What are the New Hampshire Employment Leadership Awards?

The Employment Leadership Awards are presented each year to five New Hampshire businesses who demonstrate their commitment to recognize the skills and contributions that people with disabilities bring to the workforce. These businesses are promoting and adopting inclusive policies and hiring practices that allow people with physical, mental, and/or developmental disabilities, to fairly compete and excel in paid, gainful employment.

Nominees are submitted by businesses, NH Vocational Rehabilitation staff and Community Rehabilitation Providers, as well as other New Hampshire disability and mental health organizations and the public. Nominations are evaluated based on the company's efforts to:

- create opportunities that assist people with all types of disabilities to develop and expand their skills in competitive employment
- adopt inclusive hiring and training practices that allow people with all types of disabilities to fairly compete for employment
- engage community partners to become a more diverse workplace within communities

Do you know a New Hampshire business that would be a good candidate for this award? If so, please submit your nomination for consideration. Winning businesses receive a free full-page spread in *Business NH Magazine in 2022*.

A long-standing committee reviews the nominations to ensure they match the general criteria. Then the committee conducts an onsite visit to the business. Interviews will include the employer as well as the employee(s) with a disability and other colleagues if available.

Notification of the 5 winners will be made by June 17, 2022. This is our 13th anniversary for the Employment Leadership Awards. The Gala ceremony will be held **Thursday, October 13, 2022.**

We thank you for your nomination. NH businesses are doing great work in hiring and retaining individuals with disabilities!

Please contact Vanessa Blais at 603-271-7040 or Vanessa.A.Blais@DDC.NH.gov if you have any questions or concerns.