2026 Michael A. Schultz Professional of the Year
(Nomination Form)

About the Award

The Michael A. Schultz Professional of the Year Award is the highest honor given by Chamber Professionals of Ohio. This award honors a chamber executive (i.e. an Executive Director or CEO of a chamber in Ohio) who demonstrates professional excellence, leadership, innovation, and commitment to community**.**

There are two (2) categories for this award:

- Under 600 members
- Over 600 members

Award Recipients

Award winners will be honored at the **2027 CPO Winter Conference Awards Luncheon** on January 27, 2027, at the AC Hotel Dayton by Marriott – Dayton, OH.

Nominator's Name: _____

Business/Organization: _____

Your Day Phone Number: _____

Your Email address: _____

Nomination Requirements:

- The nominee must currently be an Executive Director/CEO of a Chamber of Commerce in the state of Ohio, as well as a member in good standing of CPO at the time of nomination and awards presentation.
- Active or current board members of Chamber Professionals of Ohio (CPO) are NOT eligible for this award.
- Nominations must be submitted via email to mowen@ohiochamber.com
- It is preferred that your nomination is typed and submitted via email.
- Please complete each area with bullets or short sentences.
- If you wish, you may use separate and /or additional sheets; however, please number and follow the questions in order, as on this form.

Deadline for award applications is 5:00pm on Friday, December 18, 2026
Application form and materials should be submitted in MS Word or PDF format to:
Matt Owen mowen@ohiochamber.com

APPLICATION:

Name of Nominee: _____

Title: _____

Name of Chamber of Commerce: _____

How many years in their current role: _____

How many years working in the Chamber of Commerce industry: _____

1. Nomination Category – Check one, based on this chamber's current number of members:

- ❑ Under 600 members
- ❑ Over 600 members

2. Education: (Provide information that you know of on the nominees High School, College or higher education)

3. Chamber Work Experience: (Starting with current position - list employer/date employed if known):

4. Professional & Organization Achievement/Awards: (i.e. Executive of the Year, Leadership Award, Volunteer of the Year, etc.)

5. Professional Designations/Certifications: (i.e. **IOM** - Institute for Organization Management Graduate – U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, **CCE** - Certified Chamber Executive – Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE), **CAE** - Certified Association Executive – American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), **CPO-AP** – Chamber Professionals of Ohio (CPO), etc.)

6. Leadership Involvement and Professional Organizations: (i.e. Institute Class Advisor; Institute Board of Regents; ACCE or former CPO board member, board chair, officer, conference chair, committee chair, committee member, conference presenter, etc.)

7. Service/Commitment to Chamber Colleagues (i.e. mentoring, facilitating board retreats, chamber in-service, etc.)

8. Involvement/Accomplishments in Community Activities: (civic, religious, charitable, educational, volunteer service, etc.)

9. Your Chamber's Membership Growth/Retention: (most recent statistics and any unique successful programs, etc.)

10. Successful Development of Non-Dues, Revenue-Generating Programs for your Chamber: (Unique or new programs, etc.)

11. Economic Development Impact of Chamber on Membership/Service Area (i.e. business retention and attraction efforts, downtown revitalization efforts, tourism, etc.) Relate quantitative impact, if possible.

12. Business Advocacy: (extent of local, state and federal advocating efforts, community issues involvement, candidate endorsement or political action committees, etc. and any documented success stories)

13. Leadership Development: (activities of the Chamber that develop community and business leaders)

14. Development of New, Unique or "Leading Edge" Programs or Services: (in addition to anything already mentioned above)

15. Additional Information: Other information that may be useful in the evaluation process:

Please email submission to Matt Owen mowen@ohiochamber.com