



Westpac Southland Business Excellence Awards



Recognising business excellence in Southland



FAQ's for the 2017 Awards

When are entries due?

Nominations and entries for 2017 open on Thursday 1st June. Entries close at 4.00pm on Friday 28th July.

Who is eligible to enter?

Any sole proprietor, partnership, incorporated society, limited liability company, educational institution, local or central government organisation, charitable or not for profit organisation, with its principal place of business based and trading in or out of the Southland region within the geographical boundaries administered by the Chamber of Commerce Southland is eligible to enter the awards.

Franchise business are eligible to enter provided that they can demonstrate that they are Southland owned and operated and not a branch or subsidiary of a non-Southland business.

Does our enterprise have to be nominated to enter?

No, businesses and charities can enter themselves.

What happens if we want to nominate another business or charity?

To nominate another business or charity, please contact us directly on 03 218 7188 or janine@commercesouth.com we will make contact with them to inform them they have been nominated, and advised them of the application process. Nominations are confidential, but you are welcome to let the enterprise know you have made the nomination and encourage them to enter.

How many categories can we enter?

In 2017 there are 6 general categories, and 3 specialty categories (Market South Innovation Award, ACC Workplace Safety Award and the Healthy Families Invercargill Workplace Wellbeing Award). You can enter as many categories as you like. There is also the Southern Institute of Technology Business Personality Award which is by nomination.

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY



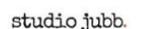
PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



CATEGORY SPONSORS



PRODUCT SPONSORS



How do we choose which category to enter?

Many businesses will be eligible for multiple categories. You should choose the categories that most suit the sector you represent and the emphasis you wish to highlight in your entry.

Crowe Horwath Primary & Primary Services Sector Award

Recognising any enterprise in the primary and primary service sector that provides outstanding products or services.

Invercargill City Council Construction, Trades, Manufacturing & Distribution Sector Award

Recognising any enterprise in the construction, trades, manufacturing & distribution sector that provides outstanding products or services.

PowerNet New and Emerging Award

For private sector enterprises that have been in operation for less than two years as at 31 March 2017 and have demonstrated business excellence.

The Southland Times Consumer Service Sector Award

Recognising any enterprises in the hospitality, tourism or retail sector that provides outstanding products or services.

Invercargill Licensing Trust Not for Profit Award

Recognising excellence in performance by a Southland not-for-profit organisation.

Southland Chamber of Commerce Professional Service Sector Award

Recognising any enterprise in the professional service sector that provides outstanding products or services.

Market South Innovation Award

Recognising innovative enterprises that have invested in developing innovative thinking, products, services, initiatives, processes, or a business model that have been integral to their success.

ACC Workplace Safety Award

For all enterprises that demonstrate excellent safety in the workplace.

Healthy Families Workplace Wellbeing Award

Recognising enterprises that have created successful initiatives designed to embed a culture of wellness in their organisations

Southern Institute of Technology Business Personality Award

Your chance to recognise an outstanding individual who has gone the extra mile.

How do we submit an entry?

Please ensure your entry is submitted via one of our official entry forms online at southlandbusinessawards.co.nz (live from 1st June). Entries in other formats and website links will not be accepted. Please adhere to the word limits provided.

Can we submit supplementary information?

Yes. You may include upload testimonials/awards/accreditations/certifications, compliance documentation, marketing materials such as brochures, photographs, video clips, product samples and publicity material.

How much does it cost to enter?

There is no cost to enter the Westpac Southland Business Excellence Awards.

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY



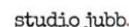
PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



CATEGORY SPONSORS



PRODUCT SPONSORS



How does the judging process work?

There are two rounds of judging – one to determine finalists from all entries, and one to determine winners from finalists. Judges make those decisions solely based on the entry forms submitted by the business. Judges vote by ranking their top 3 businesses in order. Categories winners will be eligible to win the Westpac Supreme Business Excellence Award.

When will we know if we're a finalist?

Finalists will be notified on Wednesday 23rd August 2017.

What are our obligations as a finalist?

Finalists are expected to purchase tickets to the awards dinner and will be required to make themselves and their workplaces available for filming promotional material from 24th August – 8th September.

What do we get if we win?

Whether you are a winner or not, all businesses and charities that are chosen as finalists receive the benefits of media coverage and profile in The Southland Times. There is a prize package for the Westpac Supreme Business Excellence Award Winner.

When is the Awards Dinner?

The dinner will be held on Friday 29th September 2017 at Ascot Park Hotel Invercargill.

How do I purchase tickets to the awards ceremony?

More information about the ticket prices will be also announced in July. Tickets will be available on our website in August.

What else do I need to know?

- Entrants may use consultants or other outside assistance to help them prepare their entries. However the providers of any such external assistance may not be present during any part of the judging process.
- All entries will be reviewed by the judging panel and entrants may receive site visits or a request for more information. If the judging of the semi-finalists is a tie breaker the semi-finalists maybe requested by the chief judge to supply a copy of their last two year's financial accounts to assist in the judging process. It is a condition of entry to meet this request. (Please note that it is only the chief judge who will review these financial accounts.)
- All entries are treated in confidence. Judges are required to sign a confidentiality agreement that prevents them from sharing any information in relation to entrants.
- The judging will be undertaken by a panel of judges appointed by the Chamber of Commerce Southland. Judges will not judge any organisations where a conflict of interest arises. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Chamber Board members will not be involved in the judging process, nor in deciding on the winning businesses. Accordingly, Chamber of Commerce Board member businesses are eligible for entry.

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY



PRINCIPAL SPONSOR



CATEGORY SPONSORS



PRODUCT SPONSORS

