

# WORK / LIFE AWARDS

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Entry Kit 2026

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# WORKLIFE AWARDS

Company culture has never been more important for organizations looking to attract and retain top talent. But for employers, culture is about more than surface-level perks or office amenities. The strongest cultures are built on values that show up in how teams work, grow and support one another every day.

The [Work/Life Awards](#) recognize employers that bring those values to life in meaningful ways. Over the years, we've honored organizations such as Pinterest, Dagne Dover, Banfield Pet Hospital, Audible and many more.

## Deadlines & Entry Fees

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<b>EARLY DEADLINE</b>	May 29, 2026	\$499 per entry
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<b>REGULAR DEADLINE</b>	July 10, 2026	\$599 per entry
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<b>LAST CHANCE DEADLINE</b>	September 4, 2026	\$729 per entry
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# CATEGORIES

## **Best AI Education Resources NEW**

Awarding the employer that best equips employees with the knowledge and training needed to effectively leverage AI in their roles.

## **Best Employer for Family Planning NEW**

Awarding the employer who best supports employees through all stages of family planning.

## **Best Workplace Technology Provider - Administrative Solutions NEW**

Awarding the technology provider that offers the most impactful administrative tools to streamline HR operations, internal processes and organizational workflows.

## **Best Workplace Technology Provider - Collaboration NEW**

Awarding the technology provider that delivers outstanding solutions to improve teamwork, communication and cross-functional collaboration.

## **Best Workplace Technology Provider - Culture NEW**

Awarding the technology provider that best enhances company culture by fostering connection, engagement and employee experience.

## **Best Workspace Design NEW**

Awarding the employer with a workspace that demonstrates exceptional design, combining aesthetics and functionality to create an environment built for how people work.

# CATEGORIES

## **Most Innovative Benefits NEW**

Awarding the employer offering the most forward-thinking and impactful benefits.

## **Workplace Champion of the Year NEW**

Awarding an individual who actively supports colleagues, fosters a positive workplace culture and demonstrates a commitment to mentoring and developing others.

## **Best Employer for Remote Employees**

Awarding the employer with a partial or full remote workforce who best keeps employees connected, engaged, and supported.

## **Best Employer for Young Professionals**

Awarding the employer who has shown the strongest commitment to entry-level employees in terms of professional growth and career advancement.

## **Best Experiential Program for Employees**

Awarding the employer who has designed and executed the most impactful and innovative experiential programs, such as retreats, workshops, or team-building activities.

## **Best Global Team Integration**

Awarding the employer who most effectively fosters collaboration, inclusion, and cohesion across globally distributed teams.

# CATEGORIES

## **Best Hybrid Work Environment**

Awarding the employer who has best maintained their company culture in a hybrid work environment.

## **Best Mentorship Program**

Awarding the best program, either organized by an employer or independent entity, that fosters strong interpersonal connections between mentors and mentees in an innovative way.

## **Best Rewards & Recognition Program**

Awarding the program that encourages a culture of recognition in an organization in the form of public/private praise and rewards/incentives.

## **Best Use of AI in the Workplace**

Awarding the employer that demonstrates exceptional and innovative implementation of artificial intelligence technologies.

## **Best Wellness Program**

Awarding the employer who has shown the strongest commitment to the mental and/or physical well-being of their employees.

## **Best Workplace Technology Provider**

Awarding the technology provider that offers exceptional solutions and services to enhance the overall work environment and employee experience.

# CATEGORIES

## **Employer of the Year**

Awarding the employer that has excelled at creating a strong company culture and work environment.

## **HR Team of the Year**

Awarding the HR team who has worked together to create a strong company culture and work environment.

## **Most Collaborative Culture**

Awarding the employer whose culture best facilitates cooperation and joint efforts among teams to achieve a common goal.

## **Most Committed to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

Awarding the employer who has shown the strongest commitment and dedication to diversity, equity and inclusion efforts.

## **Most Committed to Employee Appreciation**

Awarding the employer who has shown the strongest commitment and dedication to employee appreciation.

## **Most Committed to Social Good**

Awarding the employer who has shown the greatest level of support to social causes through staff empowerment, extracurricular programs, and community partnerships.

# CATEGORIES

## **Most Committed to Sustainability**

Awarding the employer who has demonstrated the strongest commitment to environmental sustainability through innovative practices, green initiatives, and eco-friendly work environments.

## **Most Committed to Work/Life Balance**

Awarding the employer who best demonstrates a respect for a healthy work-life balance.

## **Most Dedicated to Employee Growth**

Awarding the employer who has shown the strongest commitment to the professional growth of individuals through training, education and enrichment.

## **Most Innovative Culture**

Awarding the employers whose culture best fosters unique, original and successful thinking demonstrated by tangible results.

## **Most Innovative Workspace**

Awarding the organization that exemplifies excellence in creating a workspace that optimizes collaboration and fosters effective teamwork.

## **Most Passionate Employees**

Awarding the employer whose employees clearly demonstrate a unified passion for the company's mission and values.

# CATEGORIES

## People/HR Leader of the Year

Awarding the HR executive who has excelled at leading a team towards creating a strong company culture and work environment.

# ENTRY TIPS

## **Begin with favorable odds.**

Search for the perfect category to enter. If you plan on entering more than one, make sure you curate your entries with intention.

## **Tell a compelling story.**

Chronicle your work with a classic beginning-middle-end framework. Keep it relevant with a problem-solution-results approach.

## **Tie your results back to your campaign objectives.**

Tell us what problems inspired your work, discuss how it solved them and provide KPIs for support. Remember, “the why” is just as important as “the what.”

## **Keep your copy short and sweet.**

Award winners share three distinctive traits: they’re direct, discerning and descriptive. Judges don’t need a copy-heavy description to get the full picture.

## **Paint a complete picture.**

Don’t just write about your work—judges want the full experience. Include supporting materials like videos, photos and campaign art to strengthen your story.

## **It takes a village.**

Get your team excited about your company’s submission by planning for edits together. A marketer’s eye and a copywriter’s wit might be exactly what you need to punch up your entry.

## **How do I start my submission?**

[Submit here](#). You will be brought to the Work/Life Awards submission platform where you will be asked to register if not already.

## **Am I eligible to enter this program?**

Case studies must be relevant to May 2025- September 2026.

## **How do I increase my chances of winning an award?**

Be sure to emphasize the goals of your campaign, as well as the achievements. Provide supporting materials and specific examples of success when possible (KPIs, ROI, etc.)

## **What if my company has a juror on the judges panel?**

Not a problem. You can still submit to the program. We recuse judges from scoring any categories that their company submits to.

## **Are the entry fees per category?**

Yes. Further, if you enter the same campaign into multiple categories, which companies often do, you will be charged the entry fee per category entered.

## **Need help deciding what categories are the best fit?**

Request a 15-minute call with our team by emailing [amy@digiday.com](mailto:amy@digiday.com).

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Contact

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