Before you start

This form must be filled out using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

In order to ensure that your form is filled out accurately and completely, you must use Adobe Acrobat Reader to fill out this form.

Although your form may appear to be filled out correctly when using non-Adobe software, Adobe Acrobat Reader is the only software that will properly retain your form details. Non-Adobe software such as Microsoft Office products and internet web browsers (i.e. Google Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, EDGE, and Safari) as well as scanned applications are NOT supported. All mobile devices including iphones, androids, ipads and MAC computers are also NOT compatible.

Applicants that do not complete this form in Adobe Acrobat Reader will be required to resubmit their application using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

TO COMPLETE THIS FORM:

1. Download a free version of Adobe Acrobat Reader if you do not already have it installed on your computer. *Adobe Acrobat Reader*

2. Save this form to your computer before you begin filling it out.
   - File > Save As > [give the file a name] > Save.
   - Do NOT fill out this form in your internet browser window.

3. Open the file from your computer.
   - Make sure that the file is opening in the Adobe Acrobat Reader software.
   - You can work on completing the form at any time. Remember to save your file along the way.
   - Once complete, save the file.

4. Email the Adobe-completed PDF form as an attachment to excellenceinagriculture@ontario.ca
   - Do not send your document using Adobe Cloud.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 4, 2026 at 11:59 PM

Important Application Instructions:

- Only one application per organization across all award categories will be considered. If more than one application per organization is received, it will be treated as one.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to select the category that best reflects their strongest achievement and submit their most competitive application. The Ministry reserves the right to move the application to another category if deemed appropriate.
- Projects that have previously received an award under any category are not eligible.

Applicant Information

Name of Business, Organization or Person applying or nominated

Legal Name of Business/Organization (Complete name business is registered under)

☐ Same as Operating Name or:

MAILING ADDRESS AND WEBSITE

Address

City/Town

Municipality, County or District

Province

Postal Code

Website URL:

APPLICANT CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name | Last Name | Job Title

Email Address | Phone

NOMINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION (if applicable)

First Name | Last Name | Job Title

Email Address | Phone

1. Provide a brief description of the Person, Organization or Business and their eligibility. (See Guidelines for description of eligible applicants) (maximum 100 words)

Word Count: 0 of 100

AWARD CATEGORIES

2. Select one Award Category you are applying to. (See Guidelines for description)

- ◯ Research and innovation excellence
- ◯ Agribusiness excellence
- ◯ Education excellence
- ◯ Promotional excellence
- ◯ Urban agriculture excellence
- ◯ Northern business excellence
- ◯ Indigenous, Métis or Inuit owned business or Indigenous, Métis or Inuit community group excellence
- ◯ Women's Farming excellence (to recognize the International Year of the Women Farmer)
- ◯ Youth excellence
- ◯ Farm Family excellence

3. Which Outcomes has the achievement addressed? (Select all that apply)

- [ ] Strengthening Ontario's agriculture and food supply chain
- [ ] Attracting, growing and retaining Ontario's agriculture and food workforce
- [ ] Enhancing food safety, traceability and/or stewardship practices in the Ontario agriculture and food sector
- [ ] Increasing/ maintaining access to high-quality, local and nutritious food
- [ ] Supporting agriculture and food market development and trade (e.g. intra-provincial and international trade)
- [ ] Increasing public engagement and support for agriculture, local food and knowledge of Ontario's agriculture and food sector
- [ ] Building leadership capacity and increased involvement of women and youth in the agriculture and food sector

4. Describe the achievement in detail and how it relates to both the award category and outcomes identified in Questions 2 and 3 above.
(maximum 1000 words)

Word Count: 0 of 1000

5. Impact and Benefit

Describe the overall relevance, contribution and impact to Ontario's agriculture and food sector such as economic, environmental and community benefits in the last three years or less. (maximum 250 words)

Word Count: 0 of 250

6. Leadership

Describe the applicant's leadership that supports the Ontario agriculture and food sector. (maximum 250 words)

Word Count: 0 of 250

ATTESTATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Compliance with Terms and Conditions of Participation

☐ I, the undersigned, acknowledge that I have read, understood, agreed to and fully complied with the terms and conditions of participation in the Excellence in Agriculture Awards as set out in the Guidelines and in this Application Form, and attest that the information provided on all parts pertaining to the Excellence in Agriculture Awards is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Compliance with Legislation and Regulations

☐ I further attest that I/we are in compliance with all federal, provincial and municipal legislation that applies to me/us and our operations and to the innovation that is described in this application. I/ we accept that the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, in their sole discretion, may for any reason and at any time retract an award, including the use of the Excellence in Agriculture wordmark, and that I/we will follow all directions issued to us thereafter concerning the same.

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFA)

☐ I solemnly attest that the owners of this business and / or the Board of Directors of this agrifood organization are not employees of OMAFA or related to employees of OMAFA.

Authorized Signing Officer Name	Title
Email	Date (YYYY/MM/DD)

Take notice that *the information you supply on the application form is being collected by OMAFA's Economic Development Division and may be used and disclosed for the purpose of administering and promoting the Excellence in Agriculture Awards. This includes processing your application, confirming your eligibility, and contacting you in the event that you are selected as an award recipient. Your information may be subject to audit and also be shared with application review panels. In the event that you are an award recipient, your name, contact information and photographs may also be disclosed in print and/or electronic form to promote the objectives of the Excellence in Agriculture Awards as set out in the Guidebook and Application Form.*

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the collection, use and disclosure of the information you submit, please contact: Agriculture Information Contact Centre at 1-887-424-1300.