

## EY Entrepreneur nominations open

Now in its 22nd Year, the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year programme has officially opened for nominations.

The theme of this year's programme is "Be Brave, Be Bold" and all sectors and businesses of all sizes across the island of Ireland are invited to submit their nominations until February 15th. The 24 finalists for 2019 will be announced on April 23rd. Waterford's entrepreneurs are encouraged to put themselves forward to follow in the footsteps of well-known Waterford business people, David and Sandra Whelan, VR Education Holdings plc, and Louise Grubb, who were finalists in 2018 and 2016, respectively.



Said Kevin McLoughlin, Partner Lead for EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Ireland said: "This year we are committed to supporting and encouraging our island's entrepreneurs to be brave and to be bold, whether that means taking a first step with a brilliant idea, or taking a calculated risk to drive growth in their business. They will be able to take inspiration from, and tap into the vast knowledge of Ireland's most fearless entrepreneurs who have gone through this programme in the past. I am really proud that we now have an Alumni network of 500 entrepreneurs who have benefited from the programme and remain connected to it."

He added: "A highlight of the programme will be when our finalists go on our renowned international CEO Retreat taking place this year in Hong Kong, designed to help Irish entrepreneurs transform their thinking and vision through executive education and inspiration from some of the world's leading CEOs."

Operating in more than 60 countries worldwide, the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year is recognised as the most prestigious business accolade for entrepreneurs.

The programme is open to entrepreneurs from all sectors and growth stages, across the island of Ireland. The awards programme is divided into three categories - Emerging, Industry and International - with eight finalists chosen per category. The 24 finalists will be selected by an independent panel of judges, comprising former winners and chaired by Anne Heraty of CPL Resources plc.

For further information or for people who wish to put themselves forward or nominate an entrepreneur with their consent can fill out the online nomination form at [www.eoy.ie](http://www.eoy.ie).