



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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Category & Industry Questions

How were the award categories decided?

Categories were established using regional economic profile data from RDA Limestone Coast, balancing key regional employment drivers with our operational capacity for the event. With over 170 distinct sub industries operating across our local economy, it is not feasible to offer standalone categories for every sector. Our categories are intentionally structured to ensure every local business, no matter how niche, has a clear and fair pathway to enter.

Why are some complementary sectors grouped together under a single category?

While we recognise that different industries operate under unique commercial models, guest experiences, and day to day realities, grouping complementary sectors ensures broad industry representation without overextending the awards program. This creates dedicated pathways for diverse businesses to participate without diluting category outcomes.

Will smaller or boutique businesses be at a disadvantage competing against larger operators?

Not at all. Our independent judging panel evaluates each entry based on excellence relative to that specific business's model, scale, targets, and resources. You are judged on your achievements, innovation, and community impact within your own operating environment, not on size or overall turnover.

What if my business does not seem to fit neatly into a single industry category?

You have multiple entry options! Businesses can enter categories aligned with their operating scale, as well as overarching industry sectors across the region. If you are unsure which category best fits your business model, please reach out to our team directly for guidance.

Platform & Application Questions

How does the two step nomination and application process work?

Submitting an entry is a simple two step process managed through our online portal:

Nomination: Submit a quick initial nomination to register interest or nominate a deserving business.

Official Application: Once nominated, you will receive access to complete your formal application, answer the criteria questions, and upload supporting materials before the closing deadline.

Can I save my application and finish it later?

Yes! Your progress is saved automatically within the portal. You can log in, edit, update, and review your application as many times as you like before final submission prior to the deadline.

Can I submit supporting documents or video files?

Absolutely. The platform allows you to attach supporting documents, high resolution imagery, web links, and media files to strengthen your written responses. Please check the file size and format limits listed inside the portal when uploading.

Can I enter more than one category?

Yes, provided your business meets the eligibility criteria for each chosen category. You will simply complete an application for each relevant category within your user dashboard on the platform.

Who evaluates the applications, and is my business information kept confidential?

Applications are evaluated by an independent panel of judges. All commercial data, financial details, and supporting materials submitted in your application remain strictly confidential and are viewed solely by assigned judges bound by non disclosure agreements.

I am having trouble logging in or navigating the portal. Who can I contact?

Technology transitions can sometimes come with minor teething issues! If you encounter any technical difficulty or need assistance navigating the platform, please reach out to our event support team at events@mountgambierchamber.com.au and we will gladly walk you through it.