

Do you own...or know someone who owns...an excellent family business?

The **Excellence in Family Business Awards Program**, presented yearly by Oregon State University's Austin Family Business Program, was founded in 1988 to applaud the accomplishments and contributions of family businesses for their innovation, entrepreneurship, commitment, and heart.

Families own and operate approximately ninety percent of all businesses in the U.S. They've been the soul of the nation's economy for generations, providing jobs for more than half of the workforce.

You can help celebrate the importance of family-owned businesses by nominating an exceptional family business—or two or three!

Eligibility

Any family business is eligible regardless of size or longevity. A family business is broadly defined as having multiple family members or generations involved in the strategic direction, management, and/or working in the company with the intention for the business to remain in the family.

Nominations

Nominations can come from business associates, trade and community organizations, friends, and employees. Submit nominations by fax, at the Website — www.family-businessonline.org — or by mailing the attached postage-paid card. All nominees will receive an invitation to apply. **Deadline for nominations is April 15.**

Categories

One category winner and two finalists will be selected in the following divisions: Micro (9 or fewer employees); Small (10 to 24 employees); Medium (25 to 99 employees); Large (100 or more employees).

To apply

Any family business may apply directly online or contact the Austin Family Business Program for a paper application. **Deadline for applications is May 1.**

Selection process

Applications will be rated by a panel of judges as well as an automated scoring process. The three highest scoring applicants will be **required** to make a presentation to the judges in June in Portland (date and location to be announced).

Recognition

Winners and finalists will be acknowledged in media venues and at an evening awards celebration in November at the Oregon Zoo. Category winners must be willing to participate in a two-hour interview, photo, and video session. All family business entrants will receive scoring feedback on their application.

Presentation of Awards

November 20
The Oregon Zoo
Portland, Oregon

