



## **2017 New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce APEX Business Awards**

We invite you to participate in the annual selection process to name the Greater New Bedford Area's "APEX Business Awards". The New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce recognizes the achievements and contributions businesses make to the creation of job opportunities and the economic development of the region. In April, we will turn a special spotlight on local organizations and their valuable contributions to our community at the APEX Business Awards Ceremony. Please take a few moments to complete this nomination form to recognize a business in the region.

### **APEX AWARDS Selection Process**

1. Nomination Application (**Due by Wednesday, Feb 15<sup>nd</sup> 2017**)
2. Finalist Selected and Notified
3. Finalist Interviewed by Selection Committee
4. APEX Awards recipients announced at Luncheon Award Ceremony

### **The company should be located in one of the following SouthCoast Communities:**

Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, Wareham, or Westport.

### **Nomination is the first step in the selection process for the covenant APEX Business Awards**

- You may nominate your own business
- Nominees need not be Chamber members, however must become members in good standing in order to be considered as a finalist
- There is no cost to apply or nominate a company

### **Nominees must fall under one of the following categories and have been in business for more than three consecutive years under the current ownership.**

- Large Business - employing 50 or more full-time employees
- Small Business - employing 49 or fewer full-time employees (two part-time employees' equal one full-time employee)
- Nonprofit Organization (501.c.3) and/or an Educational Institutions

## **Selection Nomination Criteria**

Each criteria in the selection process has been assigned a point value. The categories and values are as follows:

1. Demonstrates creativity and imagination in the development of its business or in its product or service **35 points**
2. Demonstrates growth in employee and client base and profitability **35 points**
3. Reflects internal and external social responsibility which includes **30 points**  
one or more of the following:
  - Strong, comprehensive employee relations programs (10 points);
  - Efforts by the company and staff to aid or benefit the community through personal involvement and/or donation of other company resources (10 points);
  - Efforts to encourage diversity in its workforce and management (10 points);

**The selection committee will carefully review all nomination forms and select finalist from each category (Large Business, Small Business and Nonprofit/Educational Intuition). Each finalist will then be notified and interviewed by the Selection Committee.**

**If you would like to recognize a local business for their achievements, please complete and mail, fax, or e-mail the Apex Business of the Year Nomination Form to**

New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce  
c/o Deven Q. Tillman, Programs & Events Manager  
794 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA 02740  
Phone (508) 999-5231 x. 26  
Fax (508) 999-5237  
Email: [dtillman@newbedfordchamber.com](mailto:dtillman@newbedfordchamber.com)

**Recipients will be announced at the APEX Awards Luncheon scheduled for April 2017.**

**All nominees and finalist will receive recognition at this event.**

**APEX BUSINESS OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM**

*All nominees are due by February 15th 2017 and will be held in strict confidence.*

**Please include a brief summary (at the bottom of this form) or attach a separate sheet describing why you chose to nominate this company.**

*Please note: Incomplete nomination forms and previous recipients will not be considered.*

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Application Category:     Small Business     Nonprofit/Educational Institution  
                                      Large Business

Has the Business been under the same ownership for the past three years?     Yes     No

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide a brief description of why you chose to nominate this Business:**

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**Mail, fax, or email information on your nomination to:**

New Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce  
c/o Deven Q. Tillman, Programs & Events Manager  
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Phone (508) 999-5231 x. 26  
Fax (508) 999-5237  
Email: [dtillman@newbedfordchamber.com](mailto:dtillman@newbedfordchamber.com)

**Winners will be announced in at the APEX Awards Luncheon scheduled for April 2017.  
All nominees and honorees will receive recognition at this event.**