

# National Women Entrepreneurs Award 2026 (NWEA 2026)

## Submission Guidelines and Conditions

### 1. Purpose of the Award

The National Women Entrepreneurs Award 2026 (NWEA 2026) aims to recognise and promote women entrepreneurs for the quality, originality, and market readiness of their products or services. The award seeks to encourage innovation, value addition, and sustainable business practices among women entrepreneurs.

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### 2. Eligibility

- The award is open to registered women entrepreneurs of the National Women Entrepreneur Council.
- Applicants must be operating a legally recognised business (sole trader, cooperative, company, or association, as applicable).
- Each woman entrepreneur may submit **only one (1) product or service** for consideration.
- Only Women-Owned businesses are eligible for this award.

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### 3. Product-Based Businesses

Women entrepreneurs operating in **product-based businesses** are required to submit the following:

#### 1. One Product Only

- Only one product per woman entrepreneur is allowed.
- The product must be ready for the market and suitable for display and evaluation.

#### 2. Product Description (Mandatory)

Each product must be accompanied by a written description including:

- Name of the product
- Category of product
- Materials or ingredients used
- Production process (brief description)

- Unique features or value addition
- Intended use and target market

### 3. Packaging and Labelling

- The product should be properly packaged.
- Labelling should comply with applicable regulations (where relevant).

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## 4. Service-Based Businesses

Women entrepreneurs operating in the **services sector** are not required to submit a physical product. Instead, they must submit a **written business report**, which should include:

- Name of the business and type of service offered
- Brief background of the entrepreneur
- Description of services provided
- Target clientele or market
- Business model and pricing approach
- Achievements and milestones
- Challenges faced and how they were addressed
- Future plans and growth strategy

The report should be clear, concise, and well-structured.

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## 5. Quality and Compliance

- Products and services submitted must meet acceptable quality standards.
- Any product or report that does not comply with these guidelines may be disqualified.
- Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

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## 6. Submission Deadline

Deadline for **registration: Friday, 20 February 2026**

**Textiles and Handicraft Sector** - Products must be submitted at latest by: **Thursday, 4 March 2026 before 14 00 hrs**

**Food Sector:** Candidates will be requested to bring their products upon selection.

**Services Sector:** Business Portfolio to be submitted by Thursday, 4 March 2026 before 14 00 hrs

Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted.

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## 7. General Conditions

- Submitted products may be used for display and evaluation purposes only.
- Participants agree to allow organisers to use photographs or descriptions of the products/services for promotional and reporting purposes.
- The decision of the selection panel shall be final.

## 8. Disclaimer

*The National Women Entrepreneur Council reserves the right to accept or reject any application, to annul the entire selection process or reject all applications at any time prior to award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected applicant(s) or any obligation to inform the affected applicant(s) the grounds for such decision.*

## 9. Contact Information

For any additional information or any clarification, you may contact us at the NWEC on 6867130/38.