



NC-TECH AWARDS

THE BEACONS

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NCTECH
Association

NOW ACCEPTING

APPLICATIONS

DEADLINE **JULY 26**

[NCTECH.ORG/AWARDS](https://nctech.org/awards)

2024 AWARD CATEGORIES

TECH CORPORATE AWARDS: RECOGNIZES TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES FOR INNOVATION, EXCELLENCE AND GROWTH.

Applicants must be a technology company that is either headquartered in North Carolina or has a significant presence in the state.

AgTech Company A technology company that has developed a software, hardware and/or services solution that is disrupting and innovating the field of agriculture, farming and/or food production.

BioTech / HealthTech Company A technology company that has developed a software and/or hardware solution to improve outcomes for animals and humans such as biomedical, biotech, diagnostics, drug discovery, medical and dental devices, medical software, medical technology, mobile health, robotics, tele-health, and wearables.

CleanTech Company A technology company that has developed a software, hardware and/or services solution that reduces negative impacts on the environment and focuses on smart technologies in the areas of solar, water, wind, energy efficiency, energy storage, recycling and transportation.

FinTech / InsurTech Company A technology company that has developed a software and/or hardware solution that is disrupting the field of financial services such as blockchain, customer support, digital banking, fraud protection, insurance, investments, lending, payments, and personal finance.

Diversity, Equity + Inclusion in Tech A technology company that has shown commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion through the implementation of programs focused on heightened awareness and sensitivity to diversity in hiring, professional development, workplace inclusion, employee support, etc.

Great Tech Places to Work (5 Winners) A technology company with satisfied workers...and elements such as solid values, great leadership, positive corporate culture, best perks, competitive salaries, community engagement, mixture of fabulous workspaces, flexible work schedule/location, and more.

IT Services Company An IT services technology company that has demonstrated strong performance and/or achieved a milestone of notable success over the past year (e.g., increased revenue, employee growth, product launch or recognition, etc.).

NC HQ Tech Company A technology company headquartered in North Carolina with outstanding performance in revenue, product innovation, market penetration, sales growth and employment expansion. Additionally, the company is giving back in ways to positively impact the community/state.

Software Solutions Company A software technology company that has demonstrated strong performance and/or achieved a milestone of notable success over the past year (e.g., increased revenue, employee growth, product launch or recognition, etc.).

Top Tech Startups to Watch (10 Winners) A technology startup founded in NC within the past four years that has demonstrated a foundation for success (e.g. funding, product development, customer acquisition, etc.).

USE OF TECHNOLOGY AWARDS: RECOGNIZES COMPANIES, ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS FOR THEIR USE OF TECHNOLOGY.

Applicants are open to any company, organization or institution that is either headquartered in North Carolina or has a significant presence in the state. (Must clearly state the use of technology and provide insight on the impact.)

AI + Data Analytics A company, organization or institution that uses artificial intelligence and/or big data to significantly improve what they do and how they do it (e.g., internal operations, customer engagement, product development, etc.) with outcomes that improve efficiency and/or enhance the customer experience.

Cyber Security A company, organization or institution that has developed or implemented an innovative product or solution to detect, mitigate or contain cyber breaches or attacks.

Digital Transformation A company, organization or institution that has utilized technology to improve customer or employee experience by adopting digital solutions and innovations to improve outcomes, efficiency and effectiveness.

Government A government, education or public entity that has utilized technology tools to execute a project that delivers value, efficiency, and ease of use for students or citizens.

Manufacturing + Supply Chain A company, organization or institution that has developed or implemented an innovative product or solution to drive automation, improve supply chain and accelerate product delivery (e.g., production, fulfillment, distribution, transportation, supply tracking, maintenance, cost reduction, 3D printing, etc.)

Tech for Good A company, organization or institution that has developed and/or utilized technology to help make the world a better place to live, learn and to improve quality of life – the impact can be wide reaching or to specific population.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS: RECOGNIZES LEADERS FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND/OR IMPACT IN THE TECH SECTOR.

Applicants must be based in and have made a positive impact in North Carolina. Their employer should be headquartered or have a significant presence in the state.

Beacon Award (Outstanding Achievement) An individual who over their career has helped advance the technology sector and has history of significant personal achievement. (e.g., aimed at recognizing a leader with North Carolina ties whose achievements have been statewide, national, or global)

Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Year (Public and Private Sector) A CIO or equivalent who has primary IT leadership responsibility within his/her organization and demonstrated leadership, driven innovation, and delivered

value to their organization (e.g., revamped IT organization, contributed to employer's mission/profit/efficiency in a major way, etc.) *An award will be given to both a private and a public CIO.*

Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) of the Year A CISO or equivalent who has primary IT Security leadership responsibility within his/her organization and demonstrated leadership, driven innovation, and delivered value to their organization by establishing and maintaining the enterprise vision, strategy, and program to ensure information assets and technologies are adequately protected.

Public Leader of the Year A public official who has provided leadership in the use of technology to advance North Carolina, and/or has supported the innovation economy through public policy efforts.

Tech CEO of the Year Founder/CEO who has achieved a significant milestone within the past year (e.g., taken a company public/private, led a merger/acquisition, significantly boosted a company's presence in the state, authored a book, etc.)

Tech Difference Maker of the Year A public sector, education, or community leader/group who has made an impact in improving the community/state (i.e. building the tech ecosystem, enriching the pipeline of workers, narrowing the digital divide, utilizing tech to serve others, etc.)

Tech Woman of the Year A woman in technology who has made increasingly significant contributions throughout her career to her company, industry and community (e.g., reached a professional milestone such as being named a CXO, demonstrated track record of being a groundbreaker or visionary, inspiring and mentoring others, etc.)