

Texas Treasure Business Award

Nomination Form



Nomination Contact

Your Name: _____

Title/Affiliation: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Business Information

Business Name: _____
(As it will appear on the certificate)

Business Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____ County: _____

Number of locations in Texas: _____ Type of business: _____

Business Website: _____

Name of Owner (if different from above): _____

Owner Email: _____ Owner Phone: _____

Business History

Open since: _____

Has the business been owned by the same family for at least 50 years? [Not required.] Yes No

Has the business operated in the same building for at least 50 years? [Not required.] Yes No

If yes, since what year has the business operated here? _____

Narrative History

The answers to these questions will not be used to evaluate your nomination. Instead, they are meant to serve as an official historical record of your business, so the information you provide will determine how much of your story is preserved for generations of Texans to come. We also plan to share parts of your story on social media, so participation increases your likelihood of promotion.

Please type your answers on a separate page and attach with your nomination form. Each answer should not exceed 200 words.

Form continues on next page

Narrative History, continued

- Give us a brief account of the ownership history. Who first opened this business, who owned it after, and who owns it now? Include dates when possible.
- What services or goods does this business provide? What differentiates your business from others like it? Please be specific. If there's a special process that sets your business apart, describe that process in detail. If your business has succeeded because you source materials from a specific place, tell us about it! If the owner spent time perfecting something that the business inevitably became famous for, share it here.
- How has the industry changed since your business first opened? Obviously, technology has ushered in all kinds of changes across every industry. Beyond that, however, what have been the major milestones that your business has had to respond to? Did something fundamentally change your customer base or the way your business works behind the scenes?
- Describe your community and how your business is a reflection of your community.
- How did your business get its name? Is there an interesting story or funny anecdote behind it?
- Can you share some stories about memorable customers you've had over the years or important relationships you've established in the community?
- Every building has quirks. Does your building have an interesting backstory or a personality of its own?

Required Documentation

Please provide documentation that verifies the business is at least fifty years old. **Do not mail original documents; we will not mail them back.** The documents should contain both a date and the current or former name of the business. Common forms of proof include:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ·Ledger pages | ·Flyers or brochures (dated) |
| ·Newspaper advertisements or articles | ·City directory listings |
| ·Board meeting minutes | ·Census records |
| ·Invoices or bills | ·Tax records |
| ·Checks | ·Real estate records/deeds |
| ·State licenses | ·Business charters |

It is not necessary to provide an example of each document above. One or two documents that meet our criteria should be enough to prove that the business is eligible for this award.

2. If you are applying for additional recognition as a business that has operated in the same building for at least 50 years, please provide:

- A photograph of the exterior of the building as it stands today
- A photograph of the exterior of the building as it appeared in the past.

We know it can be hard to find a photo of the exterior that's at least 50 years old, so we often make exceptions if you have a photograph that was taken sometime prior to 1980.

Signature Authorization

I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of the above-named business and represent that they will proudly and publicly display the Texas Treasure Business Award if selected to receive this honor. The Texas Historical Commission has permission to publish images submitted in the supporting materials to promote the Texas Treasure Business Award program.

Nominator Signature: _____ Date: _____

Two Ways to Submit

1. Email this form, your narrative history, and scans of any supporting documentation to mallory.laurel@thc.texas.gov.
2. Print and mail your nomination form, narrative history, and supporting documentation to:

Texas Historical Commission
Attn: Texas Treasure Business Award
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, Texas 78711

Nomination Deadlines

Nominations are processed four times a year. Please submit by 11:59pm CST on the following dates to be included in that quarter's review process:

February 1
May 1
August 1
November 1

If we receive your application after any of the above dates, it won't be processed until the next quarter. The deadline is a "receive by" date, not a postmark deadline. If the deadline happens to fall on a weekend, then we must receive the form in the mail by the last weekday prior to the deadline.

For more information about the Texas Treasure Business Award program, visit the Texas Historical Commission website at thc.texas.gov or email us at ttba@thc.texas.gov.