



ICEA will accept nominations for the Annual Excellence Awards through May 10th.

This is a great opportunity for your chamber to garner statewide recognition for the hard work that staff accomplished on specific new projects throughout the past year.

Chambers are divided into the following categories for judging:

0—400 members

401—700 members

701+ members

Upon reviewing, all applicants scoring above 90% will receive an Excellence Award.

Chambers may enter multiple entries.

Deadline —May 10th.

E-mail entry link with this completed form to info@iceaonline.com.

Mail a non-refundable check payable to ICEA for \$25 per entry to:
ICEA, P.O. Box 377, Hanover IN 47243.

Questions? Please call the ICEA office at 812-871-3000.

Excellence in Innovation Awards

About the award: The Annual Excellence Awards will recognize innovative new projects from your chamber this past year. Chambers may submit multiple nominations for various projects, however each nomination must showcase something new offered by your chamber during this past year. This award recognizes excellence in innovative new ideas. Complete a separate form for each entry.

E-mail your entry with this completed form to info@iceaonline.com prior to May 10th. Each entry submitted for review will be charged a \$25 non-refundable fee. Please mail this review payment payable to ICEA to: P.O. Box 377 Hanover IN 47243. An invoice will also be sent for you to pay with debit/credit card.

Chamber of Commerce _____

What are you submitting for? _____

Contact: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Complete a duplicate entry for more than one entry. Please circle below the size of your chamber:

- 0—400 members
- 401— 700 members
- 701 + members

Forward e-mail with your submission attached to info@iceaonline.com no later than May 10th.



Ambassador Program

The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce's Ambassador Membership Committee plays a pivotal role in fostering vibrant business community engagement. Through the Ambassador Program, 30 member businesses volunteer to serve as mentors, providing personalized support and resources to both new and existing members. This initiative not only aids in member growth and retention but also enhances the visibility and benefits of Chamber membership.

The objective of this program is to enhance engagement within the Chamber by offering personalized support through mentoring, networking, and active participation in Chamber events. This structure, led by a Chair and three sub-committees—recruitment, administrative, and social—effectively distributes responsibilities, significantly reducing the workload of the Director of Member Services.

The Ambassador Membership Committee is a crucial link between the Chamber and its members. Ambassadors dedicate their time to mentoring new businesses, attending events, and promoting Chamber initiatives. By offering support and a welcoming presence, they contribute significantly to the satisfaction and success of Chamber members. Each ambassador is responsible for mentoring members through their first two years, ensuring a smooth transition and solid integration into Chamber activities.

The program operates through a structured framework designed to maximize engagement. New businesses receive welcome packets from the Director of Member Services, which include membership information and resources. These packets are followed up by personal contacts from assigned ambassadors, ensuring new members feel valued from the start. Ambassadors also play a critical role in the retention communication pipeline, fostering lasting relationships within the community.

One innovative feature of the program is its personalized mentorship approach. By assigning dedicated ambassadors to new businesses, the program nurtures a supportive environment where members can find tailored resources and guidance. This strategy has proven effective in enhancing member satisfaction and retention, fostering long-term relationships within the Chamber community.

The committee utilizes both in-person and digital tools to facilitate communication and engagement. These include an email distribution group, a private Facebook page, and a Chamber app, which streamline communication and coordination of activities. Traditional networking methods, such as attending events and ribbon-cutting ceremonies, complement these digital strategies, enhancing the program's effectiveness.

Ambassadors commit to mentoring new members, attending events, participating in committee meetings, and promoting Chamber benefits. They maintain professionalism and actively represent the Chamber in various capacities, helping to strengthen the community fabric.

Participation in the program offers increased visibility and networking opportunities, enhancing both personal and business growth. Ambassadors receive recognition across Chamber media platforms and enjoy perks such as complimentary event seats, contributing to their professional development and community stature.



The Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce

Better business. Better community.

The program has streamlined from thirty to sixteen ambassadors, making it more manageable and effective. Plans are in place to continue this successful structure, as evidenced by increased retention rates and improved quality of member engagement.

The Ambassador Membership Committee has significantly increased member engagement and retention. The shift in program structure to the ambassador chair has relieved the Director of Member Services, allowing for more focused lead generation and follow-ups. This has led to a more vibrant, engaged, and interconnected Chamber community.

Sandra McGow, Director of Community Engagement at CarDon Senior Living, praises the program: "As a chamber member and ambassador, I've found immense value in the Ambassador Membership Committee. It has been instrumental in my professional growth and success. The recognition and visibility I've gained have been invaluable, elevating my business profile within the community."

Attached:

- Get Involved Pamphlet

Supporting Documents:

- Ambassador Business Card Examples:



CHAMBER AMBASSADORS



The mission of the Chamber Ambassadors is to promote the role of the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce in the community.

Ambassadors...

- Welcome and build relationships with new members
- Encourage current members to maximize their membership
- Aid in the retention rate of new and existing members through reinforcing Chamber benefits
- Create a positive image for the Chamber by acting as liaisons between members and Chamber Staff

Interested in becoming a Chamber Ambassador or being a part of the Welcome Committee? Contact Stacy Bruce: sbruce@chamberbloomington.org



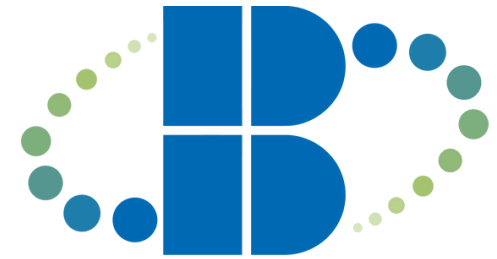
Welcome Committee Members are an important part of the Chamber and are selected based on the individual's interest, dependability, integrity, energy, and communication skills. Your job is to utilize those skills and provide a positive image with our membership, the Chamber, and our community.

The mission of the Welcome Committee is to promote the role of the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce in the community by welcoming new members. Committee Members create a positive image for the Chamber by acting as liaisons between members and the Chamber Staff.

Contact Us For More Info

☎ 812.336.6381

✉ info@chamberbloomington.org



The Greater Bloomington
Chamber of Commerce

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Ways to Get Involved With the Chamber



The Success School acts as the connection between the business and education community. We serve students by introducing them to many different potential career options, providing them with opportunities to interact with professionals in different fields.

Success School Volunteer Opportunities:

- Reality Store® Volunteer
- Career Panelists
- Financial Literacy Coach
- Mock Interviewer
- Employment Fair Exhibitor
- Job Shadowing Host
- Career Cruise

Interested in volunteering or being an exhibitor for the Success School?

**Email Katie Sensabaugh:
ksensabaugh@chamberbloomington.org**



Inspire. Engage. Elevate. Empower.



Bloomington Women in Leadership (BWIL) is a professional women's group that empowers, inspires, elevates, and engages through mentorships, professional development, and community.

BWIL supports professional women and their allies to build a meaningful network of women through intentional peer and mentoring relationships.

BWIL offers regular meetings and professional development opportunities to meet your professional needs and help you reach your aspirations.

Interested in joining BWIL?

**Email Katie Sensabaugh:
ksensabaugh@chamberbloomington.org**



Young Professionals Bloomington (YBP) is designed to provide opportunities for young professionals to develop a personal network, grow professionally and succeed in business while enhancing the community's quality of life.

YBP meets regularly, and each event is different. Social, professional, community and educational - YBP provides local young professionals with multiple ways to connect and engage.



Interested in joining YPB?

**Email Stacia Briggs:
sbriggs@chamberbloomington.org**