



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **International Economic Development Council is Now Accepting Entries for the Excellence in Economic Development Awards**

**WASHINGTON, DC (March 6, 2012)** The [International Economic Development Council's](#) (IEDC) [Excellence in Economic Development Awards](#) honor the world's best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year's most influential leaders. These prestigious awards recognize organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

Winners of IEDC's [Excellence in Economic Development Awards](#) demonstrate to the experienced panel of judges that they are at the forefront of the economic development profession. IEDC recognizes only the most successful, innovative and effective leaders, programs, partnerships, and promotional materials. Award recipients gain valuable publicity and exposure to their peers in the economic development field.

Economic developers are sure to find at least one of 35 categories that fit their project, program or community leader. Those interested should [visit IEDC's website](#) for category descriptions, requirements and to download the [IEDC Awards Entry Packets](#). The Awards Program application deadline is May 18, 2012,

The [2012 Excellence in Economic Development Awards competition](#) reflects a number of changes, including

- One deadline for all awards for added simplicity
- New leadership categories added to further recognize community and federal leaders
- New population categories to recognize smaller communities
- Lower entry fees for all submissions from communities with populations less than 25,000

Inquiries should be directed to Emily Bell at [awards@iedconline.org](mailto:awards@iedconline.org) or (202) 942-9452.

#### **About IEDC**

[The International Economic Development Council](#) (IEDC) is the world's largest independent non-profit membership and research organization devoted exclusively to the field of economic development. IEDC helps economic development professionals create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,400 members, IEDC provides a diverse range of services including conferences, professional development and certification, publications, research, advisory services, and legislative tracking. Visit [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org) to learn more.