

California Chamber of Commerce
Chamber of the Year Award Terms & Conditions

1. Overview

The California Chamber of Commerce (“CalChamber”) has created a Chamber of the Year Award (“Award”). Details can be found [here](#). The Award honors Chambers of Commerce that demonstrate outstanding leadership in community engagement, economic development, and advocacy in a calendar year.

2. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Award, each nominated chamber of commerce (“Chamber”) must meet the following requirements:

- 2.1 Chamber must be a chamber within the State of California.
- 2.2 Chamber must not have received the same award within the past two (2) years from CalChamber.
- 2.3 Chamber must be an active member with CalChamber who can exemplify that they carry out CalChamber’s same values and mission.
- 2.4 Chamber must demonstrate the following:
 - 2.4.1 Financial Stability – sound financial management and fiscal responsibility.
 - 2.4.2 Community Impact – a proven track record of successful programs or initiatives benefiting the local business community.
 - 2.4.3 Economic Development Contributions – actively supports business growth, workforce development, and economic prosperity in the region.
 - 2.4.4 Advocacy Efforts – engages in advocacy initiatives that positively influence business policies and regulations.
 - 2.4.5 Innovation & Best Practices – implements innovative strategies, partnerships, or services that enhance business success.
- 2.5 Chamber must not serve on the CalChamber Board of Directors or any of its sub-committees. Additionally, none of the Chamber’s officers can be an officer or employee of CalChamber.
- 2.6 The Chamber’s representative must be available to attend the California Business Outlook Dinner (“Dinner”) in person in Sacramento on June 4, 2025. See [here](#) for more details.

3. Application Process

- 3.1 All applications must be submitted via the official Chamber of the Year Nomination/Application Form located [here](#).
- 3.2 Applicants can either be a community member nominating the Chamber or the Chamber itself applying for the Award (collectively referred to herein as “Applicant”).
- 3.3 Applicant must provide accurate and complete information as required in the application form. Failure to provide all requested information including any supporting documentation that supports eligibility will be cause for disqualification.

- 3.4 Applications must include 1-3 testimonials from business or community leaders to support the Chamber's nomination. See sections 7 and 8 below for further details on testimonials.
- 3.5 Any false, misleading, or incomplete information may result in immediate disqualification.
- 3.6 Additional documentation may be requested to verify eligibility and compliance with the Award criteria.

4. Award Selection Process

- 4.1 Award applications must be submitted no later than **April 4, 2025**.
- 4.2 A selection panel comprised of CalChamber employees will evaluate applications based on the above-identified eligibility criteria between **April 7 – April 10, 2025**.
- 4.3 Between **April 14 – April 28, 2025**, public voting will open on CalChamber's Award site [here](#). Applicants will also be provided with a shareable image that they can use to increase their Chamber's votes.
- 4.4 In combination of public voting and selection panel review as set forth in 4.2, a single winner will be chosen for the Award and will be notified by **May 5, 2025**.
- 4.5 If the Award Winner ("Recipient") declines acceptance of the Award for any reason, a new Recipient will be identified using the same criteria set forth in this section.
- 4.6 The Award Recipient will be announced on **June 4, 2025** at the California Business Outlook and Dinner.

6. Compliance and Obligations

- 6.1 Recipient must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, if any, when accepting Awards.
- 6.2 Recipient agrees to participate in promotional activities related to the Award, including but not limited to interviews, public relations efforts, and testimonial features.
- 6.3 Failure to comply with these terms may result in revocation or return of the Award.
- 6.4 Applicants and Recipient agree to notify the Award Administrator (see below for contact information) of any material changes that may affect their status of eligibility.

7. Release of Liability

By applying for and accepting the Award, Applicants and Recipient agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless CalChamber, their officers, directors, employees, partners, and agents from any and all liability, loss, damages, costs, or expenses that may arise in connection with this Award program, including use of Applicant's provided testimonials.

8. Additional Terms

- 8.1 CalChamber reserves the right to modify or terminate the Award program at any time.
- 8.2 There is no guarantee that your Chamber will win by submitting the application and requisite information.
- 8.3 The selection panel's decisions are final and are not subject to appeal.

- 8.4 CalChamber does not discriminate based on race, gender, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, or any other protected characteristic in the Award selection process.
- 8.5 All testimonials provided must include permission for CalChamber to be able to use the testimonial, including the name, title and organization that provided the testimonial, for marketing and promotional purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, use at the Dinner, on CalChamber's website, social media channels, and marketing materials. All testimonials provided may be edited for length or clarity but will not be altered to change its substantive meaning. By providing any supporting testimonials, Applicant understands and will ensure those providing the testimonials understand the terms of this provision, that testimonials may be publicly available, and no compensation will be given for its use. In no event shall CalChamber be liable for Applicant's submission of a testimonial as part of the Award submission.

9. Privacy and Confidentiality

- 9.1 Information submitted in applications will be used solely for the purpose of evaluating eligibility and administering the Award program.
- 9.2 Confidential business information will not be shared with third parties without the Applicant's consent, except as required by law.
- 9.3 By applying, Applicants consent to the use of their business name and non-sensitive information for promotional purposes.

10. Acceptance of Terms

By submitting an application, Applicant agrees to be bound by these Terms and Conditions. Failure to adhere to these Terms and Conditions may result in disqualification from the Award program.

For any questions regarding the grant program, please contact the Award Administrator at:
jennifer.johnson@calchamber.com.