

FAQs: National Enterprise Town Awards 2018

Here are the frequently asked questions and answers regarding the Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards 2018.

The search is on for the most enterprising town in Ireland. The National Enterprise Town Awards 2018 are now open for entries. There is a total prize fund of €157,000. Your town can enter [here](#).

Questions and answers

1. *Purpose of the competition?*

The competition aims to promote enterprise by bringing business and community groups together, in each town, to showcase the spirit of enterprise in their local area.

2. *Why is Bank of Ireland launching this competition?*

Bank of Ireland is the country's largest lender and committed to helping customers achieve their business ambitions. Bank of Ireland recognises that SME's, Startups and Community Organisations are a significant driver of the country's success and spirit.

3. *Is this just a sales promotion for the bank?*

This is not a sales promotion for Bank of Ireland. This competition is the Bank's way of recognising the efforts being made by local people to promote and grow their towns and communities and to play its role as a business leader.

4. *What is the local council's role in the competition?*

The competition is held in collaboration with local authorities.

5. *How are the towns chosen for the competition?*

The Towns and Urban Villages/Areas are generally put forward by the relevant local authority.

6. *How many entries are allowed from each county or city council area?*

There will be a maximum of four entries per county or city council area.

7. Why is the competition called Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards when city areas and villages can also participate?

Every city has urban areas and villages that operate as a town in their own right and have distinct identities and local business and residential communities. The definition of a town for the purpose of these awards includes City Villages and Urban areas.

8. Who are the judges?

The names of the judges and their bios will be made known to the towns organising committee prior to judging.

9. What is the format of the judging?

Each town will be visited by the judging panel for a three-hour session which includes:

- 30 minutes presentation by the town
- 30 minutes question and answer session
- 20 minutes to meet people socially
- 80 minutes to visit and view key initiatives selected by the organising committee
- 20 minutes concluding comments and wrap up

10. What if our town exceeds three hours?

The maximum time for the visit is three hours and the judges will expect towns to adhere to this timeframe and schedule the visit accordingly.

11. What are the judging criteria?

See application form.

12. How does a town enter the competition?

See no. 5 above. Once selected the town to submit application form through ThinkBusiness.ie.

13. Where do I submit my application?

Only online applications are accepted here: ThinkBusiness.ie.

14. There is no Bank of Ireland in my town? Can it enter?

Yes. This competition is open to all towns/urban villages/cities in the Republic of Ireland

irrespective of whether there is a Bank of Ireland branch.

15. *Who should I talk to?*

Nearest Bank of Ireland branch *or* a Bank of Ireland Head of County. Contact details below.

16. *What are the various categories?*

- Small: