

Lantern Awards Mission and History

The Lantern Awards recognize Louisiana manufacturers whose commitment to business innovation and public service ensure a brighter future for their companies and their communities.

Louisiana Economic Development created the Lantern Awards in 1979 and has recognized more than 330 Louisiana manufacturing businesses in the 45 years since.

The awards are presented at a National Manufacturing Week celebration event in Baton Rouge. Since 1992, award-winners have received priceless handcrafted lanterns from [Bevolo](#) Gas & Electric Lights of New Orleans. Bevolo is the oldest and largest copper gas lantern manufacturer in the U.S., and the second-oldest in the world.

Qualifications for Consideration

- Must be a manufacturer doing business in Louisiana.
- Must have been located in Louisiana a minimum of three years.
- Must not have received a Lantern Award in the last 10 years.

Nomination Timeline

- Nominations must be received by July 31, 2024.
- Honorees will be notified August 15, 2024.

Nomination Submission Guidelines

**Please note: Submission guidelines have been revised and simplified for 2024.*

Anyone who believes that a Louisiana manufacturer deserves consideration for a Lantern Award may nominate that company by submitting a letter detailing the company's accomplishments and commitment to business success and community service. Letters may be as brief or as long as the nominator wishes, and multiple letters in support of the same company are welcome. However, nominees will be evaluated on their merits, and not on the number or length of supporting letters received.

Letters may be emailed to LEDLanternAwards@la.gov; or mailed to Louisiana Economic Development, Attn: Lantern Awards Nominations, 617 North 3rd St., Baton Rouge LA 70802.

Nomination Letter Requirements

- Name of nominator(s)
- Nominator(s) title(s) and company or organization, if relevant
- Contact email address and phone number
- Name and location of manufacturing company being nominated
- Detailed explanation of how the company has positioned itself for current and future success, and how it has contributed to the betterment of its community

Judging Process

- Nominating letters will be reviewed by a panel of LED senior leaders in consultation with LED's local and regional partners.
- One honoree will be selected from each of the state's eight economic development regions.
- Judging criteria:
 - Company has experienced sustained, verifiable business success.
 - Company has innovated to ensure future viability and growth.
 - Company and its employees have demonstrated a commitment to community service that has made a positive impact on their city, parish, region or state beyond the economic vitality their work creates every day.
- Award winners, as well as companies that self-nominate or receive nominations from the community but are not selected for an award, will be notified of their status by August 15.