

2026 Meat Industry Hall of Fame Award

The **Meat Industry Hall of Fame Award** recognizes visionary leaders whose influence has permanently advanced the meat and poultry industry through innovation, stewardship, and measurable contributions that strengthened the sector for future generations. This honor celebrates individuals whose careers have transcended operational excellence to create lasting industry-wide impact, elevate professional standards, and inspire the next generation of leaders.

Unlike awards that recognize annual achievements, Hall of Fame induction acknowledges a lifetime of leadership distinguished by transformative accomplishments, ethical business practices, workforce development, community engagement, and meaningful contributions to the long-term vitality of the industry.

Induction represents one of the industry's highest honors and is reserved for individuals whose contributions have materially shaped the meat and poultry sector beyond the boundaries of their own organization.

Rules and Eligibility Requirements.

- Hall of Fame Membership is determined by a Selection Committee under the Oversight of the Managing Partners of the Meat Industry Hall of Fame
- Induction is based on merit, not quota. The Selection Committee is under no obligation to select an inductee in any given year.
- There are no categories of membership.
- Eligible candidates include active, retired, or posthumous candidates.
- The managing board reserves the right to reject a nominee based on material conduct or circumstances that could undermine the credibility of the Hall of Fame.

Nominees must:

- Be nominated by industry peers, professional organizations, or current Hall of Fame members. Self-nominations are also allowed.
- Be well into their career, typically at least **25 years of significant contribution** to the meat and poultry industry.
- Meet all requirements and possess a reputation for integrity, professionalism, and ethical leadership.

Nomination Requirements are documented through a narrative questionnaire found at <http://s.alchemer.com/s3/2026-Meat-Industry-Hall-of-Fame-Nomination-Form>

The completed submission should provide a concise career chronology including:

- specific accomplishments and outcomes
- examples of leadership or innovation
- third-party validation where possible through 2–3 supporting references

All portions of the nomination form must be complete. Incomplete nominations will not be accepted. Nominations close October 16, 2026.

Recommendation -- before nominating, please consider:

Impact: Did this person materially change the industry?

Reach: Did their influence extend meaningfully beyond their own organization?

Legacy: Is the industry better today because of contributions that will endure?

Distinguished Selection Criteria:

Nominees must demonstrate significant achievement across each of the following areas, and they will be scored by the Meat Industry Hall of Fame Selection Committee.

1. Transformational Industry Impact

- Led initiatives, innovations, or business strategies that produced substantial and lasting industry advancement.
- Influenced industry practices, standards, technologies, or market development within and/or beyond their own organization.
- Created measurable improvements in operational performance, sustainability, product quality, or consumer trust.
- Transformational contributions can come from: researchers, food safety leaders, veterinarians, engineers, entrepreneurs, educators, association leaders, public-sector leaders, innovators, workforce leaders and others

2. Legacy Leadership

- Demonstrated high integrity leadership over an extended career.
- Built organizations, programs, or systems that continue to create value and influence over time.
- Developed future leaders through mentoring, coaching, and talent development.

3. Innovation and Vision

- Championed breakthrough ideas, technologies, or business models.
- Anticipated emerging opportunities and challenges while positioning the industry for future success.
- Fostered a culture of continuous improvement and innovation.

4. Industry Stewardship

- Advanced the reputation, integrity, and long-term sustainability of the meat and poultry industry.
- Contributed to industry associations, educational initiatives, research efforts, or public advocacy.
- Demonstrated commitment to responsible business practices and stakeholder engagement.

5. Community and Workforce Impact

- Made meaningful contributions to communities, employees, and industry partners.
- Supported workforce development and education initiatives.
- Exhibited a record of service that extends beyond business performance.