



Baldrige in South Dakota

Baldrige-Based Award Programs Serving South Dakota

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](#), an Alliance for Performance Excellence member, is a nonprofit that advances improvement and performance excellence in Minnesota, South Dakota, and North Dakota. It identifies strengths and improvement opportunities and build networks that bring information, resources, knowledge, and best practices to organizations, individuals, and communities desiring to improve. It serves more than 250 organizations in the Upper Midwest region of the United States.

[Communities of Excellence 2026](#), an Alliance for Performance Excellence member, introduces communities to the Baldrige-based Communities of Excellence Framework through its Communities of Excellence Learning Collaborative. 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.

The [AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Program](#), an Alliance for Performance Excellence member, 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.

2012–2020 South Dakota Performance Excellence Award Recipients

Avera Sacred Heart Hospital (Advancement)
South Dakota Army National Guard (Advancement)
South Dakota Department of Transportation (Advancement)

Communities of Excellence Participant in South Dakota

City of Brookings

AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award/Recognition Recipients in South Dakota

Aberdeen Health and Rehab. (Silver, 2019)	Avantara Redfield (Bronze, 2019)
Aspen Grove AL (Silver, 2021)	Avantara Saint Cloud (Bronze, 2019)
Avantara Arlington (Bronze, 2022)	Avantara Watertown (Silver, 2020)
Avantara Armour (Bronze, 2019)	Dow Rummel Village (Bronze, 2019)
Avantara Groton (Bronze, 2020)	Faulkton Senior Living (Silver, 2019)
Avantara Huron (Bronze, 2022)	Firesteel Healthcare Center (Bronze, 2020)
Avantara Milbank (Bronze, 2019)	Fountain Springs Healthcare Center (Bronze, 2020)
Avantara Mountain View (Silver, 2021; Bronze, 2020)	Lake Andes Senior Living (Bronze, 2019)
Avantara North (Bronze, 2022)	Palisade Health Care (Bronze, 2021)
Avantara Pierre (Bronze, 2019)	

Baldrige in the U.S.

- U.S. organizations applying for the Baldrige Award have received 1,791 feedback reports detailing organizational strengths and opportunities for improvement.
- 124 Baldrige Award recipients have shared their role-model practices with other organizations.
- 2010–2021 Baldrige Award applicants represent 687,115 U.S. jobs, 5,086 work sites, more than \$193 billion in revenues/budgets, and about 614 million customers served.
- 103 national Baldrige examiners volunteered roughly \$2.3 million in services in 2022.
- In 2019, 29 independently funded and managed regional, state, and sector Baldrige-based programs evaluated 1,598 organizations using 1,686 volunteer examiners.

Sample Achievements by Baldrige Award Recipients

- Average customer satisfaction for services **higher than 4.5 out of 5** since 2017 (MESA)
- **Highest possible credit rating** from Standard & Poor's and Moody's since 1994 (City of Germantown, TN)
- **Growth in revenue** from **\$41 million to \$265 million** over 10 years (PricewaterhouseCoopers Public Sector Practice [now Guidehouse])
- Estimated **cost savings of \$225 million annually** through time reductions resulting from process and performance improvements (Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control)
- **5-star rating** (the highest) from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (GBMC HealthCare System)
- **Outperforms local and national comparators** for attainment of associate degrees and certificates by **more than 200%** (Howard Community College)
- Over 4 years, **100% of customers surveyed would recommend the company** to others (Stellar Solutions)

The Baldrige Performance Excellence Program

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, in some cases, are estimates of the best available information.