

# 2008 State Quality Awards Directory

Welcome to *Quality Digest's* 2008 State Quality Awards directory. On the following pages you'll find a state-by-state summary of available awards, contact information and award summaries, including who may apply and deadline dates. We've done our best to include only the information that we've personally

confirmed, but we nevertheless recommend that you contact award administrators directly to verify important dates, requirements and other critical data.

We wish you the best of luck on your journey to quality award recognition.



## United States

**Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award**  
Baldrige National Quality Program  
Ph. 301-975-2036 Fax 301-948-3716  
[www.baldrige.nist.gov](http://www.baldrige.nist.gov)  
E-mail: [nqp@nist.gov](mailto:nqp@nist.gov)

The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award is the nation's highest presidential honor for organizational performance excellence.

Open to: manufacturing businesses, service businesses, small businesses, education organizations, health care organizations, and nonprofit organizations. Also eligible are U.S.-based nonprofit public, private and government organizations, and some subunits, including U.S. subunits of foreign organizations located in the United States or its territories. Eligibility is intended to be as open as possible to include local, state and federal government agencies; trade associations; charitable organizations; social service agencies; credit unions; and professional societies.

For the 2008 award program processes and time frames, go to page 3 at [www.quality.nist.gov/PDF\\_files/2008\\_Award\\_Application\\_Forms.pdf](http://www.quality.nist.gov/PDF_files/2008_Award_Application_Forms.pdf).



## Alabama

**Alabama Quality Award**  
**Award of Excellence for Continuous Productivity and Quality Improvement**  
Alabama Productivity Center  
Ph. 205-348-8956 Fax 205-348-9391  
[www.alabamaproductivitycenter.com](http://www.alabamaproductivitycenter.com)  
E-mail: [linda@proctr.cba.ua.edu](mailto:linda@proctr.cba.ua.edu)

To be eligible for the Alabama Quality Award, the applicant's efforts must be implemented within the state of Alabama, but the organization may have affiliates, divisions, or headquarters in other states. Award is open to manufacturing, service, small business, education, health care, and nonprofit sectors. There are three levels of award recognition.

Level 1—the Commitment to Excellence Award is for organizations that have made a serious commitment to use and implement performance excellence concepts and principles.

Level 2—the Progress Toward Excellence Award is for organizations that have demonstrated sustained commitment to and application of performance excellence principles and practices.

Level 3—the Alabama Excellence Award is the highest level of recognition and is presented to organizations that have demonstrated through their practices and achievements sustained performance excellence.

The Award of Excellence for Continuous Productivity and Quality Improvement—Previous award winners may apply for this award during the three-year period that they are not eligible to re-apply for the Alabama Quality Award.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their eligibility form as early as possible, but no later than Feb. 28/29; award application—Apr. 30; preliminary written application assessment/scoring—May/June; winners selected in October; annual conference and award ceremony—Nov. 28–30; feedback reports distributed in December.



## Alaska

**Alaska Performance Excellence Program (APEX)**  
Ph. 907-274-7232 Fax 907-272-1940  
[www.adapex.com](http://www.adapex.com)  
E-mail: [anbsp@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:anbsp@uaa.alaska.edu)

APEX is a state award program (created in May 2006) dedicated to recognizing Alaska organizations demonstrating world-class performance. The APEX framework is based upon the criteria of the Baldrige National Quality Program. APEX promotes a systematic approach for fact-based improvement initiatives, social responsibility, ethical behavior, benchmarking of processes, and measurable results.

Starting in 2009, APEX will annually recognize Alaska organizations that are role models. APEX program will offer three participation levels: Self-Assessment, Achievement Award, and Excellence Award. Regardless of the award level, all participating organizations will be invited to an annual recognition ceremony, where they will be recognized, state-level awards will be presented, and the organizations can share their processes.

Participating organizations can be from any sector, including health care, education, nonprofit, and business, including manufacturing, services, and small business.

For more information, contact Ben Park at 907-748-7919 or [benjaminspark@aol.com](mailto:benjaminspark@aol.com).



## Arkansas

**Governor's Quality Award**  
Arkansas Institute for Performance Excellence Inc.  
Ph. 501-372-2222 Fax 501-372-2222  
<http://arkansas-quality.org/>  
E-mail: [bharvel@arkansas-quality.org](mailto:bharvel@arkansas-quality.org)

Any public or privately held organization of any size located in Arkansas may apply for the Governor's Quality Award (formerly the Arkansas Quality Award). There are four levels of award recognition.

Challenge Award—This level is the starting point for any organization expressing interest in adopting and applying quality principles as identified by the seven categories of award criteria.

Commitment Award—This level is designed for organizations that have progressed to a point of demonstrating serious commitment to the use of quality principles to attain performance excellence.

Achievement Award—Organizations applying for this level, through their commitment and practice of quality principles, have demonstrated systematic processes.

Governor's Award—The highest level of recognition is presented to organizations that have demonstrated through their practices and achievements the highest level of performance excellence.

Deadlines: Intent-to-apply form—early April; award application—early May; Governor's Quality Award celebration banquet—mid-October



## Arizona

**State Quality Award (Governor's and Pioneer) Showcase in Excellence Awards**  
Arizona Quality Alliance  
Ph. 480-874-5815 Fax 480-874-8680  
[www.arizona-excellence.com](http://www.arizona-excellence.com)  
E-mail: [aqa@arizona-excellence.com](mailto:aqa@arizona-excellence.com)

The annual Arizona State Quality Award Program honors organizations that attain the highest level of quality and performance excellence process implementation. The program continues to use the current year Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award criteria but has major differences from the national program in how the process is implemented. There is an option to submit an application for feedback only. This allows former Governor's Award recipients (or other organizations that wish to forego a site visit) to receive examiner feedback, even though they are not eligible to receive one of the awards.

The Arizona Pioneer Award for Quality recognizes organizations that have established and deployed fundamental quality systems within their operations.

The Arizona Governor's Award for Quality recognizes organizations that have mature and fully-deployed quality systems within their operations; that demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement and have achieved a sustained significant record of performance.

Deadline: intent to apply—June 20; awards application—July 17; site visits—Sept. 29–Oct. 10; applicants notified of selection/nonselection—Dec. 1; feedback reports mailed—Dec. 12; awards banquet—January 2009.

The Showcase in Excellence Awards program focuses on specific organizational processes. This program provides additional opportunity for receiving feedback and recognition. Organizations may apply for any organizational process they believe is exceptional, and are encouraged to relate the process to one of six categories aligned with the Baldrige criteria: leadership; strategic planning; customer and market focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; human resource focus; or process management. The award criteria, in general, ask how the submitted process has been designed, improved, and managed through the use of data. Download materials for the Showcase in Excellence Awards at [www.arizona-excellence.com/sqa\\_program/statequalityaward.htm](http://www.arizona-excellence.com/sqa_program/statequalityaward.htm).



## California

**California Awards for Performance Excellence**  
California Team Excellence Awards and the Western Regional Team Excellence Awards  
California Council for Excellence  
Ph. 858-486-0400 Fax 858-486-8595  
[www.calexcellence.org](http://www.calexcellence.org)

E-mail: [cee@calexcellence.org](mailto:cee@calexcellence.org)  
CCE annually presents the California Awards for Performance Excellence program that honors manufacturing companies, service companies, educational institutions, government agencies, health care, non-profit, and military organizations. The CAPE program features three award levels and oversees the Governor's Awards for Excellence. All awards adhere to the criteria of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Level 1—the California Challenge Award is a self-assessment program to help private and public sector applicants begin their journey towards performance excellence.

Level 2—the California Prospector Award is a short-form version of the California Awards for Performance Excellence program and the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Level 1 and 2 applications are received year-round. Intent-to-apply form is due one month prior to application submission. Review and evaluation eight weeks from receipt of application. No site visit is required. Award winners announced quarterly.

Level 3 consists of two advanced-level awards, the Eureka Award for Performance Excellence and the U.S. Senate Productivity Award. Both awards honor four levels of excellence—bronze, silver, gold, and platinum. Intent-to-apply forms are due in June and applications are due in July. Independent and consensus reviews occur in September and October, and site visit reviews are during October through December. The Eureka Award offers seven categories: large and small service, education, health care, nonprofit, government, and military. The U.S. Senate Productivity Award is dedicated to large and small manufacturing companies.

The Governor's Award for Excellence is selected among the gold or platinum level of award winners who demonstrate world-class levels of excellence. The award is not given for specific products or services. Its focus is on performance in six key areas: product and service, customer focused outcomes, financial and market outcomes, workforce-focused outcomes, process effectiveness outcomes, and leadership outcomes.

The California Team Excellence Award (CTEA) and the Western Regional Team Excellence Award program is the most sought-after resource for recognizing and improving leadership for team-based efforts and for excellence in team-based process improvement. Award applications are due in October. For more information visit: [www.calexcellence.org/ctea.html](http://www.calexcellence.org/ctea.html).



## Colorado

**Colorado Performance Excellence Award**  
Colorado Performance Excellence Inc. (CPEX)  
Ph. 303-893-2739 Fax 720-859-1353  
[www.coloradoexcellence.org](http://www.coloradoexcellence.org)

E-mail: [mmauro@coloradoexcellence.org](mailto:mmmauro@coloradoexcellence.org)  
CPEX offers awards to organizations in any of the following segments: manufacturing, service, small business (less than 250 employees), health care, education, nonprofit, and government.

High Plains Recognition. For organizations who are interested in self-assessment and the initiation of a journey for performance excellence by completing an organizational profile. Foothills Performance Award. For organizations in the early stages of the journey to performance excellence. The application includes questions on the organizational approach or how the organization does things (processes or systems). Organizations should apply at this level if they have not previously done Baldrige assessments or do not have expertise in understanding the complex linkages and alignments of the Baldrige criteria.

Timberline Performance Award. For organizations that gained expertise in the Baldrige criteria and feel they are ready for detailed discussion of their process. The discussion is expected to include information on approach, deployment, learning, and integration.

Peak Performance Award. For organizations that have the expertise to apply for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award. The Peak criteria is identical to the Baldrige Criteria.

Deadlines: open-cycle calendar. For the 2008 applicant schedule, go to [www.coloradoexcellence.org/2008CPEXApplicantSchedule.ppt](http://www.coloradoexcellence.org/2008CPEXApplicantSchedule.ppt).



## Connecticut

**Connecticut Quality Improvement Award**  
The Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership Inc.  
Ph. 203-332-9534 Fax 203-329-2465  
[www.ctqualityaward.org/about\\_cqia.htm](http://www.ctqualityaward.org/about_cqia.htm)  
E-mail: [cqia@aol.com](mailto:cqia@aol.com)

The partnership is a growing group of active business people, educators, and health care executives, concerned with improving the state using the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award criteria for performance excellence. Three levels of achievement are recognized.

Innovation Prize. Recognized accomplishments during the first stages of the quality journey.

Breakthrough Quality Award. For organizations ready to launch their first rigorous quality improvement, measurement, and business-impact initiatives and can demonstrate extended commitment to measurable progress.

Connecticut Leadership Quality Award. Recognizes demonstrated quality improvement as a strategy for performance excellence.

Open to: manufacturing, service, health care, education, government, and other not-for-profit organizations.

Deadlines: application for innovation prize available January, intent-to-apply forms for Breakthrough and Leadership categories due March, innovation Prize applications due April, Breakthrough and Leadership applications due May, site visits August, awards announcements October. For specific dates, contact The Connecticut Quality Improvement Award Partnership.



#### Delaware

**Delaware Quality Award in honor of W. L. (Bill) Gore**  
Delaware Alliance for Excellence partnered with the University of Delaware

Ph. 302-571-5233 Fax 302-571-56665

[www.pcs.udel.edu/dqa/](http://www.pcs.udel.edu/dqa/)

E-mail: [jriabov@udel.edu](mailto:jriabov@udel.edu)

The Delaware Quality Award is based on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award criteria, the national and international model for performance excellence. There are three current award levels.

W. L. (Bill) Gore Award of Excellence. A Gore Award recipient must display outstanding performance and be a role model in most of the seven Baldrige Criteria categories of the award.

Delaware Quality Award of Merit. Recognizes companies and organizations that demonstrate significant progress in their approach and deployment of quality systems.

Delaware Quality Commitment Award. Recognizes organizations that are getting started in their quality journey.

Award application preparation January—May; intent-to-apply form due April 1; application due May 31; examiners assess applications June—August; site visits during September; judges review in November; award winners announced in December, feedback reports sent to applicants and follow-up briefings scheduled during December/January; Award Banquet to honor recipients and volunteers in February.



#### Florida

**Governor's Sterling Award**

The Florida Sterling Council  
Ph. 850-922-5316 Fax 850-488-7579

[www.floridasterling.com](http://www.floridasterling.com)

E-mail: [jpiano@floridasterling.com](mailto:jpiano@floridasterling.com)

Founded in 1992, the Florida Sterling Council is a public/private nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote Florida's competitive edge and quality of life through promotion, assessment, and recognition of performance excellence.

Open to: Florida organizations. There is no limit to the number of awards given each year. Organizations of all sizes are eligible in the following categories: private sector (manufacturing and service), public sector (state, local and federal government), education sector (public and private schools, colleges and universities) and health care sector (public and private organizations).

2008–2009 schedule: Application of intent available in June 2008; application of intent due Sept. 12; applications due Nov. 6; consensus meetings Jan. 11–30, 2009; site visit notification mid-February; site visits weeks of Feb. 15–March 21; judges' recommendation meeting in April; award ceremony on May 29, 2009. For complete assessments dates, go to [www.floridasterling.com/calendar\\_of\\_events.html](http://www.floridasterling.com/calendar_of_events.html).



#### Georgia

**Georgia Oglethorpe Award**

Georgia Oglethorpe Award Process Inc.

Ph. 404-232-3808 Fax 404-232-3771

[www.georgiaoglethorpe.org](http://www.georgiaoglethorpe.org)

E-mail: [office@georgiaoglethorpe.org](mailto:office@georgiaoglethorpe.org)

The Georgia Oglethorpe Award promotes awareness of the need for strategic and tactical continuous improvement and learning, and systems thinking, as increasingly important elements in Georgia's competitiveness.

There are three Georgia Oglethorpe Performance Improvement Initiatives: Georgia Focus Recognition (Step 1), Georgia Progress Award (Step 2), and Georgia Oglethorpe Award (Step 3). These three

initiatives provide incremental steps to take toward creating and sustaining a high performance work system using the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence

Submission due: Step 3 in December 2007; Step 2 in February 2008; Step 1 in March 2008. The Georgia Oglethorpe Annual Conference and Awards Banquet October 1–2, 2008. For the [www.georgiaoglethorpe.org/TIMETABLE\\_2008\\_Assessment\\_Cycle.pdf](http://www.georgiaoglethorpe.org/TIMETABLE_2008_Assessment_Cycle.pdf).



#### Illinois

**The Lincoln Awards for Excellence**

The Lincoln Foundation for Performance Excellence  
Ph. 630-637-1595 Fax 630-579-1620

[www.lincolnaward.org](http://www.lincolnaward.org)

E-mail: [info@lincolnaward.org](mailto:info@lincolnaward.org)

For 2008, The Lincoln Foundation uses Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence for business, education, and health care.

Lincoln Bronze Award for Commitment to Excellence. For organizations that demonstrate a serious initial effort in the use of total quality concepts in adopting and applying continuous improvement principles.

Lincoln Silver Award for Progress Toward Excellence. For organizations that have demonstrated significant progress in instituting sound and notable continuous improvement processes. Not all Silver applicants are guaranteed a site visit.

Lincoln Gold Award for Achievement of Excellence. For organizations that have demonstrated, the organizational capacity to continuously evaluate and improve processes based on established customer requirements.

Open to all Illinois-based industries, service, health care, education and government entities that are complete organizations and inspected in Illinois. Subsidiaries or units of larger corporations are welcome to apply, subject to certain criteria.

Deadlines: Intent-to-apply package due May 1; award application due May 30; independent reviews June 18–July 11; initial judge's review Aug. 25–29; site visit reviews Sept. 14–Oct. 31; judges review Nov. 17–21; feedback reports to applicants late December 2008 and early January 2009; awards and recognition ceremony held in January 2009; Lincoln Foundation For Performance Excellence Recognition Ceremony is Friday January 16, 2009



#### Iowa

**Iowa Recognition for Performance Excellence**

Iowa Quality Center

Ph. 319-398-7101 Fax 319-398-5698

[www.iowaqc.org/irpe.asp](http://www.iowaqc.org/irpe.asp)

E-mail: [info@iowaqc.org](mailto:info@iowaqc.org)

The Iowa Recognition for Performance Excellence program helps organizations assess and strengthen performance and capabilities. The evaluation criteria for this process is the same as the Baldrige National Quality Program Criteria for Performance Excellence.

Open to organizations that have been in Iowa for at least one year and with employees in Iowa.

For the Iowa Quality Center events calendar, go to [www.iowaqc.org/calendar.asp](http://www.iowaqc.org/calendar.asp).



#### Kentucky

**Kentucky Center for Performance Excellence Award**

The Kentucky Center for Performance Excellence

Ph. 800-900-3360 Fax 859-245-9660

[www.kcpe.org/App1\\_Criteria.html](http://www.kcpe.org/App1_Criteria.html)

E-mail: [info@kcpe.org](mailto:info@kcpe.org)

The Kentucky Center for Performance Excellence Award program features four award categories: Interest, Commitment, Achievement and Excellence.

Level I: Interest. Designed for organizations in the beginning phases of the performance excellence journey.

Level II: Commitment Award. For organizations who have begun their performance excellence journey. It is designed to create awareness of the criteria.

Level III: Achievement Award. This intermediate level is intended for organizations that have progressed to a point of demonstrating a higher level of performance excellence than those at Level II. Site visits are not included in this level, however, the applicant has the option to purchase a site visit.

Level IV: Excellence Award. Organizations applying at this level will be expected to explain

their progress toward building sound and notable processes as measured against the criteria. Site visits are included at this level.

Open to: manufacturing, service, small business, education, health care, government and nonprofit organizations. There is no limit to the number of awards presented in any given year.

Intent-to-apply form due 10/17/08, applications due 12/19/08, site visits complete 03/13/09, feedback report complete 03/31/09, judging complete 04/21/09, award banquet/feedback report distribution 05/21/09.



#### Louisiana

**Louisiana Performance Excellence Award**

Louisiana Quality Foundation, Louisiana Productivity Center

Ph. 337-482-6728 Fax 337-262-5472

[www.laquality.org/award\\_application.htm](http://www.laquality.org/award_application.htm)

E-mail: [rebecca.scherff@mepol.org](mailto:rebecca.scherff@mepol.org)

Open to: any legal organization domiciled in Louisiana is eligible to apply, organizations with facilities outside of Louisiana may apply if they have physical facilities within Louisiana. There are four major categories of organizations (for administrative purposes only): manufacturing and service, health care, education, and nonprofit sector.

Level I: Commitment to Performance Excellence. Level I is the beginning stage of implementation and is structured to provide education and feedback to organizations committed to the principles of managing for performance excellence.

Level II: Achievement in Performance Excellence. An organization that has demonstrated, through its application of continuous improvement principles, substantial progress in building sound processes and in achieving improvement results, applies at this level to validate that they are on the right path and for feedback on what is required to achieve a higher level of effectiveness.

Level III: Louisiana Performance Excellence Award. For organizations that have demonstrated a level of excellence worthy of recognition as examples of quality organizations operating in Louisiana, and wish to continue their journey toward world-class performance by receiving feedback from a more in-depth assessment.

Deadlines: Intent-to-apply form due July 14; award applications due Sept. 1; independent reviews scheduled Sept. 12–Nov. 7; site visit Dec. 1–5; award results and final feedback reports to applicants NLT Feb. 1, 2009; Governor presents LQF Awards and Recognition in April or May 2009. For the complete timeline, go to [www.laquality.org/lpea\\_timeline.htm](http://www.laquality.org/lpea_timeline.htm).

#### Louisiana Environmental Management Award

Recognizes Louisiana organizations that develop effective environmental management systems to improve their environmental performance. This is a voluntary program based on ISO 14001 that encourages the establishment of a pollution-prevention-based environmental management system. There are three categories of award recognition.

Category I: Commitment. Organizations are in process of environmental management system development.

Category II: Achievement. Organizations which have the majority of environmental management system components in place

Category III: Louisiana Environmental Management Award. Organizations that have all environmental management system components in place.

For the LEMA criteria and application information, please visit [www.laquality.org/lema.htm](http://www.laquality.org/lema.htm).



#### Maryland

**U.S. Senate Productivity Awards**

**Maryland Quality Awards—Gold, Silver, Bronze, and the Certificate of Recognition**

Maryland Performance Excellence Awards Program

Ph. 301-405-7173 Fax 301-314-9808

[www.mpea.umd.edu](http://www.mpea.umd.edu)

E-mail: [martys@umd.edu](mailto:martys@umd.edu)

The highest award level in Maryland is the U.S. Senate Productivity Award, which can be presented to a maximum of three organizations annually.

Organizations that are progressing in their journey to performance excellence are recognized with Maryland Quality Awards at four levels—Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Certificate of Recognition.

The Gold award is given to organizations that demonstrate an effective, systematic approach responsive to the basic requirements of most criteria

items, although some areas or work units are in the early stages of deployment. Some key processes are beginning to benefit from systematic, fact-based evaluation and improvement.

The Silver award is given to organizations that demonstrate an effective, systematic approach responsive to the basic requirements of many criteria items. Although approaches are deployed in some areas, many areas or work units are in the beginning stages of deployment.

The Bronze award is given to organizations that demonstrate the early stages of developing and implementing approaches to criteria requirements, with the beginning of deployment in a few areas or work units. Improvement efforts focus on problem solving.

The Certificate of Recognition is given to organizations that are beginning to develop and implement approaches to the requirements of the award criteria. Deployment is at the earliest stages. Improvement efforts focus mostly on problem solving.

All awards are presented to applicants in the sectors of: manufacturing, service, public sector, nonprofit, education, and health care. All organizations operating in the state of Maryland with five or more full-time employees are eligible to submit an application.

Award eligibility form due June 16, award application due Aug. 15, independent reviews are scheduled Sept. 5–28, site visit notification Nov. 19, site visits Dec. 8–12, award notification Dec. 19, feedback reports due Feb. 27, 2009, and the MPEA Conference and Awards Ceremony held March 23 or 30, 2009.



#### Massachusetts

**Massachusetts Performance Excellence Recognition and Award Program**

MassExcellence

Ph. 978-934-2403

[www.massexcellence.com](http://www.massexcellence.com)

E-mail: [info@massexcellence.com](mailto:info@massexcellence.com)

Massachusetts' only statewide Baldrige criteria-based assessment and award program is open to any organization in the state. There are four recognition levels.

Pledge to Excellence: Demonstrates a solid leadership commitment to employees and a goal of long-term sustainability

Silver Level: Demonstrates a systematic approach in achieving forward-looking, overall improvement-gaining results in key areas

Gold Level: Demonstrates your key processes are being systematically evaluated and improved and gaining results in some key areas

Commonwealth Performance Excellence Leadership Award: Demonstrates your integrated and well-deployed approaches in most key areas, with good performance against comparisons

2008–2009 Schedule: Verbal notification of intent-to-apply due September; application due Dec. 11; individual reviews during December 2008 and January 2009; consensus meetings Feb. 11–13, 2009; site visits March 23–April 13; judges meeting week of April 20, award ceremony May 30, 2009.



#### Minnesota

**Minnesota Quality Award**

Minnesota Council for Quality

Ph. 612-462-3577

[www.councilforquality.org](http://www.councilforquality.org)

E-mail: [info@councilforquality.org](mailto:info@councilforquality.org)

The Minnesota Quality Award has four Award levels, intended to recognize organizations at the appropriate stage of their improvement journey:

Commitment—Organizations recognized at this level have demonstrated commitment to self-assessment as a catalyst for improvement and a means of promoting organizational excellence.

Advancement—Organizations recognized at this level have demonstrated progress in building and deploying systematic approaches responsive to the basic requirements of the criteria.

Achievement—Organizations recognized at this level have established sound, effective approaches responsive to the overall requirements of the criteria. They are generally aligned throughout the organization and demonstrate some evaluation and refinement. They also demonstrate good results and trends for most areas important to their business requirements, with no major faults.

Excellence—Organizations recognized at this highest level have demonstrated organizational excellence relative to the multiple requirements of the criteria.

Open to: organizations must have headquarters or substantial parts of operations in Minnesota and they must be capable of responding to all category items of the applicable criteria. All business sectors are eligible.

We offer a customer-focused rolling schedule of assessment. We begin accepting Letters of Intent for the current year's Award cycle on February 1, and the last day to submit a Letter of Intent for the current year Award cycle is July 1 (the corresponding last day to submit full applications is November 1, for those invited to do so). Letters of Intent for our Alternative Assessment are accepted year-round. For the complete assessment timeline for organizations, go to [www.councilforquality.org/assess\\_org\\_timeline.cfm](http://www.councilforquality.org/assess_org_timeline.cfm).



**Missouri**

**Missouri Quality Award**  
Excellence in Missouri Foundation  
Ph. 573-526-1726 Fax 573-526-1729  
[www.mqa.org](http://www.mqa.org)  
E-mail: [contact.us@mqa.mo.gov](mailto:contact.us@mqa.mo.gov)

The Missouri Quality Award promotes an understanding of the requirements for performance excellence and continuous improvement, and stimulates sharing of improvement information on successful performance strategies and the benefits derived from using these strategies.

Open to any organization located in Missouri. Within the five award categories of manufacturing, service, public sector, education and health care, awards may be presented small, medium, or large class sizes.

Deadlines: intent to apply forms due Feb. 25; award applications due May 2; independent reviews May 8–June 6; judge's site visit review Aug. 5; site visits Sept. 7–26; judge's final review Oct. 15–16, awards banquet Nov. 20. For the complete award cycle, go to [www.mqa.org/qualityawardcycle.htm](http://www.mqa.org/qualityawardcycle.htm).



**Nebraska**

**The Edgerton Quality Award**  
Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Ph. 800-426-6505 Fax 402-471-3778  
[www.edgertonaward.com](http://www.edgertonaward.com)  
E-mail: [ded.edgerton@nebraska.gov](mailto:ded.edgerton@nebraska.gov)

The Edgerton "Family of Awards" program encourages Nebraska businesses, educational organizations, nonprofits and health care organizations to apply. Awards levels are determined by the level of maturity and integration of the applicant's strategies, objectives, key processes and measures as aligned with customers' requirements and employee requirements. The Baldrige National Quality Award Program criteria are used to guide the assessment of each organization.

The Edgerton Award of Commitment is geared to organizations that are beginning to adopt and apply quality principles through a systematic approach.

The Edgerton Award of Progress is aimed at organizations that consistently implement quality principles. They have documented a solid approach to quality management with results reflected in consistency throughout the organization.

The Edgerton Award of Excellence is designed for businesses and organizations performing the highest degree of excellence. The organizational management system is mature with proven results in all areas.

Open to: Nebraska businesses, educational organizations, nonprofits, and health care organizations. Subsidiaries are eligible if they have distinct organizational charts, financial reports and annual reports. The business organization must have existed for at least one year. More than 50 percent of the sales of the applicant must be to customers outside of the applicant's parent organization, its parent company and other companies with financial or organizational control of the applicant or its parent company.

Deadlines: eligibility form due July 1; application and form reports due Dec. 15; site visits scheduled in Feb. 2009; feedback reports provided May 1, 2009; awards presented May 4, 2009.



**Nevada**

**Nevada Quality Alliance**  
Ph. 702-254-0002  
[www.nvqa.org](http://www.nvqa.org)  
E-mail: [president@nvqa.org](mailto:president@nvqa.org)

A Nevada State Performance Excellence awards program. Forty three states now administer such Quality Assessment programs. Ours, like most, will be based on the proven Malcolm Baldrige National Award criteria. We are blessed to count among the NvQA membership participants with lengthy, active, and effective involvement with Baldrige and similar programs. They stand ready to serve Nevada organizations in the assessment of and assistance with progress toward lasting operational excellence.



**New Hampshire**

**Granite State Quality Award**  
Granite State Quality Council  
Ph. 603-223-1312 Fax 603-821-4587

[www.gsqc.com](http://www.gsqc.com)

E-mail: [info@gsqc.com](mailto:info@gsqc.com)

The Granite State Quality Award and Recognition Program includes the Baldrige-based Granite State Quality Award and four levels of recognition—Interest: for an organizational profile and action plan; Commitment: for a category-level application; and Achievement: for an item-level application. Organizations that complete Baldrige-based self-assessments are also recognized.

Open to organizations that have demonstrated performance excellence in one or all seven categories of the following criteria: leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus, information and analysis, human resource focus, process management, and business results.

Deadlines: contact the Granite State Quality Council for specifics.



**New Jersey**

**New Jersey Governor's Award for Performance Excellence**  
Quality New Jersey  
Ph. 609-777-0940 Fax 609-777-2798  
[www.qnj.org](http://www.qnj.org)  
E-mail: [qnj@qnj.org](mailto:qnj@qnj.org)

The award is given at three levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze. Applicants achieving the Gold level are expected to demonstrate excellence in all of the criteria. The Silver and Bronze levels recognize organizations that demonstrate outstanding performance in many areas, while making good progress towards excellence in the remaining areas. Organizations do not apply for an award at a particular level. It is awarded to applicants based on the recommendation of an examiner team and the decision of the panel of judges.

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[www.witteamerica.com](http://www.witteamerica.com) • [www.alufix.com](http://www.alufix.com)

Representative for Vacuum Clamping Products:

IBAG North America

Tel.: +1-203-407 0397

Fax: +1-203-407 0516

[rickt@snet.net](mailto:rickt@snet.net)

[www.ibagnorthamerica.com](http://www.ibagnorthamerica.com)

Standard Equipment

Please visit us IMTS, Chicago, Stand D-4131

Open to: New Jersey-based small (fewer than 500 employees) or a large (more than 500 employees) organizations in business, health care or education; a federal, state, or local government unit; a nonprofit organization; and a support division or unit of an organization.

Deadlines are on the first business day on or before the following dates. Timing of submission depends on when the organization would like to receive feedback. Assessments submitted—any time; eligibility form—May 1 or Aug. 1; award application—July 1 or Oct. 1; site visits—Sept.–Oct. or Dec.–Jan. 2009; judges meeting—Nov.–Dec. or Feb.–March, 2009; feedback report expected—Dec. or March 2009



#### New Mexico

**New Mexico Quality Awards**  
Quality New Mexico  
Ph. 505-944-2004 Fax 505-944-2002  
[www.qualitynewmexico.org/07-mmqa.shtml](http://www.qualitynewmexico.org/07-mmqa.shtml)  
E-mail: [qnm@quality-newmexico.org](mailto:qnm@quality-newmexico.org)

The New Mexico Quality Award program has three levels of criteria-based assessment and participation: Piñon Assessment/Recognition—Commitment. The organization shows evidence that it is in the beginning stages of using systematic processes and collecting data.

Roadrunner Assessment/Recognition—Progress. The organization demonstrates, through commitment and implementation of quality principles, significant progress in building sound and systematic processes.

Zia Assessment/Award—Performance Excellence. The organization must demonstrate through its practices and achievements the highest level of performance excellence. Roadrunner and Zia levels are Baldrige-based. The piñon level has its own criteria.

Open to business, education, government, health care and nonprofits sectors, located in New Mexico. The organization must have five or more full-time (or equivalent) employees.

Deadlines: Cycle 1—Intent to apply and eligibility packet due June 6; application due July 25; site visits Oct. 13–31 award application package Aug. 1, site visits Oct. 22–Nov. 9; award notification Nov. 13–14; feedback reports mailed Dec. 5. Cycle 2—Intent to apply and eligibility package due June 6; application due Oct. 24; 1, site visits Jan. 26–Feb. 13, 2009; award notification Feb. 26–27; feedback reports mailed March 20, 2009.



#### North Carolina

**North Carolina Awards for Excellence (NCAfE)**  
North Carolina State University Industrial Extension Service  
Ph. 800-227-0264  
[www.ies.ncsu.edu/ncafe](http://www.ies.ncsu.edu/ncafe)  
E-mail: [ies\\_services@ncsu.edu](mailto:ies_services@ncsu.edu)

Based upon the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the NCAfE embraces the same goal as quality management, achieving business excellence. A four-tiered program, the NCAfE recognizes participation at the Involvement step, and awards are presented at the Commitment, Advancement, and Leadership Award steps.

Open to any organization interested in improving operational performance, financial effectiveness, and market competitiveness.

There are no deadlines for participating. Participants can submit written applications or criteria responses using NCAfE integrated assessment software.



#### Ohio

**The Ohio Award for Excellence**  
Ohio Partnership for Excellence  
Ph. 614-441-8337 Fax 614-515-4771  
[www.partnershipohio.org/html/awards.htm](http://www.partnershipohio.org/html/awards.htm)  
E-mail: [elaime@partnershipohio.org](mailto:elaime@partnershipohio.org)

The Ohio Partnership for Excellence offers two levels of application, Bronze and Full. Bronze applicants are responsible for writing the organizational profile portion of the Baldrige criteria and participating in an organization-wide survey.

Full-level applicants must submit an application package that addresses the sector-specific criteria. All recipients will receive a feedback report.

Open to business, government, nonprofit, health care, or education sectors.

Full award intent-to-apply form due October; application due electronically December; site visits conducted March–April 2009; judges reviews April–May 2009; feedback reports sent May 2009; award ceremony September 2009. For specific dates, contact Elaine D. Edgar at the Ohio Partnership for Excellence.



#### Oklahoma

**Oklahoma Quality Award**  
Oklahoma Quality Award Foundation Inc.  
Ph. 405-815-5295 Fax 405-815-5205  
[www.oklahomaaquality.com](http://www.oklahomaaquality.com)  
E-mail: [mike.strong@oklahomaaquality.com](mailto:mike.strong@oklahomaaquality.com)

The Oklahoma Quality Award has three levels and is based on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Commitment. For organizations who have progressed to a point of serious commitment to the use of continuous improvement principles in their operations.

Achievement. For organizations that have demonstrated, significant progress in building sound processes and in achieving improvement results.

Excellence. For those organizations that have demonstrated, through their practices and achievements, the highest levels of excellence worthy of recognition as outstanding examples of organizations in the state of Oklahoma.

Open to any organization operating in Oklahoma for three or more years and to organizations whose major functions are verifiable in Oklahoma.

Intent-to-apply forms due April 7; applications due May 12; site visits Sept. 8–26; award recipients selected October; feedback reports distributed Nov. 26; awards presented December.



#### Pennsylvania

**Keystone Award for Process Excellence (KAPE)**  
The Keystone Alliance for Performance Excellence  
Ph. 717-734-6470 Fax 717-236-8767  
[www.keystonealliance.com/index.php](http://www.keystonealliance.com/index.php)  
E-mail: [info@keystonealliance.com](mailto:info@keystonealliance.com)

The purpose of KAPE's application process is to improve applicants' daily operations as they grow and progress toward organizational excellence. The award recognizes four tiers of achievement:

Commitment. For applicants that are beginning their journey toward understanding and applying the principles of performance excellence.

Proficiency. For applicants that demonstrate a commitment to excellence and have established a process for continuous improvement.

Mastery. For applicants that have demonstrated significant progress toward performance excellence through commitment and practice.

Keystone Excellence Award. For applicants that demonstrate through practices and superior results the highest level of performance excellence.

Open to any public or private organization of any size located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Intent-to-apply forms due Nov. 3; applications due Feb. 2, 2009; site visits June 2009; feedback reports mailed Aug. 31, 2009; awards banquet and conference September 2009.



#### South Carolina

**The South Carolina Governor's Quality Award**  
South Carolina Quality Forum  
Ph. 888-231-0578 Fax 864-503-5995  
[www.scquality.com/award.html](http://www.scquality.com/award.html)  
E-mail: [jreeves@uscupstate.edu](mailto:jreeves@uscupstate.edu)

The Governor's Quality Award is the highest statewide recognition for excellence in quality management. Those organizations that show exemplary progress toward implementing the Baldrige criteria in business may qualify. Other organizations may be recognized for their achievement of the Baldrige criteria in business with the Achiever Awards: Gold—for outstanding progress, Silver—for significant progress, Bronze—for progress worthy of recognition.

The number of awards is not limited. There are minimum levels of achievement that represent the standard or benchmark for recognition. There may

not necessarily be winner(s) in every sector every year.

South Carolina Governor's Explorer Assessment promotes the use of quality management systems, share successful quality management strategies, promote self-assessment via an objective review, and publicly recognize outstanding achievement in the development and implementation of quality management systems.

Open to any private, manufacturing, service, government, or educational organization that is located and operating within the state.

Award/assessment deadlines: Intent-to-apply forms due Jan. 1; applications due March 1; site visits completed in August; awards announced September; conference/awards ceremony in October.



#### Tennessee

**Memphis Regional Quality Cup Award**  
MSQPC—The Quality Center  
Ph. 901-543-3551  
[www.msqpc.com/QualityCupAward.htm](http://www.msqpc.com/QualityCupAward.htm)  
E-mail: [ldale@memphischamber.com](mailto:ldale@memphischamber.com)

The Mid-South Quality and Productivity Center presents a Regional Quality Cup Award which is aligned with the Baldrige Award Criteria and the former RIT/USA Today Quality Cup Award. This award honors individual teams (six categories) that make exceptional contributions to their employers' quality improvement programs.

Awards are made to individual teams in each of six categories: educational institutions, government units and agencies, health care organizations, manufacturing firms, service firms, and small businesses. Both U.S. and foreign firms and organizations may nominate teams so long as the team members are employed in the United States and are members of the Memphis Regional Chamber. Multiple nominations are allowed.

Nominations must be received by Nov. 19, 2008. For more information contact Donald Fisher, 901-543-3551.

#### Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence Award

Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence  
Ph. 800-453-6474 Fax 615-889-8325  
[www.tncpe.org/](http://www.tncpe.org/)  
E-mail: [contact@tncpe.org](mailto:contact@tncpe.org)

The TNCPE Award program is open to companies and non-profit organizations throughout Tennessee (some out-of-state organizations are also eligible). There are four award levels:

- Level 1—Interest Recognition (beginner level)
- Level 2—Commitment Award (intermediate level)
- Level 3—Achievement Award (advanced level)
- Level 4—Excellence Award (highest level)

TNCPE accepts Level 1 applicants all year long. Level 1 site visits typically take place within six weeks after TNCPE receives the application. Level 2, 3, and 4 applicants must submit the intent-to-apply form by July 7 and applications are due August 1. Level 2, 3 and 4 site visits typically occur during the month of October. No matter where you are in the award application process, the TNCPE staff is available to help you along the way at 800-453-6474. For the program calendar, go to [www.tncpe.org/calendar/index.php](http://www.tncpe.org/calendar/index.php).

#### Performance Excellence Award Pyramid of Excellence Award

PERFX (formerly Greater Memphis Association for Quality)  
Ph. 901-831-0230 Fax 901-371-0929  
[www.perfx.org](http://www.perfx.org)  
E-mail: [execdir@perfx.org](mailto:execdir@perfx.org)

The Performance Excellence Association of the Mid-South (PerfX) is a Baldrige-based association that promotes performance excellence through the self-assessment and award process using the Baldrige Criteria. This service is provided to all large and small businesses and organizations in the Greater Memphis and Tri-State areas. All applicants receive a feedback report. There are four award levels.

Level I: Commitment. Recognizes organizations beginning their journey toward understanding and applying principles of excellence. The organization is starting to adopt and implement continuous improvement practices and principles.

Level II: Progress. Recognizes organizations that have demonstrated commitment to excellence and are in the process of developing and refining key indicators and measurement systems.

Level III: Leadership. An advanced level of recognition for organizations that have demonstrated

through commitment and practice significant progress toward excellence. Organizations at this level clearly demonstrate good performance results and trends that are directly attributable to deployment of a systematic approach and multiple learning cycles in all/most categories.

Pyramid of Excellence—The highest level of recognition for organizations that have demonstrated the highest level of excellence through practices and superior results.

The PERFX award process occurs annually with the intent-to-apply form due Aug. 15, application and fees are due Sept. 1, site visits are in December and January, award announcements are in March, feedback reports are distributed in April, and the awards luncheon is in April. For the award process calendar, go to [www.perfx.org/index\\_files/Calendar.htm](http://www.perfx.org/index_files/Calendar.htm).



#### Texas

**Texas Award for Performance Excellence**  
Quality Texas Foundation  
Ph. 214-565-8550 Fax 214-565-9082  
[www.texas-quality.org](http://www.texas-quality.org)  
E-mail: [quality-info@texas-quality.org](mailto:quality-info@texas-quality.org)

Quality Texas Foundation offers four levels of applications for organizations, dependent on their level of maturity—Engagement Level, Commitment Level, Progress Level and Award Level. All applicants at all levels receive a feedback report from Examiner teams. Celebration/Conference: Recipients notified April 28, 2009. Awards and Texas Quest in June 2009.

Engagement Level. For organizations committed to using performance improvement principles, but are early in their journey. Engagement Level eligibility forms due Feb. 2, 2009. Applications due March 16, 2009.

Commitment Level. For organizations that have begun using quality principles to build a sound management system. Commitment Level eligibility forms due Nov. 15, 2008. Applications due Jan. 15, 2009.

Progress Level. For organizations that have made progress toward a sound management system and the achievement of performance results. Progress Level eligibility forms due Oct. 1, 2008. Applications due Nov. 15, 2008.

The Award Level employs the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence. Organizations that have been working with performance excellence principles and concepts for some time apply at this level. Texas Award Level eligibility forms due Sept. 5, 2008. Applications due Oct. 15, 2008.

#### University of Texas Center for Performance Excellence Awards

University of Texas at Austin Division of Continuing Education  
Ph. 512-232-9530 Fax 512-232-6126  
[www.utexas.edu/cee/cpe/awards/](http://www.utexas.edu/cee/cpe/awards/)  
E-mail: [tperez@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:tperez@austin.utexas.edu)

The University of Texas Center for Performance Excellence (UTCPE) is a recognition program for Texas organizations, based on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Criteria. The UTCPE Awards program comprises three levels of awards for companies in the business sector, educational organizations, and educational organizations to participate in a performance excellence journey.

Level 1: Commitment Award—beginning to adopt performance excellence principles.

Level 2: Commitment Award—beginning a systematic approach to performance excellence principles with performance results. Progress Award—demonstrating a systematic approach and some deployment of performance excellence principles, with performance results reported for some areas of importance to the organization.

Level 3: Commitment Award—demonstrating a systematic approach and deployment of performance excellence principles, with performance results and trends reported for many areas of importance to the organization. Progress Award—demonstrating a systematic approach, deployment, and learning of performance excellence principles, with performance results, trends, and comparisons reported for many areas of importance to the organization. Significant Merit Award—demonstrating a systematic and effective approach, deployment, learning, and integration of performance excellence principles, with performance improvement results, trends, and comparisons reported for most areas of importance to the organization. Highest Achievement Award—demonstrating a systematic and effective approach, deployment, learning, and integration of performance excellence principles, with sustained performance improvement results, trends, and

comparisons reported for most areas of importance to the organization.

Download the UTCPE awards calendar at [www.utexas.edu/cee/cpe/awards/index.php?page=calendar](http://www.utexas.edu/cee/cpe/awards/index.php?page=calendar).



**Vermont**

**Vermont Program for Performance Excellence**  
 Vermont Council for Quality  
 Ph. 802-655-1910 Fax 802-655-1932  
[www.vermontquality.org](http://www.vermontquality.org)  
 E-mail: [laurie@performanceexcellence.com](mailto:laurie@performanceexcellence.com)

The Vermont Program for Performance Excellence has four award levels of recognition: Interest, Commitment, Achievement and Excellence (the Governor's Award for Performance Excellence).

Interest level. Participants are members of the Vermont Council for Quality or have participated in education and training of the criteria. The Vermont Performance Excellence examiners are recognized at the Interest level.

Commitment level. Organizations who have taken the initiative to complete the organizational self-assessment are presented with a certificate at the recognition ceremony as an organization committed to quality improvement.

Achievement level. Organizations who have completed the self-assessment and have had a site visit by Vermont Baldrige examiners are recognized at the Achievement level.

Governor's Award for Performance Excellence. The organization that is presented with the Governor's Award has completed a self-assessment survey or narrative and has had a site visit indicating a systematic approach, fact-based improvement processes, and measurable results in many areas.

U.S. Senate Productivity Award. The U.S. Senate Productivity Award is presented to the organization that has demonstrated the largest productivity gain over the previous year. They have completed the self-assessment and have had a site visit. The award is open for the categories

of manufacturing, service, public sector, health care and education. The organization will be presented with an award by the senator at the recognition ceremony.

Open to any Vermont organization.

Deadlines: applications accepted throughout the year.



**Virginia**

**U.S. Senate Productivity and Quality Award for Virginia**

U.S. Senate Productivity and Quality Awards for Virginia  
 Ph. 571-215-8881

[www.spqa-va.org/award.html](http://www.spqa-va.org/award.html)  
 E-mail: [director@spqa-va.org](mailto:director@spqa-va.org)

The U.S. Senate Productivity and Quality Award (SPQA) for Virginia program is the longest continuously-running award process in the nation. The performance criteria and core values are adapted from the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award and can serve as an internal assessment and management tools for planning, training, and implementing quality initiatives. The program is open to all private businesses and all organizations in the public and nonprofit sectors. Applicants may have affiliates, divisions, or head offices in other states; however, the organizational unit under consideration must be within the Commonwealth of Virginia or the District of Columbia.

Awards are organized into five sectors: manufacturing, health care, service, government, and education. Awards are presented at SPQA's annual Forum for Excellence in the following categories:

SPQA Certificate for Commitment to Performance Excellence - Recognition is provided to organizations that have demonstrated, through their commitment and implementation of effective management principles, notable progress in building sound processes.

SPQA Plaque for Progress in Performance Excellence - Recognition is provided to organizations that have demonstrated through their commitment and

practice of effective principles significant progress in building sound processes.

SPQA Medallion of Performance Excellence - This is the highest level of recognition presented to organizations that have demonstrated through their practices and achievements the highest level of productivity and quality excellence.

SPQA Award for Continuing Excellence (ACE) - Recognition is provided for past medallion recipients demonstrating sustained exemplary performance in quality and productivity.

Applications are received annually according to the schedule at [http://spqa-va.org/Assets/2008\\_SPQA\\_Key\\_Dates.pdf](http://spqa-va.org/Assets/2008_SPQA_Key_Dates.pdf). Inquiries are also welcome year-round from organizations interested in applying.



**Washington**

**Washington State Quality Award**

Washington State Quality Award  
 Ph. 800-517-8264 Fax 360-394-2445  
[www.wsqa.net](http://www.wsqa.net)

E-mail: [wsqa@wsqa.net](mailto:wsqa@wsqa.net)

The Washington State Quality Award

Open to all Washington organizations in the following categories: for-profit, nonprofit, health care, government, and education. We also serve all surrounding states that do not have a state award organization, including but not limited to: Oregon, Idaho, and Montana.

Deadlines: applications are always available; intent to apply forms due Sept. 11; applications due Oct. 17; application review—Nov. 2007–Apr. 2008; site visit contingent on approval of judges panel March 8–21, 2009; award announcement May 2009 awards presentation May–July depending on availability.



**Wisconsin**

**Wisconsin Forward Award**  
 Wisconsin Forward Award Inc.

Ph. 608-663-5300 Fax 608-663-5302  
[www.forwardaward.org](http://www.forwardaward.org)

E-mail: [info@forwardaward.org](mailto:info@forwardaward.org)

The Forward Award program provides a system for measuring and recognizing four levels of progress and growth toward performance excellence. There are no limits to the number of organizations which may receive recognition at any level. The four recognition levels represent developmental steps to performance excellence.

Commitment. This is the beginning level for organizations starting to adopt and implement continuous improvement practices and principles. Organizations that are starting on their quality journey will find Forward Award program participation and education to be very beneficial as a first learning step.

Proficiency. This is an intermediate level for organizations that are starting to effectively use continuous improvement principles and practices. Recognition at this level is provided to organizations which demonstrate, through their commitment and implementation of quality and performance management, progress in constructing sound and noteworthy processes.

Mastery. This is an advanced level for organizations which show through their skillful practice of performance management principles, significant progress in expanding their capabilities through improved processes of all kinds. Their achievements are demonstrated by results, are clearly linked to quality and performance management systems, and are directly attributable to a systemic, well-deployed approach.

Excellence. The highest level of achievement, the Forward Award for Excellence, is presented to organizations that demonstrate excellence through their quality practices and achievements. Recognition at this level is provided to organizations that are outstanding examples of quality enterprises in Wisconsin and which can serve as role models for others.

Open to manufacturing, business, education, health care, and public organizations located in Wisconsin.

Deadlines: intent to apply forms due Nov. 7, 2007; applications due Jan. 11, 2008; site visits March 31–April 11, 2008; feedback reports sent to applicants May 30, 2008; annual award ceremony late summer or fall, 2008.

**QD**




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[www.renishaw.com](http://www.renishaw.com)

