

KZN TOP BUSINESS AWARDS ENTRY REQUIREMENTS 2026

Category entries close on the 12 June 2026

Award Event: 16 July 2026 at the Durban ICC

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- The company or organisation must have an office in KZN
- Each category award shall be made to the entrant who, in the opinion of each panel of judges, is most worthy of the awards offered.
- Each company may enter two categories and the Top brand competition

GUIDELINES

- You must be able to show that your company contributes to the KZN economy and has a proactive business model that adheres to the principles of King V.
- The King V Code on Corporate Governance provides a framework for ethical and effective leadership in business management, focusing on sustainable value creation, transparency, and stakeholder inclusivity. Its application is voluntary unless adopted by regulation (such as the JSE listing requirements), but it represents a South African benchmark for best practice.
- The emphasis is on the overall quality of the entry: the merits of the claims in the entry submitted

ENTRY PROCESS

- Complete company details data sheet below
- Supply a company logo and four to five high resolution photos with your entry, which will be used on social media and in a presentation at the gala dinner should you become a finalist.
- Answer the questions below to motivate your entry in the category/categories selected
- Completed entries should be sent to editorial@mweb.co.za

QUERIES

Gayle Adlam

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CATEGORIES

1. Standard Bank Client of the year – SME Category

Less than R100M turn over per annum, bank with Standard Bank

2. Standard Bank Client of the year – Larger Enterprise

More than R100 million turn over per annum, bank with Standard Bank

3. Manufacturing Sector

Broadly defined as the physical or chemical transformation of materials or compounds into new products.

4. Transport/Logistics Sector

Transport as an economic sector refers to activities concerned with land transport, railway transport, water transport, and transport via pipelines, air transport, and activities of travel agencies, post and telecommunications, courier activities, as well as storage and warehousing activities.

5. Franchising Sector

A business that is owned by one or more people who provide products or services under the branding and rules stipulated by a parent company.

6. Family-Owned/Managed Businesses

Open to businesses where the majority ownership/management remains within a family (or multi-family) structure, and where more than one generation contributes to the success of the business.

7. Agricultural and Agro-Processing Sector

Incorporates establishments and activities that are primarily engaged in farming activities, including commercial hunting and game propagation and forestry, logging and fishing. The beneficiation of primary materials and intermediate goods from agricultural, fisheries and forestry-based sectors is included.

8. Education, Business and Financial Services sector

This sector includes insurance and pension funding; legal; accounting; education and general business activities.

9. Community Upliftment and Improvement

For businesses or social enterprises that have made a significant positive impact on the community and region they operate in. This could include charitable efforts or developing your local community. The motivation should be to make KZN a better place to live and work.

10. Renewable Efficiency – Green initiatives

Renewable energy, low-carbon transport, energy-efficient buildings, clean technologies, improved waste management, improved freshwater provision, etc.

11. Employee Wellness

For businesses that go the extra mile to engage their staff members and what difference this makes to the business. This may be through in-house training, flexible working, personal development, workplace wellbeing activity and teambuilding.

12. Partnership Award

The winning project will reflect the importance of innovation, strategic thinking, teamwork and effective inter-agency collaboration.

13. KZN Top Brand

The top homegrown brand in KwaZulu-Natal is awarded based only on the results of a public poll. In 2026 these results will be managed through an on-line voting system on www.kzntopbusiness.com. (No entry form is required)

14. Business Leader of the Year

The KZN Top Business Leader's award is an honorary award given to a businessperson who has demonstrated exemplary business achievement, industry influence and is a true inspiration to others. (No entry form is required)

15. Top Business Woman

The KZN Top Business Women's award is an honorary award given to a businesswoman who has demonstrated exemplary business achievement, industry influence and is a true inspiration to others. (No entry form is required)

PLEASE COMPLETE

COMPANY DETAILS	
Full name of company	
Date established	
No of employees	
Name of account/ auditor	
Bank	
KEY PERSONNEL	
CEO	
Managing Director	
Marketing Director	
Financial Manager	
Other	
CONTACT DETAILS	
Physical address	
Telephone	
E-mail	
Website	
ENTRY COMPLETED BY	
Name	
Designation	
Contact number	

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

Question 1.

Provide an overview of the company/organisation's products and services in KZN

How does company' contribute to the KZN economy?

Question 2: Leadership

Explain the management/ governing body structure

How does leadership take responsibility for the company's performance, culture and impact?

What policies and systems are in place to ensure compliance with laws, regulations and industry standards?

Question 3: Ethical culture

How does your organisation define and promote ethical behaviour across all levels of the business?

Question 4: Good performance and value creation

Please provide the latest annual report if applicable or provide a letter from your accountant stating that your finances are sound.

Question 5 Trust, good reputation, legitimacy

Explain how the company communicates and interacts with all its stakeholders – internally and externally to ensure its relationships are effectively managed.

Question 6

Explain why your company should win a KZN Top Business award in the category selected.

Provide evidence for your success/impact? (Project completion, financial success, report, photos, testimonials, etc.