



Call for Nominations: Governor's International Trade Awards

The Minnesota Trade Office (MTO) is accepting nominations for the 40th Annual [Governor's International Trade Awards](#). As this year marks an incredible four-decade milestone, these prestigious awards are given out each year to honor Minnesota companies that have excelled in the international marketplace. Award recipients will be recognized at an awards ceremony to be scheduled in early 2026.

Award Categories

The following five award categories are open for nominations for Minnesota companies that successfully export goods and services:

- Manufactured Goods:
 - Small-sized company (<100 employees)
 - Medium-sized company (100-500 employees)
- Agricultural Commodities/Processed Food: Any size company
- Services: Small- to medium-sized company in any industry sector (less than 500 employees)
- Large Company (greater than 500 employees) in any industry sector

Eligibility

Any Minnesota-based company that matches one of the award categories and has not received the award in the last ten years is eligible to apply.

Award Criteria

- Significant portion of business is international.
- Demonstrated growth in international business over the past three years, with continued likelihood of growth.
- Increased or maintained employment in Minnesota through the expansion of international trade activity.
- Entered new international markets or expanded in existing markets.

Application Process

Complete the attached application form with the required supporting narrative and submit to Jackie Geiger by email at jackie.geiger@state.mn.us no later than **Friday, August 29, 2025**. Self-nominations or nominations by business colleagues will be accepted, and all submitted information will remain confidential.

Deadline to Apply

End of business on **Friday, August 29, 2025**.

Contact

Jackie Geiger by email at jackie.geiger@state.mn.us or by phone at 651-259-7485.



Governor's International Trade Awards

Nomination Form

Deadline to Submit: Friday, August 29, 2025

Award Nominated For (Check one)

Manufactured Goods Award (select company size):

☐ Small (<100 employees) ☐ Medium (100-500 employees)

☐ Agricultural Commodities/Processed Food Award

☐ Services Award

☐ Large Company Award

Nominee Information (Please Type or Print Legibly)

Nominee/Company: _____

Main Contact: _____

Business Title: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Website: _____

Primary Industry: _____

Description of products/services offered by nominee:

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Minnesota Trade Office

Great Northern Building • 180 East Fifth Street • 12th Floor • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101-1678 • USA

651-259-7499 PHONE • 1-800-657-3858 TOLL FREE • 651-296-3900 TTY • mn.gov/deed/business/exporting

Company Size (*Number of full-time-equivalent employees in Minnesota and total employees overall*)

2022 _____ 2023 _____ 2024 _____

Total International sales/service volume (*Information will remain confidential*)

2022 _____ 2023 _____ 2024 _____

Percentage of total revenue derived from international sales/service (*Information will remain confidential*)

2022 _____ 2023 _____ 2024 _____

Countries served by nominee:

New countries entered in the past three years:

IMPORTANT: Please attach a separate narrative describing how the nominee has met the applicable selection criteria listed on page one. Narrative and any optional supporting documentation should not exceed five pages.

Nominator Information (Please Type or Print Legibly)

Nominated by (self-nominations accepted): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Affiliation: _____ **Signature:** _____

Submit electronically to jackie.geiger@state.mn.us no later than Friday, August 29, 2025.

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