Created with Congressional authorization 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.

The data presented below, in some cases, are estimates of the best available information.

**Baldrige in Minnesota**

- 25 Minnesota applicants for the Baldrige Award (2005–2020)
- 2 Minnesota award applicants in 2018–2020 represent 1,690 jobs, 66 work locations, about $268 million in revenues/budgets, and about 289,000 customers served.
- 4 Baldrige examiners from Minnesota volunteered about $90,000 in services in 2021.

**Minnesota National Role Models**

3M Dental Products Division, manufacturing, 1997  
BI, service, 1999  
Cargill Corn Milling North America, manufacturing, 2008  
Custom Research Inc., small business, 1996  
IBM Rochester, manufacturing, 1990  
Sunny Fresh Foods, Inc. (now Cargill Kitchen Solutions), small business, 1999; manufacturing, 2005  
Zytec Corporation (now part of Artesyn Technologies), manufacturing, 1991

**Success Story**

Cargill Corn Milling North America (CCM), a business unit within Cargill Inc., manufactures corn- and sugar-based food, including whole-grain corn meal and corn oil; animal feed; and fermentation products, including ethanol, dextrose, and acidulants. More than 2,300 employees work across CCM’s headquarters in Wayzata, 9 manufacturing facilities, and 11 distribution terminals located throughout the U.S. Over four decades, CCM grew from processing 10,000 bushels of corn each day to processing more than 1 million bushels of corn each day.

**Highlights**

- 99% or higher error-free delivery rate over 3 years
- 95% operational reliability effectiveness rate (a ratio of actual production and commercial demand) 3 points shy of the Society of Maintenance and Reliability Professionals world-class benchmark
- Steady per-bushel costs over 3 years even as energy costs increased 50–80%, chemical costs rose 30%, and maintenance costs increased 10%

**Performance Excellence Network**

The Alliance for Performance Excellence 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.

Founded in 1987, the Performance Excellence Network is a nonprofit that advances improvement and performance excellence in Minnesota, South Dakota, and North Dakota. We identify strengths and improvement opportunities and build networks that bring information, resources, knowledge, and best practices to organizations, individuals, and communities desiring to improve. We serve more than 250 organizations in the Upper Midwest.
2013–2020 Minnesota Performance Excellence Award Recipients

**Excellence**
- Benedictine Health System
- Cardinal of Minnesota
- LifeSource
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Winona Health

**Achievement**
- Austin Public Schools
- River’s Edge Hospital
- Rochester Community and Technical College
- South Dakota Department of Transportation

**Advancement**
- Du Fresne Manufacturing Company
- The Goodman Group
- Johnson Memorial Health Services
- Marshall Public Schools
- Mayo Clinic Health System, SE Region
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Olmsted Medical Center
- River’s Edge Hospital
- Walden University School of Management

**Commitment**
- Apple Autos
- Central Minnesota Community of Excellence
- Episcopal Homes of Minnesota
- Hennepin Technical College
- Huberty Performance Learning LLC
- Seagate Technology
- Southeast Service Cooperative

Communities of Excellence Participants in Minnesota

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.

Central Minnesota

AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Recipients in Minnesota

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

- Cedars at St. Louis Park, a Villa Center (Bronze, 2020)
- Cornerstone Nursing & Rehab. Center (Bronze, 2020)
- Edgebrook Care Center (Bronze, 2019)
- Fairway Pines Senior Living (Bronze, 2020)
- Galtier, a Villa Center (Bronze, 2020)
- Glenwood Estates (Bronze, 2020)
- Good Samaritan Society—Bethany (Bronze, 2020)
- Good Samaritan Society—Howard Lake (Bronze, 2020)
- Good Samaritan Society—Jackson (Bronze, 2020)
- Good Samaritan Society—Luverne (Bronze, 2020)
- Good Samaritan Society—Pine River (Silver, 2020)
- Home Front First Assisted Living—Rosewood (Bronze, 2020)
- Lakewood Manor (Bronze, 2020)
- Lakewood Pines (Bronze, 2020)
- The Legacy of St. Anthony (Bronze, 2020)
- The Lodge of Howard Lake (Bronze, 2020)
- McIntosh Senior Living (Bronze, 2020)
- New Perspective Senior Living of Faribau (Bronze, 2020)
- Park River Estates Care Center (Bronze, 2020)
- Pierz Villa (Silver, 2020)
- Polar Ridge Senior Living (Bronze, 2020)
- Robbinsdale, a Villa Center (Bronze, 2020)
- Rose of Sharon, a Villa Center (Bronze, 2020)
- Sterling Pointe Senior Living (Silver, 2020)
- Valley Care & Rehab. (Bronze, 2020)