HOW TO ENTER 2019

HANDBOOK

www.investinirelandawards.ie
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Ireland has an impeccable track record for attracting Foreign Direct Investment over the last 50 years, bringing established companies, large and small to the Republic.

The FDI sector is a major part of the Irish economic success story and the Invest In Ireland Awards will shine a light on the positive contribution that these companies make to Ireland and the Irish economy. The Invest in Ireland Awards vision is to reward excellence in the inward foreign direct investment sector in the Republic of Ireland. 2019 is the second year of the awards which will demonstrate excellence in all areas of FDI activity in Ireland across 9 categories.

Closing Date for Entries
Thursday October 3rd @ 4PM

Eligibility
The awards are open to overseas owned, internationally trading manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

Confidentiality
All material submitted will be treated as strictly confidential and will be used only in the context of judging the 2019 Invest In Ireland Awards. All judges will sign a confidentiality declaration on the above basis.

The Organisers
The Awards are a joint venture between Independent News & Media and Alchemy Event Management.

Independent News and Media is the leading newspaper and online publisher on the island of Ireland. INM brands are household names in Ireland, with the Irish Independent, Sunday Independent, The Herald, Sunday World. 2.1 Million adults engaged with the INM news brand in the past week* Independent.ie compliments our national newspaper titles. Independent.ie – Ireland’s number one online news publisher (comScore) – has a global audience of 10.2m unique users per month, and an Irish reach of 5.5m.

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* Source: TGI ROI 2017
There are 9 categories open for entry in the 2019 Invest in Ireland Awards along with the FDI Hero (Lifetime Achievement) award that will be selected by the organisers.

- Commitment to Sustainability - New for 2019
- Use of Research & Development
- Organisational Transformation
- Excellence in Regional Investment
- The Staff Upskilling Award
- Commitment to Diversity
- CSR Initiative
- Emerging Business Investment
- Investment of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement - The FDI Hero Award 2019

Enter Online Now www.investinirelandawards.ie
Entry is online at www.investinirelandawards.ie
Simply hit any of the enter here buttons on the site and follow the onscreen instructions. Entry is free and you can enter as many or as few categories as you feel are relevant.

ENTRY TEMPLATE
You can download a sample entry template at www.investinirelandawards.ie

Entries can be a maximum of 850 Words
You can input your entry directly into the online form.

ENTRY DEADLINE
Thursday October 3rd @ 4PM

There is no charge to enter to the Invest In Ireland Awards

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY
• Enter now at www.investinirelandawards.ie
• Register your details if you are a new user – otherwise log in using your existing password.
• Choose the relevant category you wish to enter from the drop down menu.
• Submit your entry online.
• Enter the requested contact details. This information will be used to credit shortlisted contestants.
• Upload the required imagery. Entrant logo in hi-res Jpeg or png format. Again, This information will be used to credit shortlisted contestants.
• When you have completed all required fields click "save and finalise".

Enter Online Now www.investinirelandawards.ie
The awards will be judged by a panel of experts from the public sector, private sector and academia. You can see the list of judges at [www.investinirelandawards.ie](http://www.investinirelandawards.ie).

**JUDGING PROCESS**
Once the entry deadline has passed all complete entries will be passed onto the judging panel to be evaluated based on the criteria for each individual category. The Judges will then meet and decide a shortlist in each category.

**HINTS & TIPS**

**PLAN AHEAD**
Don’t leave it till the last minute. Draft an outline. Get your work reviewed by a colleague and consider appointing an ‘Awards Czar’ to oversee and manage your entry process.

**CREATE A STORY**
We all like a clear narrative. Tell the judges your tale with a beginning middle and end.

**FOLLOW THE BRIEF**
This sounds like an obvious one but if you don’t answer the questions you can’t get the marks.

**ANSWER EACH SECTION!**

**DEMONSTRATE RESULTS**
Every project has a goal and a target. What was it? Did you achieve it? Did something different happen?

**PUT YOURSELF IN THE JUDGES SHOES**
The judges will be judging a lot of entries. Be clear and get to the point. Make it easy for them!

**BE SELECTIVE WITH SUPPORTING MATERIAL**
Ask yourself ‘Is it relevant?’. Don’t just throw the kitchen sink at it. This is counterproductive. Be selective and add appropriate support material.

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COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY
This award recognizes the contribution of foreign owned organisations towards sustainability and sustainable development in the Republic of Ireland. The winner will be a project where sustainability and best environmental practice has had a positive impact on both the business and the Irish Economy. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

USE OF R&D
This award recognises the contribution of foreign owned organisations involved in research and development in the Republic of Ireland. Entries can refer to a single project or projects. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

ORGANISATIONAL TRANSFORMATION
Many inward investing organisations pivot from their original strategy to adapt to changing business conditions and to take advantage of new and emerging opportunities. This category honours the best of these. Entries should focus on why and how transformation took place and what the results and learnings of the transformation were. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

EXCELLENCE IN REGIONAL INVESTMENT
This category rewards excellence in FDI projects that take place out side of the two major FDI hubs in the Republic of Ireland (Dublin City and Cork City). This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

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THE STAFF UPSKILLING AWARD
All organisations are only as good as the people who drive and work in them. This category honours programs and projects that are the best at developing the inward investing business’ skills and talent base. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY
Diversity is a major issue in the workplace and in general society today. Diversity is a key component of any successful organisation and this category will shine a light on the best examples of diversity programs in FDI companies in the Republic of Ireland. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

CSR INITIATIVE
Organisations do not exist in a vacuum and integration with the community in which they operate is crucial. This category looks at CSR projects undertaken by inward investment companies in the Republic of Ireland. The size of the project is not necessarily a deciding factor but rather how the project integrates the business with the greater community. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

EMERGING BUSINESS INVESTMENT
This award will honour the outstanding inward investment made by a dynamic, high growth, early stage company with the potential to grow exponentially and create a large number of jobs. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland with less than 200 employees and seven years and less since establishment.

INVESTMENT OF THE YEAR
This award will honour the outstanding inward investment made into the Republic of Ireland in the past 18 months. This category is open to overseas owned, internationally traded manufacturing and services companies operating in the Republic of Ireland.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT - THE FDI HERO AWARD 2019
This special award, decided directly by the organisers, honours a particular individual who has made an outstanding personal contribution to the FDI sector in the Republic of Ireland. It is NOT enterable directly and will be announced at the awards ceremony on November 7th.
The awards ceremony will bring together the FDI community in Ireland for a night of celebration of this most important sector in the Irish Economy.

Evening Itinerary Nov 7th 2019

The Intercontinental Hotel, Ballsbridge Dublin 4

19:00  Drinks Reception
20:00  Dinner
21:45  Awards Ceremony
22:30  Entertainment
01:30  Carriages

The Awards will be hosted by journalist, broadcaster and author Richard Curran.

Awards Tables and Tickets can be booked at www.investinirelandawards.ie