

AmCham Germany Female Founders Award

Conditions of participation

On both sides of the Atlantic, female founders are still the minority in the startup ecosystem. Therefore, the American Chamber of Commerce in Germany e. V., Börsenplatz 13-15, 60313 Frankfurt am Main, Germany ("**AmCham Germany**") would like to set an example with the Female Founders Award and honor two successful female founders as positive role models. The goal is to give female founders more visibility, to network and promote them, and to inspire and motivate women across Germany to become entrepreneurs. In particular, we want to promote female talent in technology, electronics, engineering, or other industries that are typically underrepresented by women. The Female Founders Award combines American entrepreneurship and German entrepreneurship with AmCham Germany's activities in the field of entrepreneurship and diversity/women in leadership.

The Female Founders' Competition ("**Competition**") is organised by AmCham Germany subject to the following conditions of participation (contact: amcham@amcham.de; website: <https://www.amcham.de>).

1. **COMPETITION PERIOD**

The competition entry period ends at the end of January 19, 2025 (German time, "**entry deadline**"). AmCham Germany reserves the right to extend the participation period by two weeks if necessary. The date of receipt of the entries is decisive for the date of participation. Late entries will not be considered.

2. **PARTICIPATION**

2.1 All women aged 18 and over who have founded a startup either alone or as a co-founder together with other people are eligible to participate. To participate, the (co)founder's company must meet each of the following criteria:

- The company has been operating successfully in the market for at least 2-5 years, but not more than 10 years.
- The company can demonstrate healthy growth and a strong and expanding customer base.
- The company's turnover in the last financial year was at least 100,000 euros or can show an equivalent turnover-relevant commitment (e.g. "paid pilots") or the company raised public funding/investment of at least 500,000 euros.
- The company has a well-defined market in its segment.

- The team consists of at least 5 people.
 - Leading media outlets and established blogs have already covered the company and speak to its visibility.
 - The company is currently well funded and the (co)founder has a clear vision for the future and growth of the company for the next 5 years.
- 2.2 Excluded from participation are employees and vicarious agents of AmCham Germany, their immediate family members and all persons involved in the conception, implementation and judging of the competition.
- 2.3 The competition is managed via the website www.amcham.de and is accessible via the following domain: <https://www.amcham.de/events/female-founders-award>. There, participants can register themselves via the application form or be suggested by others (companies or individuals) as a participant until the entry deadline.
- 2.4 For application by a participant herself, the form "**Application Form**" must be filled out completely and truthfully; for nomination by a third party, the form "**Nomination Form**" must be filled out completely and truthfully. If a nominated participant discovers incorrect information in the context of nomination by a third party, she must report this immediately and correct it.
- 2.5 Participation in the Competition constitutes acceptance of these Terms and Conditions, which are binding and conclusive in all respects. AmCham Germany reserves the right to exclude any entrant who, in AmCham Germany's reasonable opinion, breaches these Terms and Conditions, interferes with or distorts the operation of the Competition or acts in a manner that is unfair or detrimental to AmCham Germany, the Competition or any other entrant.
- 2.6 AmCham Germany reserves the right to modify or terminate the Competition at any time without notice and without giving reasons if due to fraud, technical reasons (e.g. viruses in the computer system, tampering or errors in the hardware and/or software), legal reasons or other reasons beyond the control of AmCham Germany, the proper conduct of the Competition cannot be guaranteed.
3. **SELECTION OF THE WINNERS; JURY**
- 3.1 Two winners will be chosen. The winners are selected by a jury, which evaluates the success of the companies. Evaluation criteria include the number of customers or users of the company, its presence on the market and in the public eye, for example through reporting in the leading media, secured financing and the development of the company's sales and market shares. In addition, it is crucial that the business model or product offered has a novel, innovative character.

- 3.2 The jury will include representatives of AmCham Germany as well as the cooperation partners and sponsors.
- 3.3 The prize is the "Female Founders Award". Payment of the prize in cash is excluded and the prize is not exchangeable or transferable.
- 3.4 After a pre-selection with a jury meeting in February 2025, the award ceremony will take place on April 7, 2025 in Berlin.
- 3.5 Participants who have not won will not be notified. The names of the winners as well as the names, a description of the business model and essential decision-relevant data of the startups founded by them will be communicated to AmCham Germany upon written request and may be published by AmCham Germany, e.g. on the website of the Competition or in corporate communications.

4. **RIGHTS**

- 4.1 If a participant or nominating third party provides AmCham Germany with presentations, photographs, videos, written or other works or materials (collectively, "**Participant Materials**") as part of the application and Competition, the participant grants AmCham Germany a free, irrevocable, non-exclusive, worldwide, perpetual license to reproduce, distribute, edit, publish and otherwise publicly display the Participant Materials, worldwide license, unlimited in time and content, to reproduce, distribute, edit, publish, make available to the public, and otherwise use the Participant Materials in all media and formats (including, but not limited to, on the Internet) in compliance with the moral rights of the copyright owner. This right of use extends in particular to publication as part of the communication of the Female Founders Award 2025 in digital and print media, social networks, exhibitions, etc.
- 4.2 AmCham Germany hereby accepts this grant. Participants or nominating third parties shall indemnify AmCham Germany against all claims of third parties arising from or in connection with the use of the Participant Materials under this licence.
- 4.3 Participants or nominating third parties assure that their submissions do not infringe any copyrights or other rights of third parties, and in particular that all persons depicted or otherwise involved in Participant Materials have demonstrably declared their consent to this and to use in accordance with these conditions of participation.

5. **LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

- 5.1 AmCham Germany assumes no liability or other responsibility for: a) errors in the transmission/transfer of entries or other causes beyond AmCham Germany's control that prevent a contestant's (timely) participation (including by way of third-party nomination); b) late, non-received, misdirected, altered or damaged transmissions; c) printing/typing errors or other errors in materials related to the Competition.

5.2 Should the award ceremony be cancelled or postponed to another date, AmCham Germany will not be liable for any costs incurred by the winners and/or accompanying persons, unless the cancellation or postponement of the award ceremony is due to circumstances for which AmCham Germany is responsible.

6. **HANDLING OF DATA OF THE PARTICIPANTS**

6.1 By entering and accepting these terms and conditions, each entrant expressly consents and agrees that a) the email address and telephone number provided by her or the nominating third party may be used by AmCham Germany for the purpose of notification in connection with the Competition and b) her personal data such as name, position in the company, likeness, information about your win and details of the (co)founded startup may be published by AmCham Germany.

6.2 All information and data submitted, used and disclosed in connection with this competition is subject to AmCham Germany's general privacy policy, available at <https://www.amcham.de/datenschutz> in addition to these terms and conditions.

6.3 Third parties who wish to nominate a founder must obtain the founder's declaration of consent before registering. A suggestion for the wording of an e-mail requesting the declaration of consent on data protection can be found [here](#):

7. **FINAL PROVISIONS**

These Terms and Conditions of Participation, including their incorporation and interpretation, shall be governed by German law. The application of German international private law and the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) is excluded. As far as legally permissible, the place of jurisdiction is Berlin-Charlottenburg. Should any of these provisions be or become invalid, this shall not affect the validity of the remaining conditions of participation. Invalid provisions shall be deemed to have been replaced by such valid provisions as most closely approximate the economic intent.
