Created by Congress in 1987, the Baldrige Program helps organizations improve and succeed in the global marketplace. It is the only public-private partnership and Presidential award program dedicated to improving U.S. organizations. In collaboration with the Baldrige community, the Baldrige Program offers a systems approach to organizational excellence, award-winning leadership development, self-assessment tools, organizational assessments by trained experts, workshops on how to improve, and events that showcase best management practices.

Baldrige in Colorado

- 26 Colorado applicants for the Baldrige Award (2005–2020)
- 8 Colorado award applicants in 2016–2020 represent 11,195 jobs, 87 work locations, more than $14 billion in revenues/budgets, and more than 595,000 customers served.
- 11 Baldrige examiners from Colorado volunteered about $247,500 in services in 2020.

Colorado National Role Models

CH2M HILL–OMI (f/k/a Operations Management International), service, 2000
City of Fort Collins, nonprofit, 2017
Donor Alliance, nonprofit, 2018
Elevations Credit Union, nonprofit, 2014 and 2020

Kenneth W. Monfort College of Business, education, 2004
Poudre Valley Health System (now University of Colorado Health), health care, 2008

Success Story

Elevations Credit Union empowers its members and the communities it serves with financial solutions and education. This member-owned, nonprofit financial institution serves more than 147,000 members via 14 branches. With assets of over $2.7 billion and more than 560 employees, it serves members in Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Jefferson, Larimer, and Weld counties, Colorado.

Highlights

- No. 1 credit union mortgage lender in Colorado
- #11 out of the top 300 U.S. credit unions, even with assets ranking #127 and ability to lend only in Colorado
- Ranking in the top 95% of U.S. organizations for employee engagement based on the Gallup Q12 survey
- Increase in business/commercial loans from less than $50 million in 2015 to about $175 million in 2019, even as losses in relation to loan portfolio growth remained zero

Rocky Mountain Performance Excellence

The Alliance for Performance Excellence (www.BaldrigeAlliance.org) is a nonprofit national network of Baldrige-based organizations with a mission to grow performance excellence in support of a thriving Baldrige community. Alliance members include Baldrige-based programs that use the Baldrige Excellence Framework to serve organizations from all sectors in their region, state, or a specific industry. These programs annually evaluate and recognize over 1,000 organizations and serve as the feeder system for the national Baldrige Award.

Incorporated in 2000 as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation, Rocky Mountain Performance Excellence (RMPEX; www.rmpex.org/) helps organizations improve performance and achieve results. The approach is based on the Baldrige Excellence Framework, a proven framework that brings innovation and results to any organization. RMPEX serves Colorado, Montana, Nebraska, and Wyoming.
2012–2020 Rocky Mountain Performance Excellence Award Recipients in Colorado

Peak Performance Award
- AlloSource
- City of Fort Collins
- Denver Health
- Donor Alliance Inc.
- El Paso County School District 49
- Elevations Credit Union
- Poudre Valley Health System

Timberline Performance Award
- City of Arvada
- El Paso County School District 49
- Fire & Police Pension Association of Colorado
- Littleton Adventist Hospital
- RTD FasTracks Program
- Sky Ridge Medical Center

High Plains Recognition
- City of Aspen Utilities Department (High Plains)
- Strategic Programs, Inc. (High Plains)

Featured Recipient

El Paso County School District 49 is a public school district spanning eastern Colorado Springs and several areas of El Paso County. The fastest-growing district in Colorado, the district’s enrollment of 20,834 students ranks 3rd in the county and 14th in the state. D49 operates in a highly competitive school choice environment, with larger and wealthier districts along the western boundary.

Highlights
- Increase in CDC Scorecard results from 121 to 156 over 2 years
- Over 3 years, increase from 58% to 60% in staff with advanced degrees

Communities of Excellence Participants in Colorado

The Communities of Excellence Learning Collaborative introduces communities to the Baldrige-based Communities of Excellence Framework. The framework promotes collaboration across key sectors and aligns the efforts of the businesses, organizations, school systems, and governmental organizations communitywide to implement and sustain community change.

City of Castle Pines

AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Recipients in Colorado

The AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Program provides a pathway toward performance excellence for providers of long-term and postacute care services. The program is based on the core values and criteria of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program.

Avamere Transitional Care and Rehab.—Brighton (Bronze, 2020)
Cambridge Care Center (Bronze, 2019)
Centennial Healthcare Center (Bronze, 2020)
Denver North Care Center (Bronze, 2020)
Flatirons Health and Rehab (Bronze, 2020)
Golden Peaks Center (Bronze, 2019)
Hallmark Nursing Center (Bronze, 2020)
Harmony Pointe Nursing Center (Bronze, 2019)
Juniper Village at Louisville (Bronze, 2020)
PowerBack of Lakewood (Bronze, 2019)
PowerBack of Lafayette (Bronze, 2019)
Sandalwood Manor (Bronze, 2020)
Sierra Rehab. and Care Community (Bronze, 2019)
Summit Rehab. and Care Community (Bronze, 2020)
Sunrise at Pinehurst (Bronze, 2020)
Sunrise of Boulder (Bronze, 2020)
Sunrise of Westminster (Bronze, 2020)
The Green House Homes at Mirasol (Bronze, 2020)
Valley View Care Center (Bronze, 2020)
Villa Manor Care Center (Bronze, 2020)
Westlake Care Community (Silver, 2019)
Windsor Healthcare Center (Bronze, 2020)
Yuma Life Care Center (Bronze, 2020)