

# CALL FOR ENTRIES



The State of Connecticut's Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) and the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC), are calling for entries for the 5<sup>TH</sup> annual Connecticut Inner City 10 Entrepreneurship Awards Initiative. Applicants will be ranked based on the percentage of increase in the company's gross revenues between 2000 and 2004. The winners will be honored at the Connecticut Inner City 10 Awards reception in 2006.

The fundamental purpose of the Connecticut Inner City 10 awards is to highlight and celebrate 10 of the fastest-growing, privately owned, companies located in inner cities throughout Connecticut.



In February 2001, 11 Connecticut companies were selected as the first recipients of the Connecticut Inner City 10 Awards initiative. Six of those companies went on to rank in the prestigious 2001 – ICIC/*Inc. Magazine* Inner City 100, a national award that recognizes the fastest-growing privately owned companies located in America's inner cities.

In 2002, Connecticut was named as the most entrepreneurial state by *Inc. Magazine* for having 13 companies ranking among the fastest growing 100.

In April 2003, 11 Connecticut's Inner City 10 companies went on to rank among the fastest-growing ICIC/*Inc. Magazine* Inner City 100.

**These companies seized opportunities often overlooked by others and are the front-runners in the New Economy.**

**Does this describe your company? Do you know of any companies like these? If so, contact us today!**

Winners of the Connecticut Inner City 10 are automatically entered as Connecticut's top nominees in ICIC/*Inc. Magazine's* Inner City 100 national contest in April 2006.

**Application Deadline Friday, October 31, 2005**



Please help us by nominating high-growth companies in your city that meet the following **criteria:**

1

➤ Private, for-profit corporation, partnership or proprietorship

2

➤ Headquartered in the inner city (economically distressed urban area) or have 51% or more of physical operations in inner city areas

3

➤ Employed 10 or more full-time employees at the end of 2004

4

➤ Have a five-year operating sales history that includes:

- Six months of sales revenue in 2000
- An increase in 2004 sales over 2003
- Sales of at least \$200,000 in 2000
- Sales of at least \$1 million in 2004

5

➤ Cannot be a holding company, regulated bank or utility

**TO APPLY OR FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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