

2022 marks the 14th year of the Georgia Fast 40 awards! ACG Atlanta identifies and honors the fastest-growing middle-market companies based on verified revenue and employee growth over a 3-year period.

Criteria and selection for the award includes the following:

- 1) eligible companies must be for profit and headquartered in Georgia
 - 2) most recent year-end revenues ranging from \$15 million to \$1 billion
 - 3) three years of verifiable revenue and employment growth.
- Honorees and the event's associated sponsors will also be highlighted in a variety of online and print publications.

Awards will be presented to honorees at the Georgia Fast 40 Celebration at the Atlanta History Center on June 28th.

Who We Are:

What is the Georgia Fast 40?

The Georgia Fast 40 Award is an annual ACG Atlanta program that identifies and honors the fastest-growing Middle Market companies in Georgia.

Who is ACG Atlanta?

With over 14,500 members and 59 chapters worldwide, the Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) is a global membership organization dedicated to bringing together company leaders, capital sources, intermediaries and advisors to create opportunities for deal making and networking, as well as drive personal and professional growth.

With over 700 members representing over 350 of Atlanta's leading companies, ACG Atlanta is *THE PREEMINENT RESOURCE* for dealmakers and professionals focused on driving middle market corporate growth and mergers and acquisitions in the Southeast.

ACG Atlanta provides face-to-face events, online tools, structured networking opportunities, exclusive member benefits, and leading- edge market intelligence. In addition to the Fast 40 Awards, programming includes M&A South (former Atlanta ACG Capital Connection), Speaker Series featuring senior business leaders, an Annual Wine Tasting event as well as educational events for Young Professionals. We invite you to attend one of our [upcoming programs](#) to experience what no other resource offers.

Why We Differ and Who is Eligible:

How does the Georgia Fast 40 differ from other events that recognize successful companies in the region?

The Georgia Fast 40 Awards specifically recognizes Middle Market companies throughout the State of Georgia that demonstrate top line revenue and employment growth over the prior two fiscal years, with only 20 companies in each division, making this distinction more meaningful. Our minimum revenue requirement is also a distinction, as is the fact that revenue and employment information is confidentially validated during the interview and selection process by Cherry Bekaert, a National CPA Firm, and Diamond sponsor of the ACG Fast 40 Awards. Feedback we consistently receive from prior honorees is that the transparency of our process and objective selection criteria is another positive differentiator.

Who is eligible for the Georgia Fast 40?

Companies with headquarters in Georgia and annual revenues between \$15 - \$1 billion in their most recently concluded fiscal year are eligible. The Honorees must be the ultimate parent company, and not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies, whether foreign or domestic. Honorees may have operations outside the state, including internationally.

Sponsorship:

What kinds of sponsorships are available?

There are many opportunities to support this great event and associate your company's brand with the fastest growing companies in Georgia. A complete listing of available sponsorship levels will be available soon. You can also contact [Mary Richardson](#) the 2022 Georgia Fast 40 Sponsorship Chair.

Nomination:

Why nominate a company you do business with?

Nominating a company for the Georgia Fast 40 Awards is a great way to honor them and publicly recognize their achievements. Should a company be selected as a Georgia Fast 40 Awards Honoree thanks to your nomination, they will receive tremendous publicity and prestige.

What is the process for nominating a company?

To nominate a company, please go [here](#) and complete the online nomination form.

Will the nominated company know who nominated them?

Yes, unless you specify otherwise in the notes portion of the online form.

Can companies nominate themselves?

Yes, companies are encouraged to submit themselves for consideration – a third-party nomination is not required. Interested companies may bypass the nomination form and simply complete the application form [here](#)

Application:

Why should companies apply?

Companies who are recognized in the Georgia Fast 40 Awards receive unparalleled recognition of their success across the State of Georgia and the entire Association for Corporate Growth network. Having a respected third party honor a company's success provides important credibility and validation. In addition to recognition at the Awards Gala, companies may issue press about the award, and ACG Atlanta publicizes and advertises the list of Honorees both prior and subsequent to the event.

Is there a cost to apply?

No.

What is the process for applying?

Applications will be accepted through March 31, 2022. Companies do not need to be nominated to apply. To apply for the 2022 Georgia Fast 40 Awards, please visit [our website](#) and complete the confidential online form. Finalist interviews will take place in April.

How long does it take to apply?

The application should take no longer than five minutes to complete. Please have your 2019-2021 revenue numbers and employee count available as you will be asked for this information in the application. This information is NOT shared with the committee or third parties.

What information must be provided in order to be considered?

To be considered as a Georgia Fast 40 Award Honoree, companies must provide year-end employee headcount and annual revenues for 2019-2021. ACG Atlanta will also need administrative details, such as contact information, etc.

Will applicant information be treated confidentially?

Applicant revenue and employment information is confidential, and will be validated during the interview and selection process by Cherry Bekaert. Applicant information is **not shared with anyone** other than the validation team at Cherry Bekaert. No information is held by ACG Atlanta or Cherry Bekaert.

What if an applicant is a private company and not comfortable sharing/verifying employee and/or revenue numbers?

We would ask that you review our confidentiality statement and address any remaining concerns with [Michelle Galvani](#), the 2022 Georgia Fast 40 Committee Chair. Unfortunately, it is not possible to be considered for the ACG Fast 40 Awards without data verification.

When will companies be notified of their application status?

All applicants will be notified regarding the status of their application in mid-May.

What is the format for the final interview?

The final interview is a 30-60 minute discussion between top company executives (preferably the CEO and/or CFO), a committee member, and a representative from Cherry Bekaert. Among others, topics include: what makes the company different from its peers/competitors, what have been key factors to their growth, what challenges have they seen due to the growth and how to they plan to maintain their current performance.

Who should companies contact with questions during the application/selection process?

You will receive confirmation of your application shortly after it is submitted. If you have any questions, you can contact ACG Atlanta's Staff via email at acgatlanta@acg.org

Honoree Benefits:

How are the Fastest Growing honorees recognized?

Georgia Fast 40 Honorees are recognized via an ACG press release, on the ACG website, in ACG email blasts distributed to our database, via a variety of media, and the Celebration.

Can companies identify themselves as Georgia Fast 40 Honorees on websites or other marketing materials?

Yes, for up to one year. This requires adherence to the parameters and policies. All logos must be obtained from ACG Atlanta President and CEO [Melanie Brandt](#).

Can Honorees issue a press release announcing their status as a Georgia Fast 40 Company?

Yes. ACG Atlanta will provide honorees with a template in order to facilitate this. There is also an opportunity to have a video press release by our video partner

Is there a cost for companies that are Honorees?

No. Honorees are provided two (2) complimentary tickets to the Celebration. However, many Honoree Companies choose to purchase additional tickets so that members of their leadership teams and other guests may participate in the celebration.

Event Info:

When is the Georgia Fast 40 Awards Celebration?

The 2022 Georgia Fast 40 Awards Celebration will be on June 28th, 2022 at the Atlanta History Center

How many people attend the Georgia Fast 40 Awards event each year?

Attendance has grown steadily with sold out events the past several years.

What is the cost to attend, and what is the registration process?

Individual tickets will be available for purchase. The price varies depending on ACG membership status. Honorees may purchase multiple tickets at the member price. Please visit our website for a full breakdown of the pricing options, and to register.

I'm not an ACG Member, can I buy a single ticket?

Single Tickets are open to ACG Members only at this time. Single tickets for Guests/Non-ACG Members will open once we have determined capacity for our membership.

If you are interested in membership, [please visit our membership page](#).

Please email [VP of Operations, Gloria Kantor](#) to be placed on the Single Ticket wait list for non-members.

What is the appropriate attire for the Georgia Fast 40 Awards Celebration?

For gentlemen, business attire is appropriate. For ladies, either cocktail attire or business attire is appropriate.