



ACF Pittsburgh Chapter

Certified Master Chef Byron J. Bardy

Chef of the Year Award Requirements

The ACF Pittsburgh Chapter is proud to announce the Certified Master Chef Byron J. Bardy Chef of the Year Award, an esteemed recognition honoring exceptional culinary professionals who have made significant contributions to the culinary arts. This award celebrates chefs who demonstrate unparalleled skill, leadership, and dedication to their craft, whether they are members of the ACF Pittsburgh Chapter or part of the broader Pittsburgh culinary community. Nominations are now open, and we invite members in good standing to recognize and nominate deserving chefs who exemplify the highest standards of our profession.

How to Submit a Nomination:

To nominate a chef for this prestigious award, please complete the nomination process as outlined in the checklist below and send all required nomination packet materials to through the form on the ACFPC website by the submission deadline. We look forward to honoring the outstanding chefs who continue to elevate the culinary industry in Pittsburgh and beyond.

Eligibility:

1. **Nominee Status:** The nominee must be a professional chef actively working in the culinary field or adjacent field. This award is open to chefs both within and outside of the ACF Pittsburgh Chapter (ACFPC). The nominee is not eligible if they have won this award within the last 10 years.
2. **Nomination Source:** The nominee must be nominated by an ACFPC member who is in good standing. Self-nominations are **NOT** accepted.

Criteria for Nomination:

1. Professional Excellence:

- Demonstrated excellence in culinary skills and innovation throughout their career.
- Proven track record of high standards in food quality, presentation, and service.
- Active involvement in advancing any of the following, the ACF/ACFPC, culinary arts, such as through mentorship, teaching, or public speaking, or contributing to the greater hospitality industry in some meaningful way within the calendar year they are being nominated in.

2. Leadership and Impact:

- Leadership within the culinary community, including mentorship of peers and younger chefs.
- Significant contributions to the industry, such as sustainable practices, community engagement, or charitable work.
- Positive influence on the local culinary scene, promoting Pittsburgh as a culinary destination.

3. Commitment to Continuing Education:

- Active participation in continued learning and professional development.

- Involvement in ACF or other culinary organizations, workshops, seminars, or certifications that further professional growth.

4. Ethical and Professional Conduct:

- Adherence to high standards of ethical conduct in all professional dealings.
- Commitment to the culinary profession's integrity and the values upheld by the ACF.

Nomination Process:

1. Submission Requirements:

- Complete and send the completed application along with the nomination checklist items listed on the following page.

2. Deadline: All nomination materials must be submitted by the deadline posted on the ACFPC website.

3. Selection Process:

- The ACF Pittsburgh Chapter's Awards Committee will review all nominations based on the above criteria and announce a decision on eligibility at the first board meeting of the month of November.
- The committee reserves the right to request additional information or conduct interviews if needed.
- A vote will be held via electronic ballot, and the winner will be announced by the first Friday of the new calendar year.

4. Award Presentation:

- The Chef of the Year will be recognized at the ACF Pittsburgh Chapter's annual awards ceremony.
- The recipient will receive a medal and trophy and will be featured in the chapter's communications and media outlets.

Additional Information:

- The ACF Pittsburgh Chapter values diversity and encourages nominations of chefs from all backgrounds and culinary traditions.
- Nominators and nominees must ensure all information provided is accurate and truthful.

Chef of the Year Award Nomination Packet Checklist

To ensure a complete and thorough nomination for the ACF Pittsburgh Chapter's Chef of the Year Award, please compile and submit the following items in a single nomination packet through the form on the ACFPC website. The form must be completed in its entirety by the submission deadline. All incomplete nominations will not be accepted.

1. Nomination Letter

- A detailed letter from the ACFPC member in good standing who is nominating the chef.
- The letter should clearly outline the nominee's qualifications, achievements, and contributions to the culinary industry within the calendar year of this they are being nominated.
- Include specific examples of professional excellence, leadership, and community impact.

2. Letters of Support

- At least **one** additional letter of support from other professionals or organizations within the culinary community.
- These letters should further emphasize the nominee's accomplishments, character, and influence in the culinary field, Pittsburgh region, or ACF.

3. Professional Biography or CV

- A comprehensive biography or curriculum vitae (CV) of the nominee.
- Include details of the nominee's career highlights, awards, recognitions, and any relevant certifications or educational achievements.
- Current headshot of the nominee.

4. Documentation of Achievements (Optional but Encouraged)

- Any supporting materials that highlight the nominee's work, such as:
 - Photos of culinary creations.
 - Articles, reviews, or publications featuring the nominee.
 - Documentation of involvement in community service, culinary events, or educational programs.

5. Contact Information

- Include the full contact information for both the nominator and the nominee:
 - Full name
 - Email address
 - Phone number
 - Mailing address

6. Submission

- Compile all the above materials and fill out the form on the ACFPC website to submit a nomination. All incomplete nominations will not be accepted or considered.

7. Submission Deadline

- Ensure that all materials are submitted by **November 1st**. Late submissions may not be considered.

This checklist is designed to streamline the nomination process and ensure that each nominee's achievements are fully represented for consideration by the ACF Pittsburgh Chapter's Awards Committee.