



Jake Jabs College of Business & Entrepreneurship State Farm Insurance Family Business Program

Family Business Program

Established in 1994 as an outreach program through Montana State University Jake Jabs College of Business & Entrepreneurship (JJCBE), the Family Business Program offers education and information to the backbone of many Montana businesses, those owned and managed by families across the state.

The annual Family Business Day consists of an awards luncheon and keynote speaker, usually held in the fall. At this event, outstanding family businesses are honored based on contributions to their communities and industry, innovative business strategies and practices as well as other factors.

Nominate a Business

Is there a business in your community who you think is deserving of a Family Business award?

Now is the time for you to think about businesses in your community and help us identify family-owned businesses that should be considered to win the Family Business Award. The more nominations that we receive strengthens the competition and allows the judges to determine the best Montana companies in the various categories. As it is a great privilege to receive this award, imagine the honor that a business you visit or know would feel to receive this nomination from you. The nomination forms are mailed out in mid-April, or visit our website to nominate. As you prepare your list of who to nominate, here is a list of criteria to consider:

1. Business headquarters must be in Montana
2. A firm may be nominated by anyone, including employees and business associates. In the spirit of entrepreneurship, self-nominations are encouraged.
3. All family businesses are eligible with the exception of prior winners.

Awards are traditionally given in the following categories:

- a. Large sized business - more than 50 employees
- b. Medium sized - 30-50 employees
- c. Small sized - 10-29 employees
- d. Very small sized - less than 10 employees
- e. Old family business
- f. New family business

Application will ask about:

- a. Family-business linkage
- b. Contributions to community and industry
- c. Innovative business strategies and practices
- d. Succession preparedness
- e. Multi-generation family business involvement (except for new firms)
- f. Longevity (except for new firms)

2016 Family Business Winners

- Very Small Business – Elliotts of Montana, Bozeman
- Small Business – Mars Stout, Inc., Missoula
- Medium Business – Wild West Shirt Company, Bozeman
- Large business – General Distributing Company, Great Falls
- Old Business (50+ years) – Cooper Hereford Ranch, Willow Creek
- New Business (<10 years) – Busted Knuckle Brewery, Glasgow



Sponsors

Funding for this program is provided through the MSU Jake Jabs College of Business & Entrepreneurship State Farm Insurance Family Business Program endowment. This endowment was established in honor of Robert Jaedicke in appreciation of his service on the board of directors for State Farm.

The Montana Chamber of Commerce is also an important member on our team of supporters.

To assist in program sponsorship, including underwriting the awards plaques, please contact us today.

You Can Make a Difference

Imagine the impact this program can have on family-owned and small businesses across the state. We invite you to help us provide critical outreach programs in your community. We are always looking for more family business nominations. Your assistance will allow us to further our goal to recognize, support and honor family-owned and small businesses.

CONTACT US



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