

# 2026 Circle of Excellence Nomination Form

The Saline Area Chamber of Commerce proudly recognizes businesses that have made significant investments and outstanding contributions to the Saline community. Help us honor these deserving organizations.

## Award Category

Please select the award you are nominating this person/business for:

### • **Large Business (30+ employees)**

Recognizes an established, successful business with a substantial history in the Saline Area. The nominee should demonstrate:

- Commitment to the economic health and productivity of the Saline Area
- Exceptional customer service
- Ethical and fair business practices aligned with Chamber standards
- Contributions to community improvement through volunteer involvement
- Active membership in good standing with the Saline Area Chamber of Commerce

### • **Small Business (29 /fewer employees)**

Honors a small business with a strong, established presence in the Saline Area. The nominee should demonstrate:

- Commitment to the economic health and productivity of the Saline Area
- Exceptional customer service
- Ethical and fair business practices aligned with Chamber standards
- Contributions to community betterment through volunteer service
- Good standing with the Saline Area Chamber of Commerce

### • **Rising Star (SACC member for 2 years or less; in business 5 years or less)**

Celebrates an emerging business demonstrating impressive impact in a short period of time. The nominee should demonstrate:

- Membership in SACC for 2 years or less and business operations for 5 years or less
- Strong potential for future growth and achievement

- Commitment to Saline’s economic vitality
- Exceptional customer service
- Ethical business practices
- Community contributions through volunteer involvement
- Good standing with the Saline Area Chamber of Commerce

- **Visionary Award**

The recipient usually focuses on innovation, forward-thinking ideas, leadership in shaping the future, transformative impact on their field or society, and the ability to inspire others to think differently or envision new possibilities. It often recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional creativity, foresight, and a commitment to push boundaries or challenge the status quo.

- **First Responder**

The recipient has worked and/or served (Fire, Police, EMS) in the Saline Area in 2025; provided a significant service above and beyond their job description to the Saline Area during 2025; showed a dedication to public service, exemplary performance in emergencies, community impact, and commitment to the well-being and safety of others. These individuals are often recognized for their selflessness, professionalism, and ability to manage challenging and high-stress situations effectively.

- **Citizen of the Year Award**

This award honors an individual who lived, worked, or volunteered within the Saline Area School District and made a significant volunteer contribution to the Saline community during 2025. The recipient must not have received financial benefit from the volunteer efforts being recognized. Honorees demonstrate meaningful and sustained involvement in the community, exhibit leadership and altruism, and make a positive impact that contributes to the betterment of Saline or society as a whole.

- **Distinguished Veteran Award**

This award recognizes a veteran who was born in Saline, passed away in Saline, currently resides in the Saline Area, or lived in the Saline Area during their active military service. The recipient demonstrated exceptional valor, courage, or dedication while serving in the United States Armed Forces and must have been honorably discharged or killed in action (KIA). Honorees also contribute to the veteran community through leadership, service in veteran-related organizations, or advocacy for veterans’ rights and welfare. This award is

reserved for individuals whose service and continued dedication have created a lasting impact on their country, fellow veterans, and the community.

- **Youth of the Year Award**

City of Saline Youth Council (“SYC”) Presents the “YOUTH OF THE YEAR AWARD”. This prestigious award recognizes a Saline Area School District resident in grades 7-12 who has made a positive impact in the community in 2025.

Please help recognize teens that make a positive impact in the community by nominating an outstanding young person from the Saline area.

Questions? Email Sunshine Lambert: [slambert@salinemi.gov](mailto:slambert@salinemi.gov)

Nomination deadline: Monday, March 16, 2026

Required: completed online nomination form with minimum one additional letter of recommendation preferably from a teacher, school administrator, coach or community leader.

**Nominations are due by: March 16, 2026**

Please email completed nominations to: [office@salinechamber.org](mailto:office@salinechamber.org)

Note: Nominees must live or work in Saline, Michigan, be members in good standing with the SACC, and must not have previously received the award for which they are being nominated.

For questions, contact SACC at 734-429-4494 or [office@salinechamber.org](mailto:office@salinechamber.org)