

Sample form, not for offline completion.

Visit <https://top50awards.awardsplatform.com> to enter.

# 2026 Top 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market

---

Start here

Entry name

Name of PE Firm

Contact Email

PE Firm Contact Phone Number

PE Firm's Primary Address

PE Firm's Website URL

Do you represent the PE Firm being nominated?

Yes

No

Are you nominating the PE Firm as a Third-Party?

Yes

No

**Terms and Conditions for The 2026 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market™ Award Program**

## 1. Award Program Overview

The 2026 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market™ Award Program (“the Award”) is owned and operated by Grady Campbell Incorporated.

TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market is awarded annually to leading private equity firms in the middle market as determined by Grady Campbell, a branding and marketing agency specializing in servicing middle market private equity firms. Entrant fees are applied to costs related to the operation of the awards program and do not influence the award selection process. The TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market Award is not representative of any one private equity firm’s experience. Further, this recognition is not to be construed as indicative of a private equity firm’s future performance.

## **2. Eligibility**

The 2026 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market™ is open to any qualifying private equity firm that is based and operates in the United States.

## **3. Submitting Entries**

Entrants must confirm their participation in the Award by:

- a. Registering and providing their contact information on The 2026 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market Award Portal.
- b. Completing and submitting the entry form via the online entry form on the Award Portal.
- c. Reviewing and agreeing to these Terms and Conditions.
- d. Payment of entry fee via the online payment gateway.

Entry into the Competition is deemed full acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.

Entries must be submitted in English.

## **4. Submission Criteria**

Word limits are specified in the online entry form. Answers that exceed specified limits will be automatically cut off at the limit. Submissions other than through the Online Form will not be accepted.

The Awards Team reserves the right to reject any Entrant submission that does not meet the criteria in its sole discretion. Incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

## **5. Information Provided by Entrant**

By submitting an entry, the Entrant:

- a. Confirms they have the authority and permission to provide all the material, including case studies, personal data, logos and information about the organization used in their submission (“Material(s)”), and for the use of these Materials by the Award Team in our publications, website, email and social media;
- b. Accepts that, content from entry submissions may be shared with the Award editorial team to provide background information in the development of future Awards, as well as other related services. The Award Team will advise your organization should it intend to publish an article in relation to your organization;

c. Accepts that the Award Team is committed to sharing good practice amongst its network. If you are selected as a 2026 Top 50 PE firm, the information you provide in your entry may be used by the Award Team as an example to support our campaigns, programs and charitable purpose;

d. Accepts that we may edit the information you supply for the purposes of word count and consistency for publication without prior approval;

e. Accepts that they are responsible for ensuring that all information submitted through the Submission Process is true, complete and correct;

f. Warrants that the entry is their own original work, that it is not defamatory and that it shall not infringe any third-party rights including, without limitation, privacy or data protection rights.

## **6. Submission Confirmation**

Entrants will receive an automated email confirming if entry has been successfully submitted.

a. Entrants that do not receive an automated email within eight hours of submitting an entry (please check your junk mail inbox), may not have successfully submitted an entry. In this case the Entrant should contact the Awards Team at email within one business day (Monday to Friday 9am-5pm CST) of submission.

b. The Awards Team does not take responsibility for entries that do not progress to the assessment stage for example because they are incomplete, lost, delayed, or not properly submitted.

## **7. Entry Period**

Entries will open at 9:00 am CT on Monday, September 1, 2025, and close at 12:00 midnight (CT) on Friday, December 12, 2025. The Award Team reserves the right to change, shorten or extend the open and closing dates at their discretion.

## **8. Selection Process**

The Award Team will review all submissions and select the 2026 TOP 50 Winners; The Award Team reserves the right to withdraw an award from any applicant supplying false/ fraudulent/inappropriate information within their entry. The decision in relation to any and all aspects of the Award is final and binding on every entrant and there will be no appeal of the decision of the The Award Team.

The first 50 qualifying entrants will be included in the 2026 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market™ Winning list. Additional qualifying entrants will be automatically included in the 2027 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market™ Winning list.

## **9. Winners**

The Award Winners will be notified personally via email by Mid-January, 2026 and listed on the Award Team's websites, as well as other social media channels, including but not limited to facebook and LinkedIn.

Winners agree to the publication of their name and the public information shared by their submission entry. Entrants are responsible for making appropriate arrangements to protect any intellectual property associated with their application. Entrants must be prepared to participate in post event publicity associated with the Award. No company sensitive information will be included without prior agreement.

## 10. Other

By registering and completing an entry for The 2026 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market™ Award Program, you agree to these Terms and Conditions of Entry. Entry into the Award is deemed an acceptance of these Terms and Conditions. Entries that do not comply with these Terms and Conditions are deemed ineligible and will be rejected.

By entering the Award, each Entrant agrees for the Award Team to process their firm's data for the purposes of conducting the Award, advertising/marketing the Award, and/or advertising /marketing future similar Awards.

The Award Team is under no obligation to publish or exhibit any entry.

The Award Team reserves the right at any time to modify or discontinue the awards or any feature thereof with or without prior notice.

The Award Team shall not be responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer or online systems, servers, or providers, computer equipment, software, technical problems, or any damage to Entrants' or any other person's computer systems related to, or resulting from, participation in this Award. The Award Team is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, either caused by any of the equipment or programming associated with, or utilized in, this Award, or for any technical error, that may occur in the course of this Award process, including any omission, interruption, deletion, security breach, defect or delay in operation or transmission.

If for any reason this Award Program is not capable of running as planned, including but not limited to, due to infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures or any other causes which affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the Award Program, the Award Team reserves the right to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the Award Program or take any other action it deems fit with respect to the Award Program without any liability.

Any costs associated with the Entrant entering the Award, including the Entry Fee, shall be borne solely by the Entrant. The Entry Fee is non-refundable.

Winners may be offered additional promotional / marketing opportunities for additional fees, including but not limited to, Award logo licensing and advertising. Please contact the Award Team if you require further information: [kgrady@gradycampbell.com](mailto:kgrady@gradycampbell.com)

## 11. Limitation of Liability

Grady Campbell and its respective affiliates and partners, any internet or online access providers or any of their employees, directors, shareholders and agents shall have no liability and shall be held harmless by, and accept no responsibility for any damage or loss or liability (direct, indirect, consequential, loss of opportunity or otherwise), of whatever nature, incurred or suffered by the Entrant as a result of entering the Awards, the acceptance, possession, use or misuse of the Award, or while preparing for, or participating in any Award related activity. In addition, submission of entries via the Awards platform is at the Entrant's risk and the Award Team does not accept liability for any loss or damage suffered by the Entrant as a result of use of the platform.

I agree to the 2026 TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market™ Award Terms and Conditions of Entry

---

## PE Firm Information

Include information about your PE Firm

Firm Inception Year

Include a brief overview of your PE Firm

250 words

What Differentiates Your Firm from other PE Firms?

250 words

What are Your PE Firm's Target Markets?

250 words

---

## Investments

Please fill out the fields below about how your PE Firm's Investments stand-out.

Total Number of Active Portfolio Investments

Total Number of Realized Investments Since Inception

Investment Criteria: Target EBITDA / Enterprise Value

List all transactions completed since October 2024, including acquisitions, add-ons, and divestments.

Current Fund and Investment Thesis

250 words

---

## Firm Credentials

Please answer the following questions about your Firm

Number of Employees

Why do business owners partner with your Firm?

250 words

Why do intermediaries present opportunities and conduct transactions with your Firm?

250 words

The **2026 TOP 50 PE Firms for Executives in the Middle Market** is an additional award to this years TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market awards program. If you would like to be additionally recognized for this award please fill out the below form below. The application for this award requires three testimonials from Executives your Firm works with. **Each additional award costs a fixed non-refundable program fee of \$495.**

The Top 50 PE Firms for Executives in the Middle Market award program recognizes leading private equity firms who create strategies that best enable their executives to succeed. Winning firms are known for their strong track record, a history of successful investments and high returns, large deal sizes and significant transaction volume, complex transactions, a focus on governance and collaboration, and high compensation rates and bonus structures.

I would like to be considered for the 2026 TOP 50 PE Firm for Executives in the Middle Market Awards. I (optional) agree to the additional application fee of \$495 USD.

The **2026 TOP 50 PE Firms for Founders in the Middle Market** is an additional award to this years TOP 50 PE Firms in the Middle Market awards program. If you would like to be additionally recognized for this award please fill out the below form below. The application for this award requires three testimonials from Founders your Firm works with. **Each additional award costs a fixed non-refundable program fee of \$495.**

The TOP 50 PE Firms for Founders in the Middle Market awards program acknowledges highly reputable private equity firms in the middle market that focus on partnering with family and founders-owned businesses. Winning firms emphasize partnership, providing resources and strategic and operational support, including help with go-to-market strategy, merger and acquisition strategy, and human capital development to help founders scale their businesses while retaining their vision.

I would like to be considered for the 2026 TOP 50 PE Firm for Founders in the Middle Market Awards. I (optional) agree to the additional application fee of \$495 USD.