



## Non-Profit of the Year

This award celebrates the valuable contributions non-profit organizations make to the community of Aurora.

### Criteria

- Outstanding leadership in economic, social, charitable, or environmental activities
- Promotes volunteerism
- Positive contribution to society
- Must be in operation for **at least 2 years**

## New Business

This award recognizes a new business that has exhibited hard work, entrepreneurial initiative and success.

### Criteria

- Excellence in customer service
- Entrepreneurial initiative/spirit
- Unique selling proposition (product or service)
- Long range vision
- Must be in operation for **at least 1 year (no longer than 3) with recognized growth**

## Young Entrepreneur

This is special recognition of a young person under 40 who has demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit and has started his or her own business in Aurora.

### Criteria

- Entrepreneurial initiative/spirit
- Innovation
- Vision
- Leadership
- Customer service
- Demonstrated commitment to community
- Product, service or technological changes
- Must be in Operation for **at least 2 years**

## Community Involvement

This award recognizes a business or employee that shows a strong commitment to “giving back” through participation in numerous business and community organizations and/or charitable events.

### Criteria

- Demonstrated engagement in the community
- Promotes volunteerism, including fundraising, awareness
- **Excludes Non-Profit organizations**

## Innovators Award

This award recognizes a business that demonstrates innovation and creativity within their industry.

### Criteria

- Openness to embracing change
- Creating or developing new products or services in response to emerging technologies/markets
- Must be in business for **at least 2 years**

## Small Business Award

Recognizes outstanding achievement in some or all of the following: Research and Development, Company Growth, Products & Services, Market Development, Sales & Marketing, Community service.

### Criteria

- 1-25 full/part-time employees
- Includes Sole Entrepreneur
- Must be in business for **at least 2 years**

## Large Business Award

Recognizes outstanding achievement in some or all of the following: Research and Development, Company Growth, Products & Services, Market Development, Sales & Marketing, Community service.

### Criteria

- 26+ full/part-time employees
- Must be in business for **at least 2 years**

