



Kansas Business Hall of Fame Kansas Young Entrepreneur Award: Nomination Form 2026

The annual Kansas Young Entrepreneur Award will recognize a young entrepreneur who has established an innovative and flourishing business that demonstrates the potential for significant and lasting economic and social impact for the citizens of Kansas.

The Kansas Business Hall of Fame will recognize the 2026 Young Entrepreneur Award recipient at a ceremony on May 19, 2026, in Emporia, Kansas. The winner will receive a \$2,500 cash award.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Nominee must be 18–35 years old at the time of nomination
- Nominee must reside in Kansas
- Business must be headquartered in Kansas
- Nominee must demonstrate active ownership or management of an operating business or enterprise

Nominator Instructions: Nominate promising entrepreneurs who meet the criteria by providing your name and contact information and by asking the nominee to complete the rest of the form and submit it with the appropriate supporting documentation to the email address at the bottom. Self-nominations will be accepted but references are required.

Nominator's Full Name: _____

Position or Relationship to Nominee: _____

Nominator's Email: _____ Nominator's Phone: _____

Nominee Instructions: Provide your name and contact information below and answer each question fully. Send your completed form along with any supporting documentation to the Kansas Business Hall of Fame at the email address at the bottom.

Nominee's Full Name: _____

Nominee's Email: _____ Nominee's Phone: _____

Section I. Business Information

Name of Business: _____

Year Established: _____ Nominee's Role (Founder/Owner/etc.): _____

Primary Product(s) or Industry: _____

Business Website or Social Media: _____

Business Address: _____

Section II. Business Mission

Provide the business' mission statement and/or a brief description of the business' goals and objectives.

Section III. Business Story

Describe your entrepreneurial journey. Include how market opportunities were identified and the creative steps taken to pursue them. Provide examples of the challenges that were faced and the innovative strategies implemented to overcome them. Discuss the approach to organization and leadership while building a new business. Describe successes to date in terms of both financial reward and community impact. (If additional space is needed, please include as part of your supporting documentation.)

I certify that the information provided is true and accurate: _____

Submission: Nominations are due **April 6, 2026**. Please submit completed forms to: liz@federicoduerst.com. Up to five total pages of supporting documentation, including up to one letter of recommendation and a list of references for self-nominations, may be attached. The award recipient will be notified by May 1, 2026.