

Frequent Questions

How do I know if I am eligible to enter?

The awards are open to all businesses in the Parkes Shire. There are no restrictions.

Why should I enter the Awards?

Research shows the two main reasons for entering the awards are that it provides a business opportunity and a personal challenge. Other reasons to enter;

- Opportunity to benchmark your business against other businesses within the same industry.
- The awards can be used as a formal business planning process, allowing review for what you do best and what needs attention.
- A chance for industry and peer recognition of the business.
- Reward your staff for all their efforts.
- Becoming a finalist or winner can increase staff morale and development.
- Credibility amongst customers and the general community from being a finalist or winner of an award program.
- The awards provide exposure for the business including media.

How do I enter the Awards?

An online nomination may be completed by following the links on the Chamber website; www.parkeschamber.com.au/awards

Simply complete the nomination process and ensure you address the Awards Criteria in your entry.

Is there a limit in answering the Awards Criteria?

No. The aim of the nomination is to provide judges with an understanding of your business that best reflects your passion and dedication. Responses do not need to be lengthy but should be clear and precise and should include supporting material. The numbers noted in the criteria are a guideline for the length of your answer

Can I get assistance in completing the Awards Criteria?

Yes. A Nomination Information Workshop will be held on THURSDAY 27 AUGUST 2015, 6 – 8pm at the PARKES SERVICES AND CITIZENS CLUB.

Can I email my nomination?

No. Nominations will not be accepted by email. Entries will only be accepted via the online nomination process.

What is the closing date for nominations?

All nominations close on FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2015.

What happens after I enter?

All nominations are judged independently by three (3) judges who come from outside the area and must declare any conflict of interest. The judges are representative of various business industries, disciplines and background who have experience on understanding business. All judges are carefully selected and co-ordinated to ensure that the judging process is fair, objective and free of bias or influence.

Stage One – Initial Assessment

Nominations are judged individually – scores are then collated and averaged and weightings are applied to achieve a score.

Note: All nominations are judged within their nominated category.

Stage Two - Finalists

Judges at this stage once again assess the nomination against all the criteria. Finalists are selected and personal contact with the business is arranged by the judges and a final score is given to each of the finalists in each category.

How do I know if I have been selected as a finalist?

All Finalists will receive notification after the judging process has been completed. All finalists will be published on the awards website.

What do I receive if I become a award winner?

At the presentation evening winners will be presented with a Trophy and a winner's portfolio for their achievement.

In addition, members of the Parkes Chamber of Commerce are an automatic finalist in the NSW Business Chamber regional awards. Winners will receive recognition as being one of Parkes' best businesses and will be highlighted through targeted press releases to the media and on the website.

What are the businesses judged on?

Judging is based on the Awards Criteria answers, supporting documentation and the overall presentation of the nomination.

How do I buy tickets for the presentation evening?

Tickets can be purchased following the links on the Parkes Chamber website www.parkeschamber.com.au/awards or contacting the Parkes Services & Citizens Club (02) 6862 1966.

Who should I bring to the presentation evening?

- Bring staff members and use the evening as a thank you and celebration.
- Bring suppliers because, like your staff, you need them to operate.
- Bring your family, as they are your support through the good times and bad.