



Leading Woman in Family Business Award (LW)

Family Business Association's (FBA) Leading Woman in Family Business Award recognises an outstanding woman who demonstrates significant achievements in business leadership and who champions and supports the role of women in family business and the wider community.

Please take the time to complete all sections of your submission by **12 July 2026**.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO START YOUR ENTRY.

The top three (3) finalists across Australia and New Zealand of the Leading Woman in Family Business Award will receive a 20% discount to the Family Business Conference: Asia-Pacific 2027. (Discount will apply to the standard full delegate rate for a maximum of one ticket and no further discounts will be applied.)

KEY DATES

Entries open:	4 May 2026
Entries close:	12 July 2026
Awards Dinner:	The Family Business Conference: Asia-Pacific 2027

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This award will be presented to an individual, not the family business. To be eligible to enter or be nominated for this award, you or your entrant must:

- Be a female (or identifying as such) family member of an Australian or New Zealand-owned family business.
- Hold a role of significant influence within that business.

For full details on the entry process and judging phases, please refer to our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

Any further questions, please contact awards@familybusiness.org.au.



GENERAL SUBMISSION ADVICE

Ensure your submission:

- Clearly shows why your entry is outstanding;
- Follows the entry form format and each section is complete;
- Is concise and direct;
- Substantiates all claimed outcomes; and
- Provides supporting material and references if applicable.

To enable the Family Business Excellence Awards Judging Panel to accurately assess your submission, please complete all sections.

CONFIDENTIALITY CLAUSE

FBA guarantees that information provided by applicants will be treated with the utmost confidence and will only be available to the judges and administration personnel managing these awards.

ABOUT YOU

Details	
What is your role/your entrant’s role in the family business?	
When did you/your entrant join the family business?	
What previous roles have you/your entrant held in the business?	
What does your position description/your entrant’s position description include?	
To which generation of the family business do you/your entrant belong?	

ABOUT THE FAMILY BUSINESS

Details	
Describe the family business – industry/nature/product/service.	
How many generations of the family have been involved in the business?	
Which family members are involved in the business and what are their roles?	
When was the business established?	
Number of employees, including total and FTE (please demonstrate range/growth over life of business, eg 2-200+).	

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

An entrant does not need to have excelled in all the criteria, but rather demonstrate excellence and achievement in a number of areas. In each case, please expand your response to assist the judges’ understanding.

Questions
<p>As a Business Leader: How have you driven the growth of your business to help it thrive? What innovation have you brought to the business? <i>(maximum 500 words)</i></p>
<p>As a Role Model: Women in all lines of business need role models – successful women who they can look up to and aspire to emulate. Provide examples of how you have role-modelled being a successful woman in a family business. How do you plan to continue doing this? How have you modelled successfully integrating business and family life? Have you empowered or inspired other women in your family or business to achieve greater outcomes? What are you proud to have contributed? <i>(maximum 500 words)</i></p>

Questions (continued)

Overcoming Challenges:

What challenges have you faced as a woman working in a family business, and how have you overcome these challenges? *(maximum 500 words)*

What initiatives have you/your entrant driven to support women within the family business?

Describe how you/your entrant have been a champion for women and diversity in your business. What have you/your entrant brought to the business in terms of improvement of conditions and opportunities that empower women? This may include innovation, improved processes, thought leadership, best practices, representation on Board/in workforce etc. What are your aspirations/your entrant's aspirations for greater recognition of women in the family business? *(maximum 500 words)*

What initiatives have you/your entrant driven to support women within the wider community?

Describe how you/your entrant have been a champion for women and diversity in your wider community. *(maximum 500 words)*

Additional Information:

Please include a summary of up to 500 words maximum, if you feel you have not been able to adequately represent your submission by answering the questions above. (optional)

You may add any attachments you believe will support your entry for this award, including videos, images, references and other relevant resources or content. Testimonials or referrals from customers, clients or key stakeholders can also be included here (limited to 3 and no longer than 1 page each).

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. The Leading Woman in Family Business Award is open to both members and non-members of FBA.
2. One Leading Woman in Family Business Award is presented annually, recognising an individual's achievements in family business.
3. The winner will be chosen from the entrants; however, if no entrant is considered to adequately meet the criteria, the Award may be withheld.
4. Entries are to be lodged in electronic format only and will be judged on the information provided, together with any supporting documentation and an interview with the entrant if required (at the judges' discretion). Entries and supporting materials will not be returned.
5. FBA will select a panel of appropriately qualified and experienced judges to assess nominations for the Award. The judges will be bound by a code of conduct. FBA will not disclose the identity of the judges.
6. The judges will consider entries received and may seek external expert advice to make their final selection. In all cases, this decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
7. Entrants are not to have any direct contact with judges.
8. FBA is not liable, under any circumstances associated with this Award, for any damage, infringement or violation affecting the property rights of the entrant, an organisation or an individual.
9. The top 3 finalists across all states/regions will be showcased at the State Insights Conferences and will receive a 20% discount to the Family Business Conference: Asia-Pacific in 2027, where the overall winner of the Leading Woman in Family Business Award will be presented. Discount will be applied at the standard full delegate rate for a maximum of one ticket and no further discounts will be applied.
10. Entrants acknowledge and agree that the Family Business Excellence Awards provides a promotional opportunity for their business and also for FBA, and will cooperate wherever possible with all media opportunities and marketing initiatives led by FBA. This may include providing photos, video, quotes and testimonials to promote alignment with FBA and the Awards program.

DECLARATION

In submitting this form, I declare:

- If recognised as the winner of this award, to the best of my knowledge, there is no legal or other reason why FBA might be brought into disrepute.
- The winner of the Leading Woman in Family Business Award for 2026/27 agrees to act as an ambassador for FBA through public and media appearances.