

**2009 SMALL BUSINESS WEEK AWARD
 NOMINATION COVER SHEET**

Help us recognize outstanding leaders in your small business community

Please Check One	Small Business Awards: <i>The following awards are presented to individuals who own and operate their own business. (Submission of financial information is required for these awards)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Business Person of the Year: The most prestigious of all SBA awards. This award will be presented to an entrepreneur who developed an outstanding, growing business, innovative product(s)/service, increased jobs, increased sales, overcame adversity, and contributed to his/her community.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Business Exporter of the Year: Awarded to a small business owner who has significantly increased export sales and profits, encouraged/mentored other firms to export, increased jobs through exporting, and implemented innovative methods for creating export markets.
<input type="checkbox"/>	SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year: Candidate must not have reached age 30 by June 1, 2009, to be eligible. Evidence of three (3) year success in sales, profits, increased jobs, innovative products/service, demonstrated entrepreneurial potential.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family-Owned Small Business of the Year: Family owned and operated business which has been passed from one generation to another. Nominees must also serve as a majority owner and operator or bear principal responsibility for operating a small business with at least a 15 year track record.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Entrepreneurial Success Award: A nominee for this award must own or operate a business that initially was defined as "small" under SBA size standards, developed into a large business and MUST have received SBA assistance.
	Champion/Advocate Awards: <i>The following awards are presented to individuals who promote small business, volunteer time and services to small business interest groups, advocate the cause of small business through legislation, or use their professional expertise to assist small business owners. Advocates may or may not be small business owners.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial Services Champion: Individuals assisting small business owners in obtaining financing, either directly or through advocacy efforts to increase the availability of accounting or financial services may be nominated.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Home-based Business Champion: Individuals who have experienced the rewards and difficulties of home-based business ownership and have dedicated volunteer efforts to improve the climate for these businesses may be nominated.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Minority Small Business Champion: Individuals advancing business ownership for minorities and fulfilling a commitment to supporting minority entrepreneurial development may be nominated.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Business Journalist Champion – Individuals representing television, radio, electronic or print media who report and champion small business issues may be nominated.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Veteran Small Business Champion: Individuals who have fulfilled a commitment to advancing small business opportunities for armed service veterans may be nominated.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Women in Business Champion – Individuals who have fulfilled a commitment to the advancement of women's business ownership may be nominated. Nominees may or may not be small business owners.
<input type="checkbox"/>	SBA Small Business Community of the Year – Communities that have implemented key programs/incentives to attract and retain small business, and who have leveraged economic development resources with other federal, state, county and local programs to benefit the local small business community, have specifically contributed to the success of a local small business may be nominated.

Nominee Information

Nominee Name:				Title:		
Company:						
Address:						
City:		State:		Zip:		
Phone:		Fax:		Email:		

Nominator Information

Nominator Name:				Title:		
Company:						
Address:						
City:		State:		Zip:		
Phone:		Fax:		Email:		

Please attach a nomination letter, brief biography, business profile, statement of qualities and performance, news articles and other supporting documentation, as outlined in the guidelines in support of your nominee. Return to the SBA Montana District Office, 10 W. 15th St., Suite 1100, Helena, MT 59626 by November 28, 2008. For more information, please call 406.441.1086 or email lorena.carlson@sba.gov.