

**2023 WBE Star Award Application**

**\***NOTE: Only ONE application can be submitted per region.

Every year our organization celebrates its outstanding WBEs. The Star Award recognizes the top certified woman-owned businesses that have contributed to WBEC Greater DMV, have championed other women in business and developed innovative solutions to doing business with Corporations.

**The 2023 Star Award winner will receive:**

* Recognition at the Celebrating Our Partners Reception and Annual Awards Breakthrough Breakfast on November 16 & 17, 2023.
* Profile on the organization website.
* Opportunity for a spokesperson role at Metro Educational Programs.
* Participation on the 2024 Awards Committee.

**The WBE Star award is presented to an outstanding WBEC Certified Greater DMV WBE company (not an individual) which demonstrate the following criteria:**

* Has previously or is currently doing business with a WBENC Corporate Sponsor and has participated in the Done Deals™ Program
* Utilizes innovative solutions to leverage WBENC Certification
* Has actively attended and participated in Greater DMV events & programs
* Demonstrates involvement with the Greater DMV (volunteer service, in-kind support, event sponsorship, committee participation, panelist participation etc.)
* Actively supports fellow certified WBEs

The WBE company receiving this award will be recognized for the following criteria, based on a point system:

1. Involvement in Greater DMV – **15 points**
2. WBE Experience – **25 points**
3. Support of other WBE Businesses – **15 points**
4. WBE Customer Value – **15 points**
5. Recommendation and Reference Information – **30 points**

**Application Process:**

* Answers to application questions should reflect activity for the 2022 calendar year.
* Nominee WBEs are encouraged to apply for this award and recommend that other WBEs to apply if they meet the above criteria.
* In order to apply, the WBE must answer all application questions and submit one letter of recommendation from a corporation or WBE to address the above criteria.
* All application materials should be submitted no later than **Friday August 11, 2023**.
* Applications will be reviewed by a committee and finalists will be notified by **Wednesday September 6, 2023**.
* Please note that WBEs **cannot** win the same award in two consecutive years.

**Additional Information/Instructions:**

* Answers should not exceed one page per question.
* All sections should be completed in the format most appropriate for your response, e.g. narrative, outline, etc.
* Full application, including questionnaire responses and letter of recommendation must be submitted in one complete package. Materials **will not** be accepted if submitted separately.
* Additional materials such as photographs, brochures, and marketing materials will not be accepted.
* Application, company logo and headshot of person who would accept the award should be emailed to:
**WBEC Greater DMV Awards at** **awardsdmv@wbecgreaterdmv.org****.**

**Nominee Name:**

**Company:**

**Nominee Email Address:**

* 1. **Involvement with Greater DMV**

Please assess the level of your past year’s involvement with Greater DMV. Include information on the events you attended, Done Deals™ reported, marketing methods for WBENC certification, volunteer efforts, in-kind services, referrals, committee participation, etc.

**Select all that apply:**

[ ] Attended Breakthrough Breakfast

[ ] Attended additional educational programs

[ ] Referred another woman business owner to Greater DMV

[ ] Volunteered time and/or expertise to Greater DMV

[ ] Placed the WBENC Seal and/or woman-owned logo on product, marketing materials, and/or website

[ ] Reported Done DealsTM

[ ] Referred a corporate client (who is not a current Greater DMV corporate member) to Greater DMV

[ ] Presented at a Lunch with the Experts Webinar

[ ] Presented at a Greater DMV educational program

[ ] Sponsored a Greater DMV program/event

[ ] Other Greater DMV collaborations

[ ] Served on a committee

[ ]  Represented Greater DMV at the National Level (i.e. Host Committee, Forum, Advisory Committee, etc.)

[ ] None of the Above

In no more than, 50 words, please share any additional involvement information you would like to share.

* 1. **WBE Value**
		1. In 200 words or less, please describe what does being part of the Greater DMV ecosystem means to your company and what would winning this award mean to you and your company.
		2. What innovative strategies has your company used to leverage your certification? Include any strategies you’ve used to market your certification that you believe is relevant to this award.
	2. **Support of other WBE Businesses**

Please explain how your business utilizes or partners with other WBEs and/or other diverse vendors (up to 3 examples).

* 1. **WBE Customer Value**
		1. Who are your company’s top three clients?
		2. Has your company done business with Greater DMV corporate member(s) in the last year? Tell us about it in 50 words or less.
		3. Has your company done business with Greater DMV WBE(s) in the last year? Tell us about it in 50 words or less.
	2. **Recommendation and Reference Information**

Please attach your letter of recommendation from a corporation or WBE that addresses how you fulfill the award criteria when you submit your application.