

THE BUSINESS JOURNAL



FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS AWARDS

2026

Application deadline is May 1

Eligibility Requirements

- **Headquarters:** Companies must be based in the Central Valley, specifically in Fresno, Kings, Madera, or Tulare counties.
- **Family-Owned:** Businesses must be multi-generational, family-owned, and operated (two generations or more).
- **Submission Details:** Applicants are required to provide detailed and tangible accounts of their company's strategy, vision, growth, and the lasting legacy of their family business.

Application Instructions: While completing this application, please provide detailed and specific answers to every question. The more information you include, the better we can evaluate your submission. Important: Do not skip any questions. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applicant Contact Information

Your Email:

Your Name:

Senior Executive Name:

Company Name:

Job Title:

Company Address:

Phone Number:

Website URL:

Please provide additional contact information for senior executives. (e.g. assistant name and email)

Company Information

What year was your business established?

Number of employees:

Please provide your company mission statement:

What year did your family assume ownership (if acquired at some point):

Industry:

How many family members currently work at the company?

Provide a brief description of your products and services.

How many generations of family members have worked at the company, including the current generation?:

Generation that currently runs the business (Give Names) :

Please provide the names of all the family members employed at your company:

List the locations (cities) where business currently has operations:

Provide a brief history of the business:

How does this company contribute to the community?

How has the company displayed growth?

Has your family discussed succession planning for the next generation of leadership in the business?

Have you spoken (or would you speak) to a professional consultant about succession planning?

If you have a succession plan, what does it look like?

How do you prepare the newest generation of family members for leadership in the business?

Please give an example of the company's ability to overcome adversity. How has the company leadership shown resilience and seized opportunities even while remaining under family ownership?

Please describe your approach to building your company's legacy. How do you want people to describe you to others? Do you have any processes for communicating company values to current and future generations? Are there specific things you do (including charitable work) that help to build the company's standing in the community?

What other information would you like the judges to have that we did not ask?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR EDITORIAL USE

What will success look like for you in the next 5 years?

Does this business qualify as a minority-owned business?

What state or federal resources/agencies have you found most useful or helpful?

What keeps you awake at night?

As you look ahead next year, what is your most critical focus area and explain why?

What's the best decision you or a family member has made that has helped the company be more successful?

Knowing what you know now, what advice would you give to your younger self entering this business?

What's the biggest challenge you're facing as a Central Valley small business (not necessarily an issue tied to being a family-owned business)?

AWARDS

Has your organization won any local, state, or national awards? If yes, please elaborate.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Does your organization give back to the community? If yes, please elaborate.

Volunteer board service? If yes, please elaborate.

As part of our FOBA event, we would love to include family business photos that showcase the legacy, milestones, and memories of our honorees and their companies. If you have any photos you'd like to share, please attach them to this application and email ashley@thebusinessjournal.com