



2026 Emerging Leader of the Year Nomination Form

This award recognizes an NCEDA member emerging leader who is making significant and measurable contributions to their local community and the North Carolina economic development community as a whole. The nominee should demonstrate leadership, excellence, creativity, and show initiative with work-related professional accomplishments. Click [HERE](#) to view the past award recipients.

CRITERIA

For this nomination to be considered, please carefully review and adhere to the guidelines below:

- Complete the full nomination form. Please limit responses to the space provided for each question and do not attach additional pages with expanded answers.
- You may include **up to three** supporting materials such as letters of recommendation, news articles, or other documentation that highlight the accomplishments of the nominee.
- Submit a thoughtful, thorough, and professional nomination that clearly addresses the criteria and reflects the importance of the award.

SUBMISSION

Submit nominations electronically to liz@nceda.org by **5 pm, Friday, May 8**. Contact Liz with questions or if you do not receive confirmation (888.246.2332). The 2026 NCEDA Award recipients will be announced at the Annual Conference in June.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

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1. Leadership and Initiative

Describe how the nominee has taken on leadership roles at work and in the community. Highlight projects, programs, or initiatives where they stepped up, contributed ideas, or played a key role in making a positive impact. Include examples of achievements, recognition, or measurable results that demonstrate their leadership in action.

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2. Community and Professional Impact

Explain how the nominee has made a difference in their community, workplace, or the field of economic development. This could include improving quality of life, supporting local businesses, volunteering, or leading initiatives that benefit others. Highlight tangible outcomes and meaningful contributions.

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3. Creativity, Mentorship, and Growth

Share examples of the nominee's creativity, innovation, problem-solving, or leadership development. Include ways they have inspired, supported, or mentored peers, colleagues, or others in the economic development field. Highlight accomplishments that demonstrate their potential to grow as a future leader.

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4. Additional Comments

Provide any additional stories, insights, or a brief statement/quote that illustrates why this nominee deserves the Emerging Leader award.