



UAF Business Leader of the Year Nominations

A Step-by-Step Guide

The UAF Business Leader of the Year Award recognizes individuals who exemplify exceptional leadership, business expertise, community engagement, and support for education. This guide is designed to assist nominators in submitting a comprehensive nomination packet.

Submission Deadline and Links

- Deadline: Sunday, March 8, 2026, 11:59 p.m. Alaska Time
- Nomination Form: [Submit Your Nomination Here](#)
- Letters of Support - [Submit Letters Here](#)

Eligibility

- Eligible Nominees: Outstanding leaders from Interior Alaska who demonstrate stellar leadership, business savvy, community engagement, and a passion for education at any level.
- Not Eligible: Current University of Alaska employees.
- Good to Know: Nominations remain active for three years.

More Details

- Award Ceremony Date: Saturday, November 7, 2026
 - For Inspiration: Check out the [list](#) of previous BLOY Recipients
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Steps for a Strong Nomination

1. Understand the Evaluation Criteria

The Selection Committee scores nominees based on these equally weighted four criteria:

- **Leadership:** Inspiring, guiding, and influencing others.
- **Business Acumen:** Demonstrating a record of success, innovation, and ethical practices.
- **Community Engagement:** Making meaningful contributions to community development.
- **Educational Support:** Advocating for education at any level, from K–12 to higher education.

2. Complete the Nomination Form

- Kick things off by filling out our [nomination form](#).
- Use clear and concise language.

- Highlight specific examples that match the four criteria.

3. Collect Letters of Support (10-15 letters)

Once a nomination form is submitted, the process continues with gathering letters of support. It's best to have an advocate step in and reach out to potential supporters with the submission link. Typically, a nominee receives about 10–15 letters. If someone submits a letter more than 48 hours before the deadline, the forms collect names and contact information so CBSM can follow up if requested.

In the letters, include:

- **Achievements:** Major milestones in their career or business ventures.
- **Impact:** Specific examples of how they have positively influenced their community or industry.
- **Education Support:** Details of their involvement in mentoring, scholarships, or educational programs.

Want to see an example? [Click here](#). Letters do not all have to be this comprehensive; however, the wider array of information that is provided, the better.

4. After the Submission Deadline

- The dean and advisors will conduct a preliminary screening.
- Up to three candidates will advance to the evaluation round.
- A committee of past BLOY recipients, CBSM Business Advisory Council Members, faculty, and students will review the nominations.
- After scoring and a conversation, the top candidate will be presented to the CBSM Dean for final notification by the student body.

Thank you for participating in this prestigious recognition of excellence in business and community leadership. Your thoughtful nomination helps highlight the remarkable individuals shaping the future of Interior Alaska.