



Department for
Business & Trade

The King's Awards for Enterprise



Queen Elizabeth II conferred the first Awards in 1966

The King's Awards for Enterprise are a priority for The Royal Family and for No.10.



The Royal Family  @RoyalFamily · Jun 28

"Having watched the Awards established in my name grow in stature and influence, I continue to be impressed by the way that they have given opportunity to big organisations and small, enabling them to project themselves on the world stage"

- Her Majesty on [@TheQueensAwards](#)



Changing to The King's Awards for Enterprise

King Charles III continues Queen Elizabeth's legacy by giving His Majesty's name to prestigious awards

The name change reflects His Majesty The King's desire to continue recognising and promoting outstanding business



Awards Background

The King's Awards for Enterprise recognise and encourage the **outstanding achievements of UK businesses** in the fields of:

- Innovation
- International Trade
- Sustainability
- Promoting Opportunity (through social mobility)
- Young Founder

The UK is full of **exciting and innovative** businesses and The King's Awards for Enterprise is a great way of celebrating their success.

Whether a small business with a great innovative product or service, or a larger company running an impressive social mobility programme, this award is a **prestigious way to recognise your contribution to enterprise**.

The King's Awards for Enterprise are open to applications from **almost all businesses and non-profits, of almost all sizes throughout the UK in every sector**.

The 2026 Round opened on 6 May 2026 and closes 8 September 2026



Benefits of receiving an Award

Key Benefits of the King's Awards:

- **The most prestigious UK business honours**, recognised globally.
- **A strong signal of trust and credibility**, showcasing the quality of your products, services, or international trade performance.
- **Opens doors to new opportunities**, giving overseas partners confidence to work with you.
- **Use of the Royal Emblem for five years**, a powerful mark of distinction that helps businesses stand out.
- **Boosts staff morale**, with the Award presented locally by HM Lord-Lieutenants and sometimes a Member of the Royal Family.
- **Positive media exposure**, raising your organisation's profile.
- **Invitation to a Royal Reception**, offering unparalleled networking opportunities.
- **Recipients often report:**
 - Increased sales and business growth
 - Access to new clients and markets
 - Greater global recognition
 - Ability to attract and retain top talent
 - Enhanced trust and credibility
 - Valuable business advice and support



Celebrating Success



King's Awards Recipients 2026

Statistics



185 Awards



1 Double Award



89% of recipients are SMEs



13% are micro businesses (less than 10 employees)



Initial Eligibility Criteria

The organisation must:

- Be based in the UK
- Have a good, continuous compliance record with HM Revenue and Customs
- Be a self-contained enterprise under its own management and complete its own accounts
- Have at least two full-time UK employees or part-time equivalents
- Demonstrate strong environmental, social and governance (ESG) behaviours



How to apply

- Almost all **UK businesses** (including non-profit) can apply
- The application process is **free**
- All applications must be made **online**
- You may apply for **more than one** category
- Applications for the 2027 King's Awards for Enterprise open on **6 May until early September 2026.**
- Eligibility criteria and more information on how to apply is here **www.gov.uk/kings-awards-for-enterprise**



Contact Us



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