2025 Deal of the Year – Planning Worksheet

Application forms and a complete description of awards criteria are included in this document and are available at <https://www.geda.org/awards-and-recognition>. Also, pay particular attention to the question about opportunities, creativity and obstacles overcome in the course of your deal. More attention will be focused on these answers this year. Application Deadline: September 5, 2025 at Midnight.

Criteria

The Deal of the Year Awards recognize outstanding achievement in the location of new businesses or the expansion of existing facilities in the state of Georgia that meet community economic development goals and involve significant community creativity, program support, such as financial or permitting assistance, workforce development, state financial support, etc. The categories of award are:

1. Population Category:
   1. Large Community
   2. Mid-Size Community
   3. Small Community
2. Regional - any multi-county initiative Eligibility

Any economic development organization employing a current member of GEDA is eligible to enter a deal for consideration. To qualify, the community must have publicly announced the deal between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

Nomination Procedure

Members of GEDA may submit nominations. The application should include the application form, supplemental information and photographs. The judges may request additional information from the organization as needed.

Judging Criteria

Awards will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

• Community impact  
• Degree of expertise needed to create the deal

• Creativity exhibited and obstacles and challenges that were overcome during the course of the deal.  (Please be sure to emphasize this criterion in your application.)

• Total investment and job creation/retention

Award Ceremony

The Deal of the Year Awards will be presented at the GEDA 2025 November Awards Dinner November 17th, 2025.

\*Required field

Email of Nominator\*

**Applicant & Company Information**

Name of the company your "Deal" is referencing.\*

Applicant's name and organization\*

County\*

Applicant's Phone Number\*

**Investment, Jobs, Wages (25 pts)**

Total Investment, Real and Personal Property

1. County Population - Source: U.S. Census Bureau ([Data.Census.Gov](http://data.census.gov/))

Number of new jobs created by the deal

Total employment of county

Average hourly wage for workers in the county/region - Source: Georgia Department of Labor Market Explorer (Do not use a dollar sign. Use numbers and decimal point only.)

Average wage for new jobs created by the deal

**Community Impact (60 points)**

Tell us about time frames, site location & achievements of community & economic goals.

Describe a unique characteristic of the deal or characteristics of the incentives offered by the community to complete the deal.

What are the characteristics of your deal that make it so meaningful for your community?

How did you exhibit creativity and how did you take advantage of opportunities and overcome obstacles in the course of your deal?

What role did your EDO/Volunteers play in your deal?

**Supplemental Materials (15 points)**

Up to five additional pages of supplemental information may be submitted. Such information may include testimonials from key executives affiliated with the company the deal references, statements from local elected officials, news articles, renderings, and/or pictures (i.e., groundbreaking ceremony, new facility). Documents should be uploaded when the on-line application is submitted.

Judges may interview nominated organizations to gain additional information. Recipients of the 2025 Deal of the Year Awards may be asked to make a brief presentation on their winning submission at the awards ceremony.

Please submit a brief press release should you win the 2025 Deal of the Year Award.\*