



**Human Resources Excellence Criteria**

The Human Resources Brass Ring Excellence Awards celebrate the programs that recruit with purpose, train with creativity, and build cultures of wellness, recognition, and belonging—shaping workplaces where talent thrives and teams grow.

**Quick Decision Guide:**

<b>If your program focuses on...</b>	<b>Choose...</b>
Sourcing, attracting, and hiring talent, including recruitment strategies, hiring initiatives, employer branding, candidate experience improvements and more.	<b>Best Talent Acquisition Program</b>
Developing employee skills and professional growth, including employee training, leadership development, cross-functional training, career growth, micro-learnings, annual/seasonal training, and more.	<b>Best Training Program</b>
Supporting employee physical, mental, or emotional well-being, including benefits packages, wellness initiatives, EAP programs, work/life balance, bereavement support, holistic wellness efforts, and more.	<b>Best Health and Wellness Program</b>
Recognizing and rewarding employees and other retaining strategies including, awards, milestone celebrations, monetary and non-monetary rewards, comp analysis and more.	<b>Best Reward, Recognition, and Retention Program</b>





**Category:** Best Talent Acquisition Program

**Description:** This category honors the most innovative and effective new or updated talent acquisition programs, initiatives, or strategies that have significantly enhanced an organization's hiring efforts. The winning program will demonstrate a comprehensive and forward-thinking approach to sourcing, attracting, and retaining top talent, while addressing key organizational hiring needs.

Talent acquisition programs entered can include but are not limited to new projects or programs, one-off projects in specific areas, or any other related efforts. Entries should demonstrate the effectiveness of submitted programs.

**Criteria:** Entries will be judged based on the following attributes:

1. Program overview & strategic concept
2. Quality and effectiveness of program materials and implementation
3. Innovation, creativity & uniqueness of the initiative
4. Success metrics, measurable outcomes & organizational impact
5. Supporting evidence, testimonials
6. Overall impression

**Application Materials:**

- Company/facility logo and signature image
- Preparedness to answer questions overviewing and outlining your program
- Program materials, including but not limited to: visual/video content, images, testimonials, training videos, programming in action, and more.
- Preparedness to answer questions about your program's success and impact
- Supporting materials proving your programs success and impact





**Category:** Best Training Program

**Description:** This category honors new or updated training programs and initiatives that demonstrate innovation in enhancing employee skills, knowledge, and professional development. The winning program will showcase a forward-thinking approach to learning, incorporating cutting-edge techniques, technologies, and strategies that drive employee growth and contribute to organizational success.

Training programs may include, but are not limited to: manager-in-training, internships and early career development, internal promotion and career advancement, personalized learning paths, cross-functional or departmental training, leadership development initiatives, micro-learning or on-the-job training annual/seasonal training.

**Criteria:** Entries will be judged based on the following attributes:

1. Program overview & strategic concept
2. Quality and effectiveness of program materials and implementation
3. Innovation, creativity & uniqueness of the initiative
4. Success metrics, measurable outcomes & organizational impact
5. Supporting evidence, testimonials
6. Overall impression

**Application Materials:**

- Company/facility logo and signature image
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**Category:** Best Health & Wellness Program

**Description:** This category honors new or updated programs within an organization that have made significant strides in improving and supporting employee health and wellness. The winning program will demonstrate a holistic approach to promoting physical, mental, and emotional well-being, contributing to a healthier, more engaged workforce.

Programs may include, but are not limited to: mental and/or physical health focused benefits or programs, medical benefits plans, employee assistance programs, work/life balance programs, bereavement benefits, any other related efforts designed to support employee health and wellness.

**Criteria:** Entries will be judged based on the following attributes:

1. Program overview & strategic concept
2. Quality and effectiveness of program materials and implementation
3. Innovation, creativity & uniqueness of the initiative
4. Success metrics, measurable outcomes & organizational impact
5. Supporting evidence, testimonials
6. Overall impression

**Application Materials:**

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- Supporting materials proving your programs success and impact





**Category:** Best Reward, Recognition, or Retention Program

**Description:** This category honors new or updated rewards and recognition programs within an organization that improve and strengthen employee engagement, productivity, and retention. This category honors new or updated rewards and recognition programs that have a positive impact on employee engagement, productivity, and retention. The winning program will demonstrate an innovative and meaningful approach to acknowledging and celebrating employee achievements, fostering a culture of recognition, and motivating employees to perform at their best.

Programs may include, but are not limited to: ongoing recognition programs (daily, monthly, quarterly, etc.), employee recognition platforms, employee milestone celebrations, non-monetary recognition, annual awards ceremonies, compensation analysis (may include organizational restructure and title updates), any other related efforts designed to further employee engagement and improve retention.

**Criteria:** Entries will be judged based on the following attributes:

1. Program overview & strategic concept
2. Quality and effectiveness of program materials and implementation
3. Innovation, creativity & uniqueness of the initiative
4. Success metrics, measurable outcomes & organizational impact
5. Supporting evidence, testimonials
6. Overall impression

**Application Materials:**

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