requires no money, and the panel of judges cannot be bribed.
7. **Prestige!**
Imagine telling your mother that your company has named you Business of the Year! (Call her)
6. **Honor!**
5. **Publicity!**
Your name will be splashed all over "Outlook" and the local media.
4. **Reward Good!**
Why not recognize a business that strives to go that extra mile?
3. **It Takes 5 Minutes!**
The nomination form is brief, simple - a piece of cake. It's on the reverse side of this page-do it now!
2. **Support Austin Business!**
Austin Businesses are a vital part of the community. Show your support by participating in the Chamber's efforts to bring recognition to the fine businesses in Austin.
1. **If You're Not Nominated, You Can't Win - and Someone Has to Win!**
It could be you (or your client or your friend)!