



# ANCHOR AWARDS

## 9th Annual ANCHOR Awards Application

A Program of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce's  
Small Business Issue Manager Group

**Breakfast:** Wednesday, August 9, 2017 | 7:30 a.m.

Pelican Landing Conference Center, Moss Point

**Electronic Application Deadline:** June 23, 2017

**Sponsorship Deadline:** July 7, 2017



# 9th Annual ANCHOR Awards Application



The ANCHOR Awards was created to honor, reward and celebrate the achievements of outstanding small businesses and non-profit organizations in the community. The Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber’s Small Business Issue Manager Group recognize that small businesses and non-profit organizations are the “anchors” that make the community successful.

You will be recognized through press releases. Nominees will be showcased at the ANCHOR Awards event with a “Certificate of Excellence” and the chance to receive one of four ANCHOR Awards. Recipients of an ANCHOR Award will be showcased on the Chamber website, social media outlets and various media outlets.

Please note that you must choose ONE category for nomination:  
(All applicants must have been in business a year prior to the date of the awards ceremony.)

## **Rookie Business of the Year Award**

*Company has been in business more than one year but less than three years (with under 200 employees).*

## **Small Business of the Year Award Category 1**

*Company has 50 or fewer employees*

## **Small Business of the Year Award Category 2**

*Company has 51 to 200 employees*

## **Non-Profit Organization**

*An entity with IRS Section ‘501(c)(3)’ status*

## **Application Checklist**

- Application answers must be numbered and typed on a separate document and submitted electronically to CEO@jcchamber.com. All documents must be compiled into one PDF or Word document. This includes any images that nominees would like to include as support for their application.
- Application must be for a company/non-profit organization (not an individual).
- Applicant must have a commitment to sound and ethical business practices and promote a responsible and rewarding workplace environment.
- Nominees must have community involvement through volunteerism and/or contributions of time, services and other means of support.
- Nominees must be a current member in good standing of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. There must be no outstanding balance.
- Applications for nominees are confidential.
- Nominees must have a representative at the event. One complimentary ticket is provided.

## **Presentation Checklist**

- \*Three to five photos (.jpg or .png) must be submitted (**separately**) electronically to newsletter@jcchamber.com. These photos will be used for the PowerPoint presentation during the event. Please include the business/organization name and award category in the subject line of this e-mail. Additional photos included in the PDF or Word document application will only be considered if included with the application to CEO@jcchamber.com.
- The answer to question 1.E will be read during the awards program to the audience.

# Application Questions

Answer the following questions (numbered) in a single PDF or Word document. Images are optional and will only be considered as part of the application when submitted with the application.

## 1. Business/Non-Profit Information (Limit: 300 to 500 Words)

- a. Business/Non-Profit Name (to appear on certificates and in publications)
- b. Primary Point of Contact, Title and Contact Information (Phone, Email, Website)
- c. Business/Non-Profit Mailing Address/Physical Address/Other Locations (if applicable)
- d. Business/Non-Profit Establishment Date (Year)
- e. Executive Summary of your business/non-profit (three to five sentences; to be read during event)
- f. Award Category (Choose ONE); See Page 1.

## 2. Vision and Keys to Success (Limit: 300 to 500 Words)

- a. Brief history of your business/organization
- b. Vision, mission and the product and/or services provided
- c. Strategies in place to be successful
- d. Practices in place to effectively communicate the business's message internally and externally

## 3. Impact and Involvement (Limit: 300 to 500 Words)

- a. Ways in which the business is involved in community service
- b. Business's engagement in the Chamber and any additional comments about Chamber membership

## 4. Human Resources (Limit: 300 to 500 words)

- a. Number of full-time employees and part-time employees including all branches and the corporate offices employed locally
- b. Ways the business mentors leaders and motivates employees within your organization. Comment on any unique internal employee benefits. Discuss plans for maintaining and improving the skill level of your employees.

## 5. ANCHOR Award (Limit: 150 to 300 words)

- a. Reason(s) for applying and any other noteworthy information to be considered with your application not already addressed.

Please review the Application Checklist on Page 1, prior to submission, and the Presentation Checklist, prior to the awards ceremony on August 9<sup>th</sup>.

Submit answers in a single PDF or Word document (with any images to include with your application) to CEO@jcchamber.com by **Friday, June 23, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.** If you do not receive a confirmation of receipt of the application within a week of submission, please contact the Chamber.

Images for the PowerPoint presentation during the awards ceremony must be marked in a separate email to Newsletter@jcchamber.com.\*

## Business Resources

There are many resources available throughout the year to help you with your business/organization. Please feel free to contact these if you would like their assistance in completing this application:

- **SCORE for the Life of Your Business**  
philos@cableone.net
- **South Mississippi Contract Procurement Center, Inc.**  
228.396.1288, Ext. 102 | smcpdirector@gmail.com
- **U.S. Small Business Administration**  
228.863.4449, Ext. 225 | Bridget.Johnson@SBA.com
- **Jackson County Small Business Incubator, Inc.**  
228.475.3341 | smallbusinessincubator@gmail.com
- **The Innovation Center**  
228.392.9741 | contact@innovatems.com
- **Small Business Development Center (SBDC)**  
228.396.8661 | gcsbdc@olemiss.edu
- **Mississippi Power Company: Commercial Development**  
228.435.6051 | pjwylie@southernco.com
- **Mississippi Enterprise for Technology (MSET)**  
228.688.1192 | lajconsulting@bellsouth.net
- **Jackson County Chamber of Commerce | Linda Johnson**  
228.762.3391 | JohnsonL@jcchamber.com www.jcchamber.com

A complete list of business resources can be obtained by contacting the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

## Ticket Information

Nominees will receive one complimentary ticket. Additional tickets can be purchased for \$30 (or a reserved table of eight for \$300).

## Other Opportunities for Small Businesses:

Contact the Chamber about Small Business Summer (including the Summer Learning Series and Small Business Grants)!

## Sponsorship Information

If you are interested in supporting this program through a sponsorship, please contact the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. Gold (\$700) and Silver (\$300) Sponsorship Levels are available. The sponsorship deadline is Friday, July 7, 2017. Contact Linda Johnson at JohnsonL@jcchamber.com or 228-762-3391 for more information.

*Find more information on past recipients and sponsors online at [www.jcchamber.com](http://www.jcchamber.com)!*