



2019 Crain's Fast 50 Application

On June 24, 2019, Crain's Chicago Business will feature the city's 50 fastest-growing companies in the 13th annual Crain's Fast 50. The section will highlight our region's best and most innovative companies with stories about successful Chicago entrepreneurs, winning business strategies and — most important — astronomical revenue growth.

To be eligible, your company must be at least six years old, have had at least \$15 million in 2018 revenue and be headquartered in the seven-county Chicago area (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake (Ill.), Lake (Ind.), McHenry and Will counties). For more information on eligibility, read the FAQ's on ChicagoBusiness.com/Fast50FAQ.

Anyone at your company can fill out this application, but a top official must examine and sign it to certify its accuracy. If you have questions about this application, please send an email to fastfifty@crain.com or call (312) 649-5255.

DEADLINE: MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2019

Basic Company Information

Company name (*full legal name*): _____

Company DBA (*if the company "does business as" something else*): _____

Address (*no P.O. boxes*): _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Website: _____ General email address: _____

Founder: _____ Current title: _____

Top executive: _____ Top executive title: _____

No. of full-time employees as of Dec. 31, 2018: _____ Those in the 7-county area: _____ (total)

In one or two sentences, please explain what your company does. Please refrain from using industry jargon:

If your business has had headquarters outside the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake (Ill.), Lake (Ind.) McHenry or Will at any point since 2013, please tell us when and why you moved the company's headquarters to its current location:

Please list the owners of your company:

<u>Owner Name</u>	<u>Percentage Owned</u>
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Finances

Growth will be measured by net revenue. The following figures should not be estimated or rounded. They should be exact numbers from **audited financial statements, tax returns, reviewed financial statements or completed financial statements**. To ensure accuracy, Crain's will request copies of these financial documents from private companies. **By submitting this application, you agree to provide Crain's with the appropriate financial statements.** Also, companies that make the list will be profiled in Crain's, so company executives will need to be available for interviews in the spring.

All revenue must be accounted for on an **accrual basis**, not a cash basis. To calculate five-year sales growth, we must have six years of revenue. **Please list them below, in exact dollar amounts to the thousands (example: \$35,168,000, NOT \$35,000,000).**

Company's inception date: _____ Company's incorporation date: _____ Fiscal year end date: _____

Revenue for 2013: _____
(Year ended on: _____) This date *must* be in 2013. *Not* 2012 or 2014.

Revenue for 2014: _____
(Year ended on: _____) This date *must* be in 2014. *Not* 2013 or 2015.

Revenue for 2015: _____
(Year ended on: _____) This date *must* be in 2015. *Not* 2014 or 2016.

Revenue for 2016: _____
(Year ended on: _____) This date *must* be in 2016. *Not* 2015 or 2017.

Revenue for 2017: _____
(Year ended on: _____) This date *must* be in 2017. *Not* 2015 or 2017.

*Revenue for 2018: _____
(Year ended on: _____) This date *must* be in 2018. *Not* 2017 or 2019.

*If you do not have solid figures yet for 2018, please fill this blank with an estimate. Crain's will retrieve exact figures from financial statements. Please indicate whether the 2018 revenue listed is an estimate: Yes _____ No _____

Was the company profitable in 2018? Yes _____ No _____ (Answering "no" does not disqualify you.)

Industry

Please circle the industry that most accurately describes your business. Choose only one category.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Automobiles | Education | Logistics | Transportation |
| Banking | Financial services | Manufacturing | Utilities |
| Business services | Food and beverage | Media and marketing | Wholesale / distribution |
| Construction | Health care | Real estate | |
| Consumer products/
services | Insurance | Retail | |
| | Law | Tech and telecom | |



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A Few Questions

Is your company privately held or publicly traded? Private _____ Public _____

Is your company a subsidiary or a division? Yes _____ No _____

Are you a holding company, franchise or franchisee? Yes _____ No _____

Is 51% or more of your company owned by a minority? Yes _____ No _____

Is 51% or more of your company owned by a woman? Yes _____ No _____

Have you made any acquisitions in the past five years? Yes _____ No _____

*If yes, please list the company name, the date of acquisition and its revenues at the time of acquisition:

How did you hear about the Fast 50?

___ Advertisement in Crain's Chicago Business

___ Email from Crain's Chicago Business

___ On ChicagoBusiness.com

___ Company has applied in the past

___ On Crain's social media networks

___ Other (please specify): _____

Contact Information

Top executive

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

CFO or financial contact

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Media contact

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

Application prepared by

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

Verification

I have read this application in its entirety and can attest to its full accuracy. I understand the consequences (disqualification from consideration) if information is found to be wrong.

C-level executive signature*:

Signed: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

*Title **MUST** be equivalent to one of the following (*please check*): CEO President CFO COO

Application preparer signature:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

When completed, please send BY APRIL 1, 2019

to: fastfifty@crain.com

