

LIST OF AWARD CATEGORIES OF FHRAI - 2026

HOTEL ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS	
S. No	Category
1.	Young Hotelier of the Year – Male
2.	Young Hotelier of the Year – Female
RESTAURANT ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS	
3.	Restaurant Entrepreneur of the Year – Male
4.	Restaurant Entrepreneur of the Year – Female
INDIVIDUAL AWARDS – HOTELS	
MANAGER / GENERAL MANAGER	
5	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year -Luxury– Male
6.	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year -Luxury – Female
7	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year -Upscale – Male
8.	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year -Upscale –Female
9	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year -Midscale – Male
10	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year -Midscale – Female
11	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year –Economy – Male
12	Hotel General Manager / Hotel Manager of the Year – Economy – Female
13	Resort General Manager of the Year
14	General Manager of the Year of Hotel at a Religious Place
F & B Manager	
15	Hotel F & B Manager of the Year - Luxury - Male
16	Hotel F & B Manager of the Year - Luxury - Female
17	Hotel F & B Manager of the Year - Upscale - Male
18	Hotel F & B Manager of the Year - Upscale – Female
19	Hotel F & B Manager of the Year–Midscale – Male
20	Hotel F & B Manager of the Year – Midscale – Female
21	Hotel F & B Manger of the year–Economy – Male
22	Hotel F & B Manger of the year – Economy – Female
EXECUTIVE CHEF	
23	Executive Chef of the Year - Luxury Hotels – Male
24	Executive Chef of the Year - Luxury Hotels – Female
25	Executive Chef of the Year – Upscale Hotels – Male
26	Executive Chef of the Year – Upscale Hotels – Female
27	Executive Chef of the Year – Midscale Hotels – Male
28	Executive Chef of the Year – Midscale Hotels – Female
29	Executive Chef of the Year – Economy Hotels – Male
30	Executive Chef of the Year – Economy Hotels – Female
FRONT OFFICE MANAGER	
31	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year – Luxury - Male
32	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year – Luxury - Female
33	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year – Upscale – Male
34	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year – Upscale –Female

35	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year - Midscale - Male
36	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year - Midscale -Female
37	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year – Economy - Male
38	Hotel Front Office Manager of the Year – Economy–Female
	HOUSEKEEPER
39	Hotel Housekeeper of the year – Luxury – Male
40	Hotel Housekeeper of the year – Luxury – Female
41	Hotel Housekeeper of the Year – Upscale – Male
42	Hotel Housekeeper of the Year – Upscale – Female
43	Hotel Housekeeper of the Year –Midscale – Male
44	Hotel Housekeeper of the Year – Midscale – Female
45	Hotel Housekeeper of the Year –Economy – Male
46	Hotel Housekeeper of the Year – Economy – Female
	SALES MANAGER / REVENUE MANAGER / MARKETING MANAGER
47	Hotel Sales Manager of the Year - Male
48	Hotel Sales Manager of the Year – Female
49	Hotel Marketing Manager of the Year - Male
50	Hotel Marketing Manager of the Year - Female
51	Hotel Revenue Manager of the Year – Male
52	Hotel Revenue Manager of the Year – Female
	HR MANAGER / SECURITY MANAGER / AIRPORT HOTEL MANAGER / IT MANAGER / CHIEF ENGINEER
53	Hotel HR Manager of the Year – Male
54	Hotel HR Manager of the Year – Female
55	Hotel Security Manager of the Year
56	Airport Hotel Manager of the year
57	Hotel IT Manager of the Year
58	Hotel Chief Engineer of the Year
59	Director – Airport Services
	INDIVIDUAL AWARDS – RESTAURANTS
60	Restaurant Marketing Manager of the Year – Male
61	Restaurant Marketing Manager of the Year – Female
62	Executive Chef of the Year - Standalone Restaurant - Upscale - Male
63	Executive Chef of the Year - Standalone Restaurant - Upscale - Female
64	Executive Chef of the Year - Standalone Restaurant – Economy – Male
65	Executive Chef of the Year - Standalone Restaurant – Economy -Female
66	Restaurant Manager of the Year – Hotel Restaurant - Male
67	Restaurant Manager of the Year – Hotel Restaurant - Female
68	Restaurant Manager of the Year –Standalone Restaurant – Upscale – Male
69	Restaurant Manager of the Year – Standalone Restaurant – Upscale – Female
70	Restaurant Manager of the year –Standalone Restaurant - Economy– Male
71	Restaurant Manager of the year – Standalone Restaurant - Economy – Female
	INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS – HOTELS / RESORTS / CONVENTION CENTRES
72	Best Wellness Resort of the Year
73	Green Hotel of the Year – Luxury
74	Green Hotel of the Year –Upscale

75	Green Hotel of the Year –Midmarket
76	Green Hotel of the Year – Economy
77	Best Luxury Hotel of the Year
78	Best Upscale Hotel of the Year
79	Best Midscale Hotel of the year
80	Best Economy Hotel of the year
81	Best Heritage Hotel of the Year
82	Best Convention Centre of the year
83	Best Hotel at a Religious Place
84	Best Unique/Theme Hotel of the Year
85	Best Debut Hotel/Resort of the year
86	Best Bakery in a Hotel
INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS – RESTAURANTS	
87	Best Restaurant of the Year – National
88	Best Restaurant of the Year – South India
89	Best Restaurant of the Year – North India
90	Best Restaurant of the Year – West India
91	Best Restaurant of the Year – East India
92	Best Hotel Restaurant of the Year - National
93	Best Hotel Restaurant –South India
94	Best Hotel Restaurant – North India
95	Best Hotel Restaurant – West India
96	Best Hotel Restaurant – East India
INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS – HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTES	
97	Best Hospitality Management Institute of the Year
INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS – EVENT MANAGEMENT COMPANIES	
98	Best Event Management Company in North India
99	Best Event Management Company in South India
100	Best Event Management Company in East India
101	Best Event Management Company in West India

Criteria for the Awards – Entrepreneur Awards
(Young Hotelier & Restaurant Entrepreneur)

- Applicant must be under the age of 40.
- Applicant can be an owner of a hotel or an employee on the operations side. or owner of a restaurant and must be a first-generation entrepreneur.
- Must be actively engaged in the business (development / ownership / operations) activity.
- Not just the achievement for the relevant financial year but cumulative achievements leading up to the year are considered. Any special achievement or strategic initiatives or significant business development during the year will be a plus point.

- Applicant must give all the underlying facts and achievements to support the application, highlighting the contribution made by the applicant.
- In case of restaurant entrepreneur, he/she may be involved in a standalone restaurant or a chain of such restaurants or in a specialized hotel restaurant.

Criteria for Individual Awards

- The applicant must have worked in the hospitality industry for minimum of 5 years (8 years for General Manager).
- Formal education in hospitality management or an allied field is an advantage but is not essential if other achievements of the candidate are substantial.
- Must have made a significant achievement during the year in aspects relating to the award; such as financial performance, concept or strategic development, innovation and implementation, business development, successful completion of a project etc.
- The award will depend on performance during the relevant financial year. However, the cumulative performance and development of the professional profile over a period of years will be a relevant factor to decide on the award.
- Applicants must submit an application listing out the facts on the above points and special achievement(s) during the year. It must be recommended by the head of the organization/ property who must support the facts and special achievement(s). In the case of chains, it can be the General Manager/ HR Manager / HOD of the hotel / restaurant.

Criteria for Institutional Awards for Hotels / Restaurants / Resorts / Convention Centres / Hospitality Management Institutes / Event Management Companies

- The award is open to establishments/institutions/organizations that have been in successful operation during the previous financial year but not just the achievement for the relevant financial year but cumulative achievements leading up to the year will also be considered.
- Applicants must give all the facts of the business including number and nature of clients, milestone achievements, financial performance etc.
- The applicant must demonstrate excellence in infrastructure, service delivery, innovation, operational efficiency, and customer satisfaction in its respective category.
- The applicant should have implemented industry best practices and demonstrated measurable achievements during the relevant financial year

through continuous improvement, technological advancement, quality enhancement, operational excellence, or innovative initiatives.

- National or international certifications, accreditations, quality standards, industry recognitions, or professional affiliations relevant to the respective category will be considered an added advantage but shall not be mandatory.
- Applicants shall submit a detailed application highlighting their achievements during the relevant financial year, supported by documentary evidence including brochures, photographs, performance reports, certifications, customer feedback, case studies, media coverage, awards received, and any other relevant documents.

Criteria for Green Award for Hotels

- The applicant hotel must have implemented structured environmental sustainability initiatives covering, as applicable, energy management, water conservation, wastewater treatment and disposal, solid waste management, responsible use of hazardous chemicals and non-biodegradable products, air quality management, noise pollution control, eco-friendly procurement practices, employee training, guest awareness, and community engagement.
- The hotel must demonstrate measurable achievements during the relevant financial year through resource conservation, reduction in environmental impact, adoption of green technologies, operational innovations, or implementation of sustainable management practices.
- Applicants shall submit a detailed application describing the sustainability initiatives undertaken during the relevant financial year, supported by documentary evidence including environmental policies, utility consumption data, audit reports, waste management records, photographs, certifications, and any other relevant documents.
- In the case of chain Hotels, preference will be given if the chain hotel has given the award.

Hotel Categories

Hotels are free to classify their properties within the category of Luxury, Upscale, Midscale, and Economy. Purely as guidance, hotel managements that do not already have their hotels classified on the above basis can use the following criteria:

- Any hotel that meets the criteria of a 5-star, 5 star deluxe and heritage classic will come under the Luxury category.
- 4-star hotels or hotels that meet criteria for 4-star hotels will come under Upscale category
- Hotel that meets the criteria of a 3-star and heritage (basic) will come under Midscale category.

- Any hotel that meets the criteria for hotels in the 2-star and below category would come under Economy category.

General Information

- FHRAI Selection Committee comprising of senior officials of chain hotels for evaluating the applications and shortlisting the nominees for the awards.
- The awardee must be present at the Award Function scheduled on 23rd August 2026 at Hotel Taj Ganges, Varanasi, to receive the award.
- The decision of the Award Committee shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to challenge.
- Applications for Individual and Institutional Awards may be submitted online.
- An employee applying for an award in any category must have completed at least 12 months in his/her current position in the unit from which he/she is applying. The application must be duly endorsed by the General Manager of the unit through a physical or digital signature.