

2024 HUME CITY BUSINESS AWARDS

Program overview

The Hume Business Awards acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of Hume businesses and the contribution they have made to the Hume economy and the wider community. Hume City's businesses support the economic prosperity of the region by providing employment opportunities and delivering exceptional products and services.

The awards provide local businesses to be recognised by industry and the wider community.

Before you begin

Regularly save your application by clicking the '**Save Progress**' button which appears at the top of your screen.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Eligibility checklist

To be eligible to enter the 2024 Hume Business Awards, the business must:

- be a registered business located within Hume City
- be the holder of a registered ABN
- hold all appropriate permits and licenses; this will include but is not limited to building, planning and health permits
- not be in breach of any state/territory or local government law or regulation

The 2024 Hume Business Awards will not be eligible to businesses that:

- are a chain store, franchisor or franchisee
- are charities and have a primary focus of fundraising
- own or operate electronic gaming machines (EGM) or receive funding or in-kind support from EMG venues.

Criteria

* indicates a required field

CATEGORY ELIGIBILITY

The information below provides a brief outline of each category's eligibility criteria.

Circular Economy

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Recognises businesses across all sectors who are leaders in circular economy practices. The circular economy aims to improve business efficiency, minimise waste and keep materials and products in circulation for as long as possible.

Demonstrated success:

- Business actively identifies ways to minimise the environmental footprint of their business operation, supply chain and waste production
- Using sustainable practices in the use of resources, such as people, energy and water
- Pursuing opportunities to “close the loop” on material and/or energy cycles - recycle (repurpose), reuse and redesign

Customer Service

Recognises the importance of customer service in all industries. Awarded to the business that has proven to provide consistent exceptional service and professionalism.

Demonstrated success:

- Quality control processes
- Focus on customer service measures, monitors and manages customer expectations, satisfaction and retention.

Diversity

Recognises businesses who work to achieve a more inclusive environment for staff and customers. It is open to businesses across all sectors who have taken action to reduce barriers, enhance participation and ensure information, services and facilities are accessible to the broad spectrum of people in our community.

Demonstrated success in empowering:

- Women
- CALD community members
- People with a disability
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members
- LGBTIQ+ people

within their workplace through incentives and hiring practices which encourage hiring and retaining people from these backgrounds/communities.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Recognises significant innovation initiatives which have been implemented.

Demonstrated success:

- Excelled in implementing new processes or improving on old ones
- Creating a new market or new products; and/or demonstrating an innovative approach to developing or marketing their business
- Commitment to investment in research and development
- Business leadership in its field
- Uses technology to their advantage in achieving success or has adopted innovative methods or systems in their business, which has provided a competitive advantage through their application

Learning and Development

Recognises businesses that excel in education and workplace training. It's a vital part of any business to invest effectively in the development of their workforce.

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Demonstrated success:

- Approach to training and staff development and education and workplace learning
- Outstanding people management initiatives that incorporate progressive leadership and a responsible approach to organisational design and development
- Investing effectively in the development of staff across the entire organisation
- Systems in place to accelerate learning, Eg: in house training, staff rewards and recognition and programs undertaken with educational institutions
- Training and development opportunities for staff, Eg: on-the-job learning, in house training, eLearning and opportunities to increase qualifications for staff

Manufacturing

Demonstrated success:

- Export record
- Enabling technologies used
- Innovation in manufacturing
- Quality management
- Sustainable practices
- New processes, products, equipment or markets developed
- Produce and promote high quality product
- Develop and expand distribution channels

Professional Services

Awarded to a business that can demonstrate outstanding service in their profession. This category is open to businesses providing professional or commercial services to individuals or businesses including, but not limited to:

- Legal services
- Consultants
- Business and personal development services
- Architectural services
- Marketing/Advertising agencies

Retail

Recognises and rewards successful retail businesses that make a real impact in their community and stand out in their retail category. Demonstrated success:

- Build business and community relationships (including customers) to thrive among big players in a highly competitive environment
- Provide excellent and consistent customer service
- Leadership and adoption of the use of new and emerging marketing strategies i.e. social media, online sales
- Have implemented a multi-channel retail strategy to grow and develop the business

Small Business

Recognises and rewards small businesses that deliver across a range of criteria.

Demonstrated success:

- Creation of new job opportunities within Hume City
- Deliver excellent customer service

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- Have made significant contributions to their industry through the introduction or improvement of an idea, method, technology, process or application resulting in an economic, environmental, educational and/or social benefit

Startup

Recognises Startup businesses that deliver across a range of criteria. Demonstrated success:

- Must be operational for a minimum of 12 months and no longer than 3 years
- Employs less than 5 employees
- Intend to grow beyond the single owner
- Effectively developed and validated a sustainable business model
- High impact potential that uses innovation

Visitor Economy - Hospitality

Recognises Visitor Economy hospitality businesses that offer food and beverage services to the public including restaurants and cafes. Demonstrated success:

- Consistently delivers high quality food and beverage experiences, excellent customer service and maintains a consistent quality and standard in food service in an enjoyable, clean and comfortable atmosphere
- Innovative marketing strategies to reach existing markets and attract new customers
- Job creation and sustainability
- Sustainable food practices

Visitor Economy - Tourism

Recognises businesses that contribute to the Visitor Economy including growing product, visitation and yield for a sustainable tourism industry. Examples include attractions, accommodation providers, public events and festivals, venues, markets, and wineries. Demonstrated success:

- Significantly contribute to tourism products and experiences within the municipality
- Create substantial economic impact and jobs growth within Hume City
- Position Hume as an ideal visitor destination, driving visitation, spend and dispersal
- Leadership in marketing their product/service to intrastate, interstate and international visitors
- Creates innovative and unique visitor experiences with planning for future growth

Please select the category you wish to enter *

Circular Economy

Customer Service

Diversity

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Learning and Development

Manufacturing

Professional Services

Retail

Small Business

Startup

Visitor Economy - Hospitality

Visitor Economy - Tourism

Start Up

You may select up to two categories. Final categories will be at the discretion of the judging panel.

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Applicant details

* indicates a required field

Contact and business details

Business Name *

Organisation Name

Main contact *

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Contact position *

i.e. Owner, CEO, CFO etc.

Business address *

Address

Must be a Hume address

Business phone number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Mobile number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Contact email *

Must be an email address.

General business email (if applicable) *

Must be an email address.

i.e enquiries@aaabusiness.com.au

Website

Must be a URL.

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ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity name	
ABN status	
Entity type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	More information
ACNC Registration	
Tax Concessions	
Main business location	

Must be an ABN.

Are you, or a member of your immediate family, a staff member at Hume City Council? *

- Yes
 No

If you answered yes above, please provide the name of Hume City Council staff member *

Business Information

Date of Establishment / Incorporation *

Must be a date.

Industry Type (please tick one) *

Number of Employees

Full-time	Part-time	Casual / Contractors
Must be a number.	Must be a number.	Must be a number.

Application questions

* indicates a required field

Provide an overview of your business: what are the core business activities, products or main services that you provide to your customers? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Tell us of any achievements, awards or recognition that the business has received in the last three years. *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

What are the three key strengths of your business? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Explain how these key strengths set your business apart? *

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Privacy Statement and Declaration

* indicates a required field

Privacy Statement

Hume City Council is committed to protecting your privacy. The personal information requested on this form is being collected by Hume City Council for the purpose of assisting with the assessment of the Hume Business Awards and may be disclosed to the Assessment Panel members for the purpose of assessing your application.

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It will not be disclosed to any other external party without your consent, unless required or authorised by law. If the personal information is not collected, Council may have difficulties in contacting you in a timely manner in relation to your application.

The Business name of successful applicants will be made publicly available, including publication on Council's website and in council media releases.

If you wish to alter any of the personal information you have supplied to Hume City Council, please send an email to business@hume.vic.gov.au.

Declaration

In submitting this application, I confirm:

- the information contained in this application is to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate. I understand that providing false or misleading information is a serious offence.
- I am authorised by the Business named as Applicant to act on their behalf to submit this application.
- the person/s named as the Contact Person in this application has consented to be named as the contact for the Applicant and has the authority to provide any information that may be required by Council in relation to this application.
- I will acknowledge Council's support in any advertisements, flyers or other communication used to promote the Hume Business Awards.

Name of Authorised Person *

Position of Authorised Person *

Date *

Must be a date.

Please tell us how you heard about the Business Awards. *

- Hume City Council website
- Hume Economic Development eNewsletter
- Hume City Council LinkedIn
- Internet search
- Social media
- Word of mouth
- Other:

No more than 3 choices may be selected.