



## Excellence in Entrepreneurship Awards Eastern and Southern Kentucky

EKU College of Business & Technology  
Kentucky Highlands Investment Corp.  
The Center for Rural Development

The EKU College of Business and Technology, the Kentucky Highlands Investment Corp., and The Center for Rural Development have partnered to honor excellence in entrepreneurship in the Eastern and Southern Kentucky Region. The awards are presented annually at The Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky. Nominations are made by individuals and community organizations, and selection of the awards finalists and recipients is determined by a committee of partner representatives and selected external stakeholders.

Nominees must reside or have their business/organization located in one or more of the 55 counties in the Eastern and Southern Kentucky Region depicted on the Geographical Area Map.

<b>Awards Categories</b>			
<b>Business</b> (in existence 5 or more years with greater than 25 employees)	<b>Small Business</b> (in existence 5 or more years with 25 or less employees)	<b>Start-ups</b> (in existence less than 5 years)	<b>Non-Profits</b> (in existence at least 6 months)

<b>Excellence in Entrepreneurship for any category is determined by satisfying one or more of the following criteria</b>
<p><b>Economic success of enterprise</b> <i>as measured by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Growth</li> <li>◆ Financial strength</li> <li>◆ Workforce</li> </ul> <p><b>Contribution to the community</b> <i>as measured by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Service to Community Organizations</li> <li>◆ Leadership of Community Efforts</li> <li>◆ Grant Funding Acquired</li> <li>◆ Financial Support of Community Programs</li> </ul> <p><b>Operational Achievement</b> <i>as measured by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Innovative Business Practices</li> <li>◆ Superior Safety Achievement</li> <li>◆ Superior Use of Technology</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainability</b> (Not required for Start-ups or Non-profits) At least a five-year record of continuous operation</p>

Nomination forms must be received on or before **June 1, 2009**.  
Nominees will be contacted to provide more detailed information.