

What it is	The Rhode Island Business Competition is an annual competition sponsored by businesses, professional services firms, investors, banks, nonprofits, foundations, colleges, universities, and government agencies, including former competitors.
Legal status	The Competition is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, which was incorporated in Rhode Island in 2005. Name changed in July 2018 from Rhode Island Business Plan Competition to Rhode Island Business Competition.
Goal	The Competition seeks to promote entrepreneurship and the development of start-up and early stage companies in Rhode Island.
Who can participate	Anyone 18 years or older who either is an entrepreneur or aspires to become one. To be eligible to receive prizes, applicants agree to establish or expand business operations in Rhode Island.
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Rhode Island Business Competition was established in 2000 with the first prizes awarded in Spring 2001. ● No competitions were held 2003-2005 due to lack of funding. ● The Competition was re-established in the fall of 2005, and held annually since. ● The 2019 Competition was supported by 55 sponsors and partners.
Prizes	<p>2001 One prize of \$50,000 cash</p> <p>2002 One prize of \$50,000 cash</p> <p>2006 Two winners shared \$115,000 in cash and in-kind services</p> <p>2007 Two winners shared \$125,000 in cash and in-kind services</p> <p>2008 Three winners and four finalists shared \$170,000 in prizes</p> <p>2009 Two winners and four finalists shared \$130,000 in prizes</p> <p>2010 Three winners and six finalists shared \$195,000 in prizes</p> <p>2011 Three winners and five finalists shared \$256,000 in prizes</p> <p>2012 Three winners and four finalists shared \$202,000 in prizes</p> <p>2013 Three winners and three finalists shared \$202,000 in prizes</p> <p>2014 Three winners and four finalists shared \$203,500 in prizes</p> <p>2015 Three winners and four finalists shared \$200,000 in prizes</p> <p>2016 Three winners and four finalists shared \$226,300 in prizes</p> <p>2017 Three winners and four finalists shared \$271,000 in prizes</p> <p>2018 Three winners and three finalists shared \$259,300 in prizes</p> <p>2019 Two winners and four finalists shared \$225,300 in prizes</p>
Leadership	<p><u>Co-Chairs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peggy Farrell, <i>Partner</i>, Hinckley Allen ● Anthony Mangiarelli, <i>Partner</i>, KLR <p><u>Development Director:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Richard G. Carriere, <i>Senior Vice President for Investments</i>, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management
Executive Director	Beth Carter, Tel: 401-245-7050; email: info@ri-business.com
Rules, policies, FAQs	Available on the Competition website at www.ri-business.com