



Carolinas Independent Automobile Dealers Association Quality Dealer Award Official Nominating Guidelines & Application Form

Guidelines as recommended by Carolinas Independent Automobile Dealers Association (CIADA) to assist our selection in making their decision of CIADA's Quality Dealer of the Year.

The basic qualifications for a Quality Dealer Nominee should be:

SERVICE TO INDUSTRY - Dealer should show their commitment to the industry through dedicated service, by attending and participating in industry events and a willingness to serve and help others in the independent automotive dealer industry.

Candidates should meet the following criteria:

1. Be a member of CIADA in good standing and of the age 18 or older.
2. Support their respective state association through their dedicated service.
3. Support CIADA through their dedicated service.
4. Demonstrate a willingness to be helpful in performing Association duties when asked by the various state and national association leaders.
5. Display a willingness to serve the Used Motor Vehicle Industry through helpful service to fellow dealers by sharing their knowledge, talent, and experience.
6. Willingness to make a commitment to attend their respective annual state and national conventions.
7. Have the necessary credentials to compete at the national level, since they will be representing their state associations in a national competition.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS OPERATOR - Dealer should be committed to offering exceptional service to customers, both during and after a sale. Dealers should always maintain the highest standards as they relate to employee and business associate relations. Dealers should be highly respected and enjoy a good personal and business reputation within their local community.

Candidates should meet the following criteria:

1. Have a minimum of five (5) years of experience as a successful licensed independent dealer and member of their respected state association and NIADA for a period of no less than three (3) years. The candidate must be the 'Dealer Principal' or listed as the President of the dealership corporation.
2. Have a sanction free record with the state DMV and/or state licensing agency - have no outstanding or unanswered complaints with either the Better Business Bureau or the Consumer Affairs division of the state Attorney General's office.
3. Candidate's dealership operation should reflect pride of ownership and offer an attractive appearance of facility, grounds, and inventory.
4. Candidates should have an outstanding reputation of good customer relations and the handling of customer complaints in an expedient manner.
5. Operate their business in accordance with the CIADA Code of Ethics.
6. Candidate dealership operation should be a credit to the independent dealer community of their respective state and the Used Motor Vehicle Industry as a whole.
7. Candidates should furnish several customer and employee testimonial letters, as well as business and personal letters of recommendation.



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8. Extra thought should be given to those candidates who are NIADA “Certified Master Dealers”.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: Dealer should be involved in community affairs. It is beneficial for successful business owners to give something back to the community in which they develop their business and earn a living. From sponsoring little league teams to fostering animals. From their time on the city planning and zoning commissions to the parks board. Or maybe it is volunteering at their community recreation center or church. No matter what it is, sharing that story could make the difference.

Candidates should meet the following criteria:

1. Candidates should share any past volunteer experiences/ outreach in their local community.
2. Include specific stories of community involvement and outcomes.

EXCLUSIONS:

If a dealer/ dealership has previously been awarded CIADA Quality Dealer of the Year, that dealer/ dealership shall be ineligible to receive the award a second time.



**2026-27 Quality Dealer of the Year Award
Carolinas Independent Automobile Dealers Association
Official Nominating Form**

TO THE QUALITY DEALER NOMINEE: Congratulations on being selected as a nominee. Upon submission of this official nomination form, you become a nominee for State Quality Dealer of the Year.

Our judges have asked that this nomination form be completed in as much detail, and with as much documentation as possible. Please submit all the information requested.

Upon completion, return this form to the Executive Director of CIADA. This form must be submitted to CIADA by **July 1, 2026**. Deadline must be strictly adhered to in order that all entries may be judged fairly and fully. Thank you for your cooperation.

Name of sponsoring state officer: _____
Full name of nominee: _____
Name of dealership: _____
Title in dealership: _____
Address of dealership: _____
Business telephone: _____ Home Telephone: _____
Dealer's home address: _____

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION (Please enclose photograph - 3" x 5" or larger) (may be a family photograph)

Dealer's age: _____ Date & place of birth: _____
Educational history: _____

Family: Married: _____ Widowed: _____ Divorced: _____ Single: _____
Spouse's Name: _____
Children (name & ages): _____

AUTOMOTIVE CAREER

When, where, and how you started in the automotive business: _____

Special facts of interest relating to your automotive career: _____

DEALERSHIP HISTORY (Please enclose photograph of lot - 3" x 5" or larger)

Year dealership founded: _____

History: _____

Are you currently active in your dealership? _____ Full time _____ Part time _____

If more than one dealership is involved, please attach same information for all dealerships.

THE CANDIDATE AS A DEALER

Number of used cars sold last year: _____

Physical plant (include improvements): _____

Number of employees and record of service: _____

Nominee's business philosophy: _____

DEALER ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP

How long has nominee been a member of CIADA? _____

How long has nominee been a member of his/her local IADA (if there is one)? _____

Name of local IADA: _____

DEALER ASSOCIATION SERVICE (with dates, specific offices, committee assignments, honors, etc.)

CIADA

Current: _____

Past (give dates): _____

LOCAL IADA

Current: _____

Past (give dates): _____

THE CANDIDATE AS A GOOD CITIZEN

Civic and community organizations of which a member (list offices held or honors received and give dates): _____

Political service and activities (elective or appointive office held, committee work): _____

Religious Activities: _____

Any other forms of service or contributions to benefit others: _____

An independent judge outside the Association will make the Quality Dealer selection. As a nominee, you are requested to attend the Award Ceremonies during the Annual Convention.

NOTE TO QUALITY DEALER NOMINEE:

Be sure to attach:

- * Photograph of your facility (or facilities)
(3" x 5" or larger)
- * Photograph of yourself (may include family)
(3" x 5" or larger)
- * Employee and Customer Testimonials (if any)
- * Letters of Recommendation (if any)

Signature of Nominee

Date of Submission

Return to CIADA for submission to Judges

Signature of Executive Director

**CIADA
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