



2026 Business Excellence Awards Nomination FAQs

Q: Can I nominate myself?

A: **Yes!** Self-nominations will be accepted and are encouraged!

Q: Do I have to work for the business that I nominate?

A: **No.** Nominations will be accepted in the form of nominations from the business owner, chief officer, employees of the business and/or community members. Please try to submit as much known business information as possible to increase odds of being selected.

Q: When is the deadline to enter? Is there a submission fee?

A: All completed nominations must be submitted by **11:59pm on June 5, 2026**. Entries will not be considered after this time unless the deadline is extended. **There is no submission fee.**

Q: Can a business be nominated for a 2026 award if they were nominated in previous years?

A: **Yes!** Previously nominated businesses can be nominated again. Any business that won an award must wait 5 years to submit for the same category and wait 3 years to submit for a different category.

Q: How do I submit my entry?

A: The nomination form can be found on the [2026 Business Excellence Awards page](#). Scroll down to the nomination section, then click the 'Submit Nomination Here' button to complete the entry form. Please note, we will be accepting nominations in an open category format this year so there is only one entry form for all submissions.

Q: Will I receive confirmation of my entry?

A: Correspondence with entry may not be sent. Please be sure to submit a completed entry form.

Q: When will the winners be announced?

A: Winners will be notified and announced by **July/August, 2026**. Additional media coverage will be announced on Think Dutchess' Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn accounts.

Q: I would like my business to sponsor an award or the event. Where can I find sponsorship details?

A: Sponsorship information can be found at thinkdutchess.com/sponsorship-opportunities.

For additional questions regarding nominations or sponsorship, you may contact:

Amanda Gomes - Marketing and Development Manager | 845.463.5400 | amanda@thinkdutchess.com

Resources: [Think Dutchess](#) | [2026 Business Excellence Awards Details & Nomination Form](#) | [Sponsorship](#)